

NSW Training Awards 2025

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Applications close 14 March 2025



The NSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Award recognises the achievement of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student who displays a strong understanding and knowledge of the vocational education and training system and demonstrates the relevance of lifelong learning for themselves and their community.

Eligibility Criteria

Nominees must:

- identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent;
- meet the eligibility for one of the following individual award categories

Please refer to the eligibility under each award:

- Apprentice of the Year
- Trainee of the Year
- Vocational Student of the Year
- School-based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year

Preparing your application

Who can nominate?

- Employer or host employer
- Teacher/trainer from their Registered Training Organisation (RTO) or school
- Industry Consultant or Training Coordinator from their Registered Training Organisation (RTO), etc
- Career Adviser, Principal, Teacher from their school (School-based Apprentice or Trainees only)
- Group Training Organisation (GTO)
- Apprenticeship Network Providers (ANPs)

Nominator Comments

As a nominator of the individual, please briefly explain the reasons for making this nomination. (400 word limit)

You may want to cover their:

- job skills
- training
- industry knowledge
- personal skills

Note: This information will act as a 'support letter of endorsement' for this nominee/individual.

For more information or assistance with your application

 NSW.TrainingAwards@det.nsw.edu.au

 www.trainingawards.nsw.gov.au



Photo: Baylun Williams-Pinkie, 2024 NSW Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year

Section A: Overview (300 word limit)

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

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

Section B: Entry Criteria

Applicants are required to address each criterion and will be assessed against each criterion.

In your application, you must present evidence 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, the development of your skills and 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 consider some of the suggested outlines below. These considerations are not additional criteria, but are provided to give clarification of what may be relevant to include when writing against the criteria.

Criterion 1: Career and study achievements (400 word limit)

Consider things such as:

- Why did you choose your course?
- How has it changed or impacted 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 (400 word limit)

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

- What have you been able to tell others, students, mates 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 (400 word limit)

*Ambassadors are representatives for Vocational Education and Training in NSW and Australia.

Tell us about:

- Provide 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: Other qualities and pursuits (400 word limit)

You may wish to include information about:

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

Supporting Attachments

The award criteria should be the focus of your nomination; however, any relevant evidence may be provided to support your nomination. Any supporting attachment is to be referenced in your application. **Maximum of 5 single page attachments***.

- » **Evidence of completion date or early completion date**
This is a must for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Apprentice, Trainee or Vocational nominations
Examples: Certificate of Proficiency, Signed Request for Competency-based Completion with RTO evidence attached.
- » **If you are a school student**
This is a must for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander School-based Apprentice/Trainees
Confirmation from your Principal or Teacher stating that you are currently enrolled in school at the time of entry submission.
- » **Awards and prizes**
Copies of any certificates or prizes you may have received (since leaving secondary school), such as a sporting award or community service award -etc.
- » **Resume**
- » **Reference or letter of support**
A reference or letter of support from either your employer/ host employer, trainer or teacher.
- » **Workplace/training action photos**
A headshot of yourself. **This is a requirement for all applications.**
Action photos of you in your workplace or in training. See 'Photography Brief' for more details

* Excluding the Resume