

## **U.S. Chamber Awards Urbandale Chamber of Commerce with 5-Star Accreditation**

URBANDALE, IA - The United States Chamber of Commerce today awarded the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce with 5-Star Accreditation for its sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and positive impact on the community.

“Accreditation validates a chamber as having programs that benefit their local economy and for positively influencing action in their community,” said Raymond P. Towle, IOM, CAE, Vice President, Federation Relations and Institute for Organization Management. “We applaud these organizations for advancing the principles of free enterprise.”

Accreditation is the only national program that recognizes chambers for their effective organizational procedures and community involvement. In order to receive Accreditation, a chamber must meet minimum standards in their operations and programs, including areas of governance, government affairs, and technology. This extensive self-review can take 6-9 months to complete.

“A 5-star accredited Chamber places the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce as one of the top 1% of Chambers in the United States,” said Tiffany Menke, President of the Urbandale Chamber. “We are honored to be recognized by the US Chamber of Commerce for our operations, programming, and service to our members and community.”

Local chambers are rated Accredited, 3-Stars, 4-Stars, or 5-Stars. State chambers are recognized as either Accredited State Chamber or Accredited State Chamber with Distinction. The final determination is made by the Accrediting Board, a committee of U.S. Chamber board members.

There are only 201 Accredited Chambers of Commerce in the United States. Of the 201, 19 are Accredited, 20 are 3-Star Accredited, 59 are 4-Star Accredited, 102 are 5-Star Accredited. In Iowa, there are three Accredited Chambers of Commerce. Urbandale, 5-Star, Burlington, 5-Star and Marshalltown, 4-Star. The Urbandale Chamber of Commerce has three of its four staff members with their Institute for Organizational Management (IOM) designation from the US Chamber of Commerce as well.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world’s largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

The Urbandale Chamber of Commerce serves, protects and promotes its members. We believe businesses of all sizes have a voice. We believe businesses thrive when connected to the right people, and we know the right people. We live our vision, mission and values every day. Serving and elevating members and the community drives us. It is our passion.

[www.uschamber.com](http://www.uschamber.com)

###