



VET in Schools Excellence Award

Award Criteria

The VET in Schools Excellence Award will recognise an outstanding training program which delivers vocational education and training to secondary school students. The program may be coordinated by secondary schools, industry groups, or by way of partnerships between schools, industry and Group Training Organisations, Local Community Partnerships or any other variation.

Eligibility

The nominated program must:

- be based on Training Packages or industry/enterprise competency standards
- lead to qualifications or Statements of Attainment under the Australian Qualifications Framework

AND

- be the winner of an equivalent state or territory training award in 2010/

Nominees will be one or more organisations involved in the training program.

*The 2010 state/territory winners of this category can nominate for the Australian Training Awards. The **original application** from winners of this category addressing the criteria below and submitted through state/territory training awards process will be used.*

*Applications to the state/territory training awards process are to be in 12 pt font and a **maximum of 20 A4 pages** (including attachments).*

Preparing your application

Section A: Overview

Provide an overview of the training* program(s) including its objectives, a description of the environment in which it operates and any specific challenges which were encountered in the implementation of the training program.

Section B: Applications will be judged against the following criteria

Criterion 1: Meeting student needs

Criterion 2: Strategic planning processes

Criterion 3: Industry and community support

Criterion 4: Sustainability and evaluation of the program

* denotes nationally recognised training, ie. training which is based on a National Training Package or Accredited Course and results in a formal qualification or Statement of Attainment by a Registered Training Organisation. This includes Australian Apprenticeships.

Addressing the Selection Criteria

When developing your application against the award criteria, you may wish to take into account some of the considerations outlined below, if they are relevant to your organisation. These suggestions are ***not*** additional criteria, but are provided to give clarification of what may be relevant to include when writing against the award criteria.

How the program meets the needs of the students

Consider:

- details of specific teaching and learning environments, including any unique and/or innovative aspects
- the outcomes of the program, including qualifications achieved by students and whether they are endorsed by State/Territory Boards of Studies
- integration of on-the-job and off-the-job training, including any links with school assessment tasks
- how the program caters for all students including those with special needs, such as indigenous students, students with disabilities, students from a non-English speaking background, students in remote areas, gifted and talented students
- any strategies in place to encourage participation by all students and support from parents and the wider school community
- implementation of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in your training program eg, e-learning.

Strategic Planning processes

Consider:

- details of the external environment in which the organisation operates and its relationship to state/territory and national policies and priorities
- systems and processes for planning and communicating purpose, vision and goals, values, core business strategies, and creating alignment across the whole organisation.

Effective industry/community support

Consider:

- any unique and/or innovative aspects of partnerships and relationships with external organisations
- whether there are formal and informal agreements to facilitate partnerships and provide financial or in-kind contributions to the program including industry engagement
- how the needs of partner organisations and/or the community are met by the program
- any strategies underway to foster new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships, including their impact or level of success
- actions taken to raise awareness of the program in the general community and to build relationships with the general community
- evidence of recognition or acknowledgment by those involved or by third parties
- any support evident from the rest of the school community.

Sustainability and evaluation

Consider:

- systems and processes for continuous improvement, including evaluation and review
- capacity for further development or broader application, or replication at other sites
- any plans in place to ensure long term sustainability.

