BACKGROUND



About the Aggie 100

The Aggie 100 identifies, recognizes and celebrates the 100 fastest growing Aggie-owned or Aggie-led businesses in the world. The Aggie 100 not only celebrates their success, it also provides a forum to pass lessons to the next generation of Aggie entrepreneurs.

The Aggie 100 was created by Mays Business School's McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship. The McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship provides encouragement, education, networking and assistance to entrepreneurially-minded students, faculty and Texas businesses.

The CNVE (now known as McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship) hosted its inaugural Aggie 100 award ceremony in 2005, honoring the 100 fastest-growing Aggie-owned or -led companies around the globe. From meager beginnings with just more than 100 companies vying for an award, the Aggie 100 recently celebrated its 12th Anniversary by receiving more than 250 company applicants (led by graduates from every college on campus), and hosting an awards gala and reunion with more than 900 business leaders. The Aggie 100 is now being copied by a number of other top universities, including Louisiana State University ("Tiger 100"), the University of Florida ("Gator 100"), the University of Georgia ("Bulldog 100"), Florida State University ("Seminole 100") and the University of Houston ("Cougar 100"), and others.

While there are many ways to define business success, the Aggie 100 focuses on growth as an indicator of job creation, product acceptance and entrepreneurial vision. The Aggie 100 identifies, recognizes and celebrates the 100 fastest growing Aggie-owned or Aggie-led businesses in the world.

The Company must meet both of the following criteria

- Have been in business for 5 years or more as of December 31, 2017, and.
- Have had verifiable revenues of \$250,000 or more for calendar year 2015

Additionally, the company must meet one of the following leadership criteria:

- A Texas A&M University former student or group of former students must have owned 50% or more of the company from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017, or
- A Texas A&M University former student must have served as the Company's chief executive (for example chairman, CEO, president or managing partner) from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017, or
- A Texas A&M University former student must have founded the company and been active as a member of the most senior management team from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017.



About The McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship

Through a combination of entrepreneurial-focused curricular and experiential opportunities, The McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship seeks to enhance the livelihood of Texas A&M University and the greater community. Since its inception in 1999, the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship has served as the hub of entrepreneurship for Texas A&M University.

The Center's goal is to enhance entrepreneurial student education by providing training, networking, and assistance to enterprising students, faculty and alumni. With the support of our volunteer network, corporate supporters, faculty, and staff, the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship has been able to provide business startup acceleration, competitive opportunities, work experiences, and financial support to aspiring entrepreneurs in the Aggie community and across the world.