

# NSW Training Awards 2025

## NSW Vocational Student of the Year

### Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Applications close 14 March 2025



The NSW Vocational Student of the Year Award recognises a vocational student's outstanding achievement in a course of study leading to a nationally recognised qualification and demonstrates the relevance of life-long learning.

### Eligibility Criteria

Nominees must:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia;
- reside in New South Wales;
- be a full-time or part-time student who is not undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship;
- have completed or due to complete your training (ie: training end date) between 1 June 2024 – 31 May 2025 in a training course that leads to a nationally recognised outcome or qualification relevant to the award you are applying for;
- not still be enrolled in school;
- only be nominated by one nominator;
- must not be nominated in subsequent years for the same qualification.

### Preparing your application

Who can nominate?

- employer
- teacher or trainer from their Registered Training Organisation (RTO)

### 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:

- training/studies
- 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](mailto:NSW.TrainingAwards@det.nsw.edu.au)



[www.trainingawards.nsw.gov.au](http://www.trainingawards.nsw.gov.au)



Photo: Samantha Zannes, 2024 NSW Vocational 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 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?
- What have you been able to bring to your workplace?

### 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 workmates, employers, others 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:

- Have you had to address any challenges that have impacted on your training?
- When have you been required to use initiative either in your training, your personal life or your workplace?
- What other qualities or activities do you feel would be useful in your role as Vocational Student of the Year?
- What other community or industry involvement have you had?

## 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**  
**This is a requirement for Vocational Student nominations.** Example: RTO Certificate or a letter endorsed by your RTO confirming your qualification and expected completion date.
- » **Awards and prizes**  
Copies of any certificates or prizes you may have received (since leaving secondary school) such as a sporting award, community service award or special recognition by your employer.
- » **Resume**
- » **Reference or letter of support**  
A reference or letter of support from either your 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