

Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching 2018

The Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching is a prestigious award presented to teachers in NSW government schools. The award recognises the achievements of outstanding teachers in delivering high quality education to students and their contributions to their professional communities.

This Information Pack will answer your questions about the award, eligibility and selection criteria for the award.

Who can be nominated?

For a nominee to be eligible for the award, they must be:

- Current teachers in NSW government preschools or schools (this includes but is not limited to school principals, members of the school executive).
- Current employees who will not retire or otherwise leave the service before the end of 2018.

What are the selection criteria?

The nominee must provide a short professional statement of up to 500 words, which demonstrates with evidence how s/he delivers beyond the seven Standards listed across the three domains of teaching in the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers*, namely:

- **Professional Knowledge**
 1. Know their students and how they learn
 2. Know the content and how to teach it
- **Professional Practice**
 3. Plan for and implement effective teaching and learning
 4. Create and maintain safe and supportive learning environments
 5. Assess, provide feedback and report on student learning
- **Professional Engagement**
 6. Be engaged in professional learning
 7. Be engaged professionally with colleagues, parents/carers and the community

Teacher nominees are encouraged to refer to the focus areas and descriptors in the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* in preparing their professional statement.

Alternatively, teachers may prefer to submit a short video instead of a 500 word submission. This video should be no more than 3 minutes in length and should demonstrate with evidence delivering beyond the seven Standards.

Nominees may also wish to attach supporting documentation to their nomination. This should be no more than four pages in length.

Information on the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* can be found at www.teacherstandards.aitsl.edu.au

Nominator - an individual who has knowledge of the nominee's professional work - must provide a statement of up to 200 words detailing how well the achievements of the nominee demonstrate outstanding teaching within the context of the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers*.

All nominations must be endorsed by the school principal.

How to nominate?

All nominations for this award are now accepted by the Public Education Foundation's online application system. To access this system visit www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarships and click on the relevant award.

Prior to starting the online process, the nominator may prefer to gather the necessary information ready to submit:

- Nominee and school details (including phone numbers, emails and nominee's DoE serial number)
- Nominator's statement supporting the student's achievement (200 words max in a word or pdf format addressing their achievements)
- Nominee's professional statement supporting (500 words max in a word or pdf format or 3 minute video)
- Principal / line manager (the principal will be sent an email requesting them to endorse the nomination)

A sample exemplar nomination form can be found on our website. This example is to be used for reference only and not replicated in whole or part. It is intended to give you a starting point for understanding the elements of a successful application.

Who selects the recipients?

It is anticipated that the selection panel will include representatives from the NSW Department of Education, the Public Education Foundation and an independent representative from the education sector. All applicants will be reviewed according to the criteria set out. Recommended nominees will then be presented to the Minister for award selection.

How many awards are made each year?

Up to 55 awards may be presented each year. The selection committee reserves the right to award fewer than 55 awards if application quality is not sufficiently high, or if applicants do not provide adequate evidence of achievements and outcomes.

When is the closing date for applications?

Applications close at **11.59pm on Tuesday 19 June 2018**. No late applications will be considered.

For further information including terms and conditions

Call the Public Education Foundation on **02 9266 8256** or email us at **info@publiceducationfoundation.org.au**.

We also encourage you to visit our website www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au