



TASMANIAN TRAINING AWARDS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Student of the Year

2025 Nomination Guide



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year award recognises the achievement of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student who is undertaking an apprenticeship, traineeship or a course of study leading to a nationally recognised qualification, and who has been outstanding in all aspects of their training and demonstrates the importance of lifelong learning for themselves and their community.

This Award is proudly sponsored by Mas National.

If you are an apprentice, trainee, vocational student or school-based apprentice of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, keep in mind that the Tasmanian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year award is not the only one you may be eligible to enter. You may find one of the other award categories more appropriate to you, but you can only apply for one.

Eligibility and conditions of entry

Eligibility

Nominees must:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia
- have Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ancestry
- self-identify as an Aboriginal person and/or Torres Strait Islander
- be recognised as an Aboriginal person and/or Torres Strait Islander by the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community in which they live or have lived
- be undertaking a vocational education and training program (including an apprenticeship or traineeship)
- have a training contract with Skills Tasmania **or** be a full-time or part-time student
- have completed or be due to complete your training (or vocational studies) between 1 October 2024 and 30 September 2025 in a training course that leads to a nationally recognised outcome or qualification relevant to this award. Completion refers to the completion date on your training contract (where applicable) or vocational course
- be nominated by your registered training provider or employer (where applicable).

Applicants for this Award may need to complete an eligibility form. For further information, visit:

https://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0031/228892/Aboriginal-Eligibility-Form-September-2022.pdf

You do not need to complete this form if you have previously been eligible for Tasmanian Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs and services.

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 employment.
- be prepared to attend an interview as required, in person or virtually and, if selected as a finalist, attend a gala presentation dinner on Friday, 19 September 2025 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Hobart.
- 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 should they win the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student the Year Award they must be able to represent Tasmania at the 2025 Australian Training Awards week in Darwin (dates TBA). All travel, meals and accommodation costs for the Australian Training Awards are paid for by the Australian Government.
- be prepared to undergo all preparations that Skills Tasmania considers necessary for the 2025 Australian Training Awards, including a professional development workshop in October.
- acknowledge that by entering the Awards, finalists and winners agree that Skills Tasmania (Department of State Growth) and the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, 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 and Australian Training Awards.



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.
- 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, your role or your workplace and your community.
- First complete the nomination information – these are your personal details, your nominator, your employer, your training provider, etc. Please 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.
- Should you win the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Award your original application will be submitted to the Australian Training Awards. Applicants will not submit a new application or have the opportunity to rewrite it.

Shortlisting

- Applications for this award close at 11:59pm on Monday, 26 May 2025. Late applications will not be accepted.
- 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 applicants will be required to attend an interview to decide the finalists for 2025. Interviews will be held on Tuesday, 8 July in Hobart. Interviews can be held online if a candidate is unable to attend in person.
- 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.

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 and Australian Training Awards (should you win your category). Provision of this information is essential to determine your eligibility for consideration for an award. The information will be stored securely.

For further information please visit:

www.skills.tas.gov.au/TTA

or contact Jacqui Maclaine on 03 6165 6008

jacqui.maclaine@skills.tas.gov.au

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Overview and Selection Criteria

Section A: Overview – limit 300 words

*This information will **not** be considered or used for judging purposes, but may be used as your summary throughout the Awards process.*

Provide a short overview covering a description of the qualification you are enrolled in, your registered training organisation and employer and host 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 selection 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.

Criterion 1: Career and study achievements

Criterion 2: Team and communication skills

Criterion 3: Ability to be an ambassador (representative) for training in Australia

Criterion 4: Community engagement

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

Talk about your course or training and what led you to take this path. What did you learn through the course and what difference did it make to you. Talk about the benefits and where you think it will lead.

Consider things such as:

- Why did you choose your course?
- How has it changed or impacted on you?
- What have you gained from it?
- Have you had to address any challenges that have impacted on your training?

Criterion 2: Team and communication skills – limit 400 words

Talk about experiences you have had where you've had to use your communication skills or work in a team and how this has helped you or inspired others.

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

- What have you been able to tell others, work mates, employers, etc about your training?
- 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 training in Australia – limit 400 words

Talk about anything that you are doing or can do where you have been able to talk about VET, your course or your experience of training .

Tell us about:

- Examples where you have taken a leadership role inside or outside of training/work
- What other activities have you been involved in where you have been a representative?
- How would you describe the quality of your training?

Criterion 4: Community engagement – limit 400 words

Here talk about anything else that you think would be beneficial for your application.

You may wish to include information such as:

- How are you connected with your community/extended family?
- How has the training impacted on your community?
- What qualities do you have or activities have you been involved in that you feel would be useful in your role as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year?
- What are your achievements in areas other than study or work?

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



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