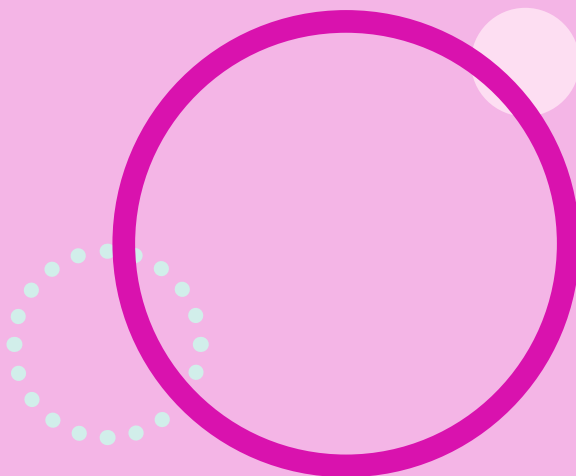


# NSW Training Awards 2026

## Outstanding Achievement in the VET and Skills Sector Award

### Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Nominations close 27 February 2026



The Outstanding Achievement in the VET and Skills Sector Award recognises an individual's outstanding leadership and contribution to the Australian Vocational Education and Training (VET) and skills sector for more than 15 years.

Eligible individuals may have developed new innovations, new knowledge, or ways to improve professional practice deemed to be above and beyond the everyday with a long-lasting impact in the sector.

From these nominations, the NSW Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education will select a nominee to put forward as a direct entry to the Australian Training Awards Outstanding Achievement in the VET and Skills Sector Award.

Nominations for this award must be submitted by a third-party. Self-nominations are not accepted.

### Eligibility Criteria

To apply for this award, a nominee must:

- be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia and meet the Australian Training Awards [Conditions of Entry](#);
- made a positive impact on the VET and skills sector (at either state/territory or national level);
- earned recognition by other industry, training, education or employer groups;
- have the respect of their professional peers;
- have demonstrated over an extended period of time, a contribution which has included either research, industry achievement, professional leadership or service to the VET and skills community;

- demonstrate personal integrity; and
- have 15 years or more service to the VET and skills sector.

This award merges the previous Australian Training Awards Lifetime Achievement Award and National Achievement Award. Previous winners of these awards have been recognised for their long-standing contribution to the sector and are not eligible to re-apply for the Outstanding Achievement in the VET and Skills Sector Award..

### Preparing your nomination

#### Section A: Overview

This information **will not** be considered or used for judging purposes, but it may be used as the nominee's summary throughout the Australian Training Awards nomination process.

Provide a short overview of the nominee, their achievements and the reason for their nomination. (400 word limit)

## Section B: Entry Criteria

This information will be considered and used for assessment purposes. Please be aware that your responses to the selection criteria will be strengthened by the inclusion of measurable results and appropriate indicators (including achievement data and other types of external validation).

**Up to three (3) single A4 pages of relevant evidence may be provided for each criterion as an attachment.**

These attachments may be used to highlight a point made in your response and should be clearly referenced within the criterion response.

Note: considerations are not additional selection criteria, but are provided to clarify what may be relevant to include when writing a response for each criteria.

### Criterion 1: History of service (800 word limit)

Consider the nominee's history of service to the VET and skills sector including:

- positions of leadership the nominee has held;
- participation on committees and working groups;
- examples of nominee representing the VET and skills sector in official capacity at state, national or international levels; and;
- the nominee's broader contributions to the VET and skills sector.

### Criterion 2: Significant contributions to and positive influence on the VET and skills sector (800 word limit)

Consider the nominee's significant contribution(s) to the advancement of VET practice and skill development, including:

- teaching or training positions or programs;
- awards or recognition from professional or industry groups and institutions;
- innovative approaches to difficulties;
- how will the nominee's story inspire others to higher standards in their work; and;
- how the nominee's story raises community perception of the VET and skills sector

### Criterion 3: Leadership (800 word limit)

The nominee's leadership in the field of VET and skills including, but not limited to:

- positively influencing policy or practice on a state, national or international level;
- leadership on Government committees or working groups;
- advocacy;
- senior positions of leadership;
- other training or mentoring participation; and;
- measurable ways in which their leadership has made a difference to the VET and skills sector

## Supporting Attachments

You can submit up to three (3) single A4 pages of relevant evidence for each criterion.

Each attachment should be one single sided page only, up to 15mb file size.

Any material exceeding the maximum number of attachments will not be given to the judging panels for consideration.

Multimedia items and discs will NOT be accepted with nominations.

Please only upload supporting attachments to serve as evidence for the responses to the Entry Criteria. Attachments that appear to be additional written responses to the Entry Criteria will not be assessed by the judging panel