

ALLIED HEALTH AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE: 2022

Information for nominators

Key dates

Nominations **open for eight weeks**, from **Tuesday 14 June** to **Friday 5 August 2022**

How to nominate

- Nominations can be made by Executives, Directors of Allied Health, Profession and Clinical Leads, managers, peers, consumers, or self.
- Nomination submissions close at **5:00pm Friday 5 August 2022**. **Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.**
- Nominations must be submitted via the electronic form which will be **available from 14 June 2022** via the ACT Health website: <https://www.health.act.gov.au/careers/allied-health/learning-and-professional-development/reward-and-recognition-schemes>

Nominators can save and return to a draft submission, however the draft can only be accessed from the device on which the nomination was commenced. Nominators will be able to access the draft nomination until it is submitted, or until nomination submissions close at 5pm on Friday 5 August 2022. Once a nomination has been submitted, it cannot be edited or altered. If you wish to edit any details, you will need to submit a new nomination.

Who is eligible for nomination?

Nominees for all award categories must:

- Be employed by ACT Health Directorate, Calvary Public Hospital Bruce, Canberra Health Services, Community Services Directorate, Education Directorate or Justice and Community Safety Directorate;
- Be permanent employees, or able to provide evidence of continuous temporary employment for at least 12 months as at the nomination closing date;
- Be working in an [eligible allied health profession](#) (see list);
- Be endorsed by the nominee's current Executive (including when self-nomination is made). If the nominee has a Director of Allied Health, they should also be notified. The relevant Executive must be identified in the electronic application form, and a copy of the completed application will be sent to them for endorsement. **Please allow adequate time to obtain Executive endorsement by the closing date;**
- Not have received an award in the category in which they are being nominated within the previous three (3) years.

Award categories

Each nomination can be made in one of the following categories.	
Allied Health Assistant Excellence	For individuals employed as Allied Health Assistants, Dental Assistants or Peer Recovery Workers.
Early Career Excellence	For individuals who commenced as a new graduate with an ACT Government Directorate and/or Calvary Public Hospital Bruce on or after 1 January 2020 .
Practice Excellence	For individuals Nominees may be from various domains of allied health practice including but not limited to clinical, community, technical and scientific domains.
Management and Leadership Excellence	For individuals.
Education Excellence	For individuals. Recognises excellence in providing education to stimulate professional development and lifelong learning, to enhance skills and knowledge of allied health practice
Team Excellence	For more than one individual. Eligibility requires team to include at least two team members from an eligible allied health profession (see list). Remaining team members can be from other professions such as nursing, medicine, scientific, technical, and administrative professions who are employed by the eligible organisations.
Research Excellence	For individuals or teams Where a nomination is for a team, the lead researcher/s must be from an eligible allied health profession (see list). Team can also include broader multidisciplinary professions such as nursing, medicine, scientific, technical, and administrative professions who are employed by the eligible organisations.
Excellence in Provision of Services to Improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Wellbeing	For individuals or teams Nominations for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are strongly encouraged; however, all eligible allied health professionals may be nominated. Where nomination is for a team it must include at least two team members from an eligible allied health profession (see list). Remaining team members can be from other professions, such as nursing, medicine, scientific, technical, and administrative professions employed by eligible organisations.



Assessment criteria

- Nominations must outline how the nominee/s demonstrate excellence in relation to **all the following criteria:**
 - Respect
 - Integrity
 - Collaboration
 - Innovation
- Responses should draw on experience from the previous 5 years only (2017 - 2022).
- Responses are limited to 500 words per criterion. **Strong nominations will make use of the entire word limit** and describe what the nominee has done and why they should be recognised.

Supporting material

Please ensure claims can be backed up with supporting evidence. Do not include supporting documentation, however, additional evidence may be sought by the assessment panel if required.

Nomination receipt

All nomination submissions will be automatically acknowledged upon receipt. A copy of the submitted application will be emailed to the nominator.

How will entries be assessed?

