



TASMANIAN TRAINING AWARDS

VET in Schools
Student of the Year

2024 Nomination Guide



VET in Schools Student of the Year

The VET in Schools Student of the Year Award is open to full-time year 10, 11 or 12 school students who are doing an accredited vocational education and training (VET) course. The Award recognises the student's commitment to their formal studies and their VET course.

Our previous VET in Schools finalists and winners have been involved a range of VET courses, from Hospitality to Construction, Screen and Media to Individual Support. Your application should highlight your exceptional activity or achievements, the difference it has made for you and how you think it will advance your career and life goals.

The 2024 VET in Schools Student of the Year Award is proudly sponsored by TasTAFE.

Eligibility and conditions of entry

Eligibility

Nominees must:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia
- be a full-time year 10, 11 or 12 student undertaking an accredited VET course (but not as a School-based Apprentice or Trainee)*.
- be still enrolled at their school/college
- be nominated by their school/college (ask your VET Coordinator or Teacher if they are happy to nominate you, then fill in the application yourself). You may seek help to complete the application

*There is a separate award for students undertaking School-based Apprenticeships or Traineeships.

Conditions of entry

Nominees must:

- apply for only one category and must meet all eligibility criteria. When an application does not meet the eligibility requirements, it will not be considered by the judging panel.
- agree to notify the Tasmanian Training Awards immediately should there be a change in circumstances with regard to their training or studies.
- be prepared to attend an interview as required and, if selected as a finalist, attend a gala presentation dinner in Launceston on Friday, 6 September 2024.
- abide by the decisions of Skills Tasmania whose decision shall be final on all matters pertaining to the award. No correspondence or justification for any decision shall be required of Skills Tasmania.
- acknowledge that by entering the Awards, finalists and winners agree that Skills Tasmania (Department of State Growth) may use non-confidential details, profiles, training details and/or photographs/videos for any publicity or promotional purpose pertaining to vocational education and training and workforce development including, but not limited to, the Tasmanian Training Awards.

Privacy notice

The information provided by you in this application will be used by Skills Tasmania for the purpose of administration, judging and general communication in regard to the Tasmanian Training Awards. Provision of this information is essential to determine your eligibility for consideration for an award. The information will be stored securely.

Application and selection process

How to complete your application

- Applications for the Tasmanian Training Awards are to be completed by the individual, online using Award Force. <https://tta.awardsplatform.com/>
- When you enter the Award Force platform you will need to register an account and create a password. You will then be sent to the Applications page. If you have entered the awards before you may use your existing registration details.
- **Before you begin, think about what makes your training experience unique, what you have gained from it, and how it has made a difference to you and your dreams for the future.**
- First complete the nomination information – these are your personal details, your nominator (VET Coordinator/Teacher and school/college). You must enter all the required information before you begin your responses to the overview and selection criteria. A copy of these can be found at the end of this guide.
- The overview and selection criteria should be the focus of your application; however, up to five (5) single A4 pages may be provided to support your application. These pages can include testimonials, copies of certificates, etc. Attachments exceeding five pages will not be considered.
- You don't need to write your application all in one go. You can save it in progress and return to it as often as you need to. Just remember to complete it before the closing date.

Shortlisting

- Applications for this award close at 11:59pm on Monday, 20 May 2024. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Applications will be assessed against the selection criteria to shortlist applicants and all applicants will be advised in writing as to whether they have been shortlisted.
- Shortlisted applicants will be required to attend an interview to decide the finalists for 2024.
- The VET in Schools Student interviews will be held on Thursday, 27 June in Hobart.*
- Skills Tasmania reserves the right to reject an application, or rescind shortlisting, in the case of any non-compliance.
- The decision of the judging panel is final and no appeals will be entered into.

*Interviews can be held via Microsoft Teams if a candidate is unable to attend in person.

Further information

For further information please visit www.skills.tas.gov.au/trainingawards
or contact Jacqui Maclaine on 03 6165 6008 or jacqui.maclaine@skills.tas.gov.au

The Department of State Growth acknowledges the generous support of the following organisations



Overview and Selection Criteria

Your application must be completed online: <https://tta.awardsplatform.com/>. The portal allows nominees to submit an overview of 300 words and responses to the four criteria of up to 400 words per criterion.

Section A: Overview – limit 300 words

*This information will **not** be considered or used for judging purposes, but it may be used as your summary throughout the awards process. With this in mind, make sure your overview is a summary of the difference the VET in Schools course has made for you and the doors it has opened.*

Provide a short overview covering a description of the course you enrolled in, your school/college, your registered training organisation and employer (if applicable), as well as your reason for choosing this industry and training pathway.

Section B: Selection criteria – limit of 400 words per criterion.

This information will be considered and used for judging purposes. In your application, you must present your information in a way that clearly addresses the award criteria. Judging panels will be looking for evidence of how your training has contributed to your career and study plans, to the development of your skills and your achievements to date, as well as any way in which your training may have helped you to achieve other qualities and pursuits.

In developing your application, you may wish to take into account some of the considerations outlined below each criterion. These considerations are provided to give clarification of what may be relevant to include when writing against the criteria.

Criterion 1: Career and study achievements – limit 400 words

Students choose to do a VET in Schools course for many different reasons. We'd love to hear why you chose to do VET in Schools, what your experience has been, what placement you have done and if it has been in more than one location and whether it has shaped what you think you might do in the future.

Consider things such as:

- Why did you choose your VET in Schools course?
- Describe your work placements and skills learnt.
- How has it changed or impacted you?
- What have you gained from your course?
- How has your training assisted your skills development?

Criterion 2: Team and communication skills – limit 400 words

In a workplace, you will be exposed to different types of people and situations that might test your skills. We'd love to hear how you have applied your team and communication skills and why it makes a difference.

Consider any skills you have developed through your training, such as:

- Effective oral and written communication
- What do you like about working in a team setting?
- What traits do you think are important to positively influence others?

Criterion 3: Ability to be an ambassador (representative) for VET in Schools in Tasmania – limit 400 words

Being an ambassador is as much about sharing your experiences and encouraging your peers and other students to consider VET as a pathway for their future. Share anything you have done or would like to do that shares your experience of doing VET in Schools.

Tell us about:

- Examples of where you have taken a leadership role inside or outside school.
- What other activities have you been involved in where you have been a representative?
- How would you describe the quality of your training?
- Any messages you might have that could encourage others who are interested in entering a VET in Schools program.

Criterion 4: Other qualities and pursuits – limit 400 words

Sometimes we hear about incredible things that students are doing, which makes the VET in Schools experience even more extraordinary. If you have been doing other activities that are complementary to your course, or you have been balancing your studies alongside sport, work, community or family commitments then share this as well.

You may wish to include information about:

- Have you had to address any challenges that have impacted your training?
- When have you been required to use initiative either in your training or your personal life?
- What other qualities or activities do you feel would be useful in your role as VET in Schools Student of the Year?
- Do you have any achievements in areas other than study and work, including community involvement?

Good luck with your application. Please reach out if you need clarification on anything.



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