
Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching Rules and Eligibility

Established: 24 April 1992

Updated: 28 March 2022

Responsible Officer: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students)

1. Title of the Award: Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching
2. Nature of the Awards
 - a. Up to three awards will be made each year. These awards will be made to teams of staff (headed by an academic) and/or to individual academic staff.
 - b. Each winner of an award (either team or individual) will be presented with a Certificate of Excellence in Teaching. Award winners will receive a prize of \$5,000 payable into a university account subject to the same rules as a consulting account (i.e. requiring use for "university related activity"). Possible uses may include conference attendance, purchase of resources to assist in preparation and delivery of teaching and learning materials, purchase of books, journals, or professional development activities.
 - c. Recipients are recognised as leaders in their field and are strongly encouraged to share their good practice with the university, their College, the Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching and the Learning and Teaching Academy. They will receive support and encouragement to apply for national teaching awards and Advance HE Fellowships.
3. Purposes of the Awards

The purposes of the awards are to:

 - recognise and reward teaching excellence;
 - encourage teaching excellence through this recognition;
 - promote to both the Flinders and outside community that this university is proud of its academic staff and that they perform at national and international standards.
4. Eligibility for the Awards
 - a. Individual applicants

Individual awards will be awarded to members of staff judged to be outstanding teachers. Eligibility for individual awards encompasses:

 - All academic staff (continuing, contract, sessional, academic status, teaching specialist or balanced) with at least five years of sustained teaching experience with the university.

Where possible, one of the individual awards may be made to an early career academic with fewer than seven years experience teaching in a higher education setting. [This should be interpreted as seven calendar years and includes all tutoring, part-time teaching, and teaching at other higher education institutions].
 - b. Team applicants

Team awards will be awarded to teams of staff responsible for teaching and learning and/or student support judged to be outstanding.

Eligibility for team awards:

- Teams will comprise academic staff (as defined in 4a) and/or professional staff, who have held roles in teaching and learning and/or student support. At least one team member will have five years or more of substantial teaching experience with the university.
- c. Award winners will not be eligible for re-nomination within the same category for 5 years.
- d. Nominees may not nominate for both a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and a Vice-Chancellor's Innovation in Teaching Award within the same year.
- e. Recipients of a Vice-Chancellor's Innovation in Teaching Award will not be eligible to nominate for a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching for 3 years.

5. The Selection Committee

The Selection Committee for the awards will consist of the following members:

- Vice-Chancellor or nominee (Chair)
- One member nominated by each of the College Executive Deans (to serve for a two-year term of office and to be eligible for reappointment)
- One external member with expertise in teaching and learning, nominated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students) on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor (to serve for a two-year term and to be eligible for reappointment)
- Student member nominated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students) on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor (to serve for a one-year term and to be eligible for reappointment)
- A previous award winner nominated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students) on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor (to serve for a one-year term and to be eligible for reappointment).

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students), on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor and Selection Committee, will call for and receive nominations; the Selection Committee will examine the nominations and supporting information and make recommendations to the Vice-Chancellor in relation to the recipients of the awards. Academic Senate will be informed of the recipients of the awards.

6. Notification of the Awards

Notification of the results of the Committee's deliberations will be made after they have been approved by the Vice-Chancellor. Certificates will be presented at an appropriate ceremony.

7. Applicant Information

The key component of a nomination is a 4-page written statement addressing one of the selection criteria below. Statement should be presented under the following headings:

- Citation (max 40 words)
Include the discipline or field of work and the distinctive contribution of the nominee or team.
- Context/Summary
Describe the landscape in which you teach – the challenges, dynamics, obstacles, opportunities – and what you bring to the picture.
- Statement addressing criteria
*Nominees will be assessed on the evidence they provide in relation to **one of the following criteria:***

1. Approaches to teaching and/or the support of learning that influence, motivate and inspire students to learn.
2. Development of curricula, resources or services that reflect a command of the field.
3. Effective assessment practices that bring about improvements in student learning, may have a focus on academic integrity or digital solutions, or any assessment strategies that bring about change.
4. Innovation or leadership that has influenced and enhanced learning and teaching and/or student experience.
5. Education that embodies Rural, Regional, Remote and Indigenous paradigms.
6. Industry or professional experiences that involve deep partnerships in the educational experience.

In assessing nominations against the chosen criteria, the Committee will take into account the:

- extent to which the claims for excellence are supported by formal and informal evaluation; including peer and student evaluations of teaching;
- extent of creativity, imagination or innovation, irrespective of whether the approach involves traditional learning environments or technology-based developments; and
- evidence of the impact of the work as outlined in the statement and the references

Attachments:

Curriculum Vitae - three pages. Include any previous awards or recognition for teaching.

References - two references, of no more than one page each. One reference must be from the nominee's Teaching Program Director (or similar). If the nomination relates to a team, the reference should apply to the team.

The awards have been divided into two streams: one for individuals, the other for teams. The selection criteria upon which each category will be judged, however, are the same.