



The Australian Council for Educational Leaders

— 39th ANNUAL — NATIONAL AWARDS

RECOGNITION OF THE PROFESSION BY THE PROFESSION



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

For closing date, please check
[accel.org.au/awards2024](https://www.acel.org.au/awards2024)

ACEL invites all members of the education profession to nominate an individual or team who has made a significant educational contribution and who has influenced education at a national level in Australia. ACEL awards are proudly peer nominated.

The most important evening on the ACEL calendar celebrates its impressive 39th year since the first Gold Medals were awarded to Victoria's Robert Fordham and Western Australia's Edwin Harold. Since their inception, the ACEL national awards have grown in stature with educators being recognised for their contributions across six categories. We also recognise media organisations/journalists/programs that contribute significantly to raising the profile of the education sector and make valuable contributions to the national conversation via 'The ACEL National Media Award'.

Always a highlight of the ACEL Annual Conference, our National Awards Ceremony honours educational leaders who have dedicated themselves to the improvement of student and educational outcomes.

Awards will be presented across the seven categories which are open for nomination and one special achievement award which are listed below.

Nominated Categories

ACEL Gold Medal Award

ACEL National Fellowships

ACEL Hedley Beare Award for Educational Writing

ACEL Nganakarrawa Award

ACEL Keith Tronc Award for Outstanding Teacher Leadership

ACEL Leadership Award

ACEL National Media & Journalism Award

Achievement Award

ACEL Presidential Citation (discretionary)

The work of each nominee will be reviewed against criteria based on each specific award. Evidence provided must also demonstrate impact at a system, state and/or national level. This process is completely confidential. The ACEL Awards Committee has provided information in regard to nomination requirements, criteria for Fellowships and Awards and also provided guidelines and sample documentation to assist with the nomination process.

The 2024 National Awards will be announced on 30 September and will be presented with a more formal ceremony after the close of Day 1 of the ACEL National Conference 2024. Information in regard to the conference is available on our website at: [ancel.org.au/events](https://www.ancel.org.au/events)

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Open for Nominations

ACEL Gold Medal

The ACEL Gold Medal is the most prestigious honour awarded by ACEL and is presented to an Australian educator whose influence and contribution to the study and practice of educational leadership is assessed as most outstanding at the national level. The contribution by the awardee is consistent with the [vision, mission and objects](#) of ACEL.

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to members and non-members for nomination
- Nominees will have shown considerable influence at a national level which should be demonstrated in the supporting statement
- Supporting evidence statement max 500 words
- Provide specific examples in the supporting statement
- Include the CV for the person being nominated (if available)

ACEL National Fellowship

ACEL presents Fellowships to those members who have made outstanding educational leadership contributions to ACEL and/or whose work has influenced educational practice at a national and/or international level. The Fellowship is a recognition of contributions to the profession beyond the nominee's day to day role.

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to members only for nomination
- Nominees must have received a state branch Fellowship in order to be eligible
- Provide specific examples in the supporting statement of the nominee's contributions to ACEL and/or their influence at a national/international level
- Supporting evidence statement max 500 words
- Include the CV for the person being nominated (if available)
- Non-members can be nominated for an Honorary Fellowship

Evidence needs to be mapped against the following criteria:

1. Leading teaching and learning
2. Developing self and others
3. Leading improvement, innovation and change
4. Leading the management of an organisation
5. Engaging and working with the educational, wider community and/or profession
6. Contribution/s to ACEL
7. Contribution/s to the profession beyond the scope of professional role.

Nominators should specifically focus on identifying and describing achievements, capabilities and practices that clearly demonstrate excellent educational leadership by the nominee.

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ACEL Hedley Beare Award for Educational Writing

This award is presented annually for an outstanding piece of educational writing (which may take various forms) that has provided new and significant knowledge about educational leadership.

This award was introduced in 2002 as the ACEL Award for Educational Writing. Following its award to Hedley Beare, he graciously consented to the naming of the award in his honour.

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to members and non-members for nomination
- Provide specific examples in the supporting statement of the nominee/s contributions through their writing
- Supporting evidence statement max 300 words
- Include the CV for the person being nominated (if available)

ACEL Nganakarrawa Award

ACEL presents the Nganakarrawa Award (pronounced nana-ga-raa-wa) to those whose general excellence in educational leadership and whose wisdom, learning, experience and contribution to ACEL have earned lasting respect and gratitude for their influence in leading and mentoring others. With its origins in the Ndjebbana language of central Arnhemland, the term Nganakarrawa refers to 'those who move about, all seeing, all knowing, knowledgeable and well regarded.'

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to members and non-members for nomination
- Provide specific examples in the supporting statement
- Supporting evidence statement max 300 words
- Include the CV for the person being nominated (if available)

ACEL Keith Tronc Award For Outstanding Leadership

This award is to an early career teacher who has demonstrated outstanding practice in the classroom and as a result has made a significant difference to colleagues and the lives of students. The awardee is not required to be an ACEL member but must have made a significant contribution to the improvement of student and educational outcomes.

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to members and non-members for nomination
- This category is open for nominees in their first five years of teaching
- Provide specific examples in the supporting statement
- Supporting evidence statement max 300 words
- Supporting documentation should make reference to the AITSL Professional Standards for Teachers at the accomplished and lead level
- Include the CV for the person being nominated (if available)

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ACEL Leadership Award

Leadership Awards are presented each year to individual educators and teams of educators who have demonstrated excellent educational leadership in developing and implementing a significant educational initiative, conducting research or influencing educational policy, leading to improved outcomes for students and/or colleagues at a national and/or international level.

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to all members of the education profession - both individuals and groups
- Provide specific examples in the supporting statement
- Supporting evidence statement max 300 words

ACEL National Media & Journalism Award

For their ongoing contribution and commitment to reporting in the arena of educational issues and their commitment to recognising and encouraging student and teacher voice on the critical issues affecting our schools across Australia.

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to all members of the education profession - both individuals and groups

Achievement Award

ACEL Presidential Citation (discretionary)

The Presidential Citation is an occasional award given by the President to recognise outstanding service to ACEL. It is presented to an ACEL member who, through particular endeavours, has made an outstanding contribution in furthering the vision, mission and objectives of the Council.

Nomination criteria:

- Category open to members only for nomination
- This is awarded by the ACEL President on a discretionary basis and is not open for nominations

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