



TASMANIAN TRAINING AWARDS

Equity Vocational
Student of the Year

2024 Nomination Guide



Equity Vocational Student of the Year

This award will be presented to a vocational student who has overcome significant barriers or disadvantage to complete their vocational education and training course.

This award is proudly sponsored by Work & Training

Candidates for the Equity Vocational Student Award will describe their pathway into vocational education and training, the circumstances which made participation a challenge, their motivation to begin, barriers overcome, support found along the way and the benefits they have experienced in accessing and participating in vocational education and training.

Eligibility and conditions of entry

Eligibility

The nominee must:

- be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia
- be undertaking a course of study that leads to a qualification or Statement of Attainment

Skills Tasmania identifies a number of crosscutting themes of disadvantage in Tasmania that generate significant barriers to effective participation in vocational education and training (VET). Common themes that emerge as barriers to effective engagement in VET and employment include, but are not limited to:

- low levels of education and skill development
- low literacy and numeracy skills, including lack of information technology knowledge and skills
- a history of family violence
- disability
- mental ill health
- age, especially being older
- gender and caring responsibilities
- low income and poverty
- cross-generational under/ unemployment
- people living in communities with concentrations of disadvantage, including historical marginalisation/ discrimination
- isolation due to rural or remote location with inadequate transport and services
- economic downturn and industry restructure
- lack of English language fluency and minority culture background (humanitarian entrants especially)
- a history of offending and imprisonment.

Note: There is no Australian Training Awards equivalent to the Equity Vocational Student of the Year Award.

Conditions of entry

- Applications for this award close at 11:59pm on Monday, 20 May 2024. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Applicants can 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.
- Applicants agree to notify the Tasmanian Training Awards immediately should there be a change in circumstances with regard to your training or employment (if applicable).
- If selected as a finalist applicants must be able to attend a gala presentation dinner in Launceston on Friday, 6 September 2024.
- All applicants must 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.
- By entering the Awards, finalists and winners agree that Skills Tasmania (Department of State Growth) may use non-confidential details, profiles and photographs for any publicity and 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 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 directed 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 your life.**
- First complete the nomination information – these are your personal details, your nominator's details, your employer (if applicable), your training provider, etc (if applicable). You must enter all the required information before you begin your responses to the selection criteria. A copy of the selection criteria can be found at the end of this guide.
- The 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.

Shortlisting

- Applications will be assessed against the selection criteria to shortlist applicants.
- All applicants will be advised in writing as to whether they have been shortlisted. Shortlisted Equity award applicants do not have to attend an interview.
- 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.

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



Selection criteria

Applicants will be judged against the following criteria – limit 400 words per criterion

Criterion 1: Challenges and barriers to accessing and participating in VET.

Criterion 2: What or who helped you to overcome these barriers?

Criterion 3: How has VET benefited you?

Criterion 4: Goals for the future.

Addressing the criteria

Applicants for these awards will need to describe their pathway into vocational education and training, the circumstances which made participation a challenge, their motivation to begin, barriers overcome, support found along the way and the benefits they have experienced in accessing and participating in vocational education and training. Where needed, help to write your submission is allowed.

Judging panels will be looking for evidence of how your training has helped your study and career 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.

Criterion 1: Challenges and barriers to accessing and participating in VET

Explain the circumstances which made accessing and participating in vocational education and training a challenge and describe your most significant barriers.

Criterion 2: What, or who, helped you overcome these barriers

Was there a person or program that motivated you? Talk about the role your training provider played in supporting you throughout your training.

Criterion 3: How has vocational education and training benefitted you?

What did you learn and how has this helped you? Are there any achievements you have fulfilled from participating in your course/training program? Describe the quality of your training.

Criterion 4: What are your goals for your future?

Where to next? What plans do you have for the future and how have your studies assisted you in your plans.

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



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