The Stelios Award for Disabled Entrepreneurs.

In partnership with Leonard Cheshire.

Judges’ Guide

#steliosawarduk
About the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation

Founded by Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou, the mission of the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation is to support philanthropic activities primarily in the places where the founder has lived and worked: the UK, Greece, Cyprus and Monaco. The Foundation supports entrepreneurship with cash prizes to stimulate economic growth and job creation. In the UK awards are given, in conjunction with Leonard Cheshire (a UK charity) to entrepreneurs with a disability. The foundation also donates money to environmental charities, such as the World Wide Fund for Nature and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, as well as worthy local charities, including the ‘Food from the heart’ programme. Based in Greece and Cyprus, ‘Food from the heart’ offers snacks to those in need, every working day, without discrimination. Since 2013 the programme has distributed around 12 million snacks to approximately 86,000 people.

About Leonard Cheshire

Leonard Cheshire supports individuals to live, learn and work as independently as they choose, whatever their ability. Led by people with experience of disability, we are at the heart of local life - opening doors to opportunity, choice and support in communities around the globe. www.leonardcheshire.org

Questions?
Contact the Stelios Awards team steliosaward@leonardcheshire.org
Timeline for judges:

**October:** Judges will receive up to 25 applications which they must whittle down to 5 to present at the judges’ lunch in the middle of the month.

In previous years, the judges' lunch has begun at 11am and finished around 3.30pm. Each judge must attend either in person or via phone call. We urge everyone to attend in person as debate is usually vigorous and helps in understanding diverse viewpoints.

**November:** All judges are invited to the Awards ceremony in London. This is not a required part of the judging, but most judges enjoy seeing the fruits of their labour.
How do you judge? What is the criteria?

All applications that you put forward must:

- Be starting out or up and running
- Have an impressive marketing strategy
- Have a great idea that either supports / hires or is/has been created by a disabled person
- Have a great digital presence, or potential for digital presence
What is the Award?

● The Stelios Award for Disabled Entrepreneurs is a business award run by the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation and Leonard Cheshire.

● It recognises the exceptional spirit and business ability of disabled entrepreneurs.

● The winner receives £30,000 and the four finalists receive £10,000 each.

What is the role of a Stelios Award judge?

Each judge will be given a portfolio of up to 25 applications. You must whittle this portfolio down to 5 applications that you will bring to the final judges' meeting.

At the final judges' meeting, you and your fellow judges will then decide the final 10 applications to present to Sir Stelios by the end of the day (please look at the criteria on the next page).

Sir Stelios will then pick the winners.
Thank you for agreeing to be a judge for the Stelios Award for Disabled Entrepreneurs, in partnership with Leonard Cheshire.

The award has now been running for over ten years, and has gained a great reputation for backing successful entrepreneurs with fantastic ideas.

Some winning businesses have been start-ups, others have been up and running, but all winners have had the same determination, drive and talent to create businesses that have flourished from the publicity and funding the award brings.