Nominations will be assessed by a panel of senior allied health professional staff from eligible ACT Directorates and Calvary Public Hospital Bruce, chaired by the ACT Chief Allied Health Officer. Additional assessors with specific relevant experience may be utilised if required.

The Assessment panel will evaluate excellence through several filters which include but are not limited to:

- National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards
- Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights
- ACT Government public service values - *Respect, Integrity, Collaboration, and Innovation*



Announcement of nominees and award recipients

Nominees and award recipients will be celebrated publicly on International Allied Health Professionals Day, Friday 14 October 2022.

Award recipients' professional development grants

Each category recipient will be awarded a \$500 professional development grant. One individual or team will be named 'Allied Health Professional of the Year' (selected from the field of highest-ranking nominees) and will receive an additional \$1500 professional development grant. This recipient is expected to present a brief reflection on their year as the 'Allied Health Professional of the Year' and how the grant they received was used, at the Allied Health Awards ceremony of the following year. Teams that receive an award and professional development grant should use this to support the team's professional development.

Guidance on categories open to nominations for one or more nominees

Team Excellence Category

If you wish to recognise the achievements of a team (more than one person) that does not fall into the *Research Excellence* or *Excellence in Provision of Services to Improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Wellbeing* category, please submit the nomination in the **Team Excellence** category.

The Team Excellence category seeks to recognise teams that demonstrate the value of teamwork including how an allied health discipline specific or multidisciplinary team has contributed to the development, implementation, and ongoing delivery of an initiative to improve the quality of patient and family centred care, has enhanced service effectiveness through collaboration and/or is recognised by peers as a champion of innovation and excellence. You must be able to demonstrate the input of different team members and/or collaboration between allied health and other professions and/or services. Nominated teams must have a **minimum of 2 [eligible allied health professionals](#)** (see list).

Research Excellence Category

The **Research Excellence** category is designed to provide an opportunity to recognise **individuals or teams** from the allied health workforce who have engaged in research and/or significant quality improvement activities. Where a nomination is for a team the lead researcher/s must be from an [eligible allied health profession](#) (see list).

Examples of activities eligible for consideration in the research category include:

- Quality improvement initiatives that foster evidence-informed practice;
- Applied practice projects that focus on translational research;
- Research carried out as part of postgraduate study or grants;
- Dissemination of research findings through presentations, publications, or posters;
- Mentoring and / or championing research either individually or within / across teams;
- Leading research training and education;
- Promotion of research and quality improvement in an allied health and / or multidisciplinary context;
- Multidisciplinary research. Not all team members have to have an allied health background, however, the lead researcher(s) must be from an [eligible allied health profession](#) working in ACT Health Directorate, Calvary Public Hospital Bruce, Canberra Health Services, Community Services Directorate, Education Directorate or Justice and Community Safety Directorate.

Excellence in Provision of Services to Improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Wellbeing Category

This category is designed to provide an opportunity to recognise **individuals or teams** from the allied health workforce who have engaged in activities to improve care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and communities.

Examples of activities eligible for consideration in this category include:

- Setting, implementing, and evaluating safety and quality goals for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers;
- Improving cultural competence in caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers, to improve access to or outcomes of services and therefore help reduce health disparities;
- Effectively and accurately improving processes to ask patients if they identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers, therefore enabling specific cultural needs to be understood and met;
- Creating physically accessible, safe, welcoming, and culturally sensitive environments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers;
- Addressing barriers to communication, and creating effective and safe communication strategies with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers;
- Implementing screening and assessment to identify risks for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers, to ensure comprehensive care that is tailored to their health needs and goals;
- Actively collaborating and engaging in partnerships with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to assist in promoting the profile and importance of health services.



Do you need further clarification about?

- Nomination processes?
- Using the electronic form?
- Eligibility?
- Award categories?
- Addressing the assessment criteria?

Please contact the Awards Secretariat at chiefalliedhealthoffice@act.gov.au

Visit the ACT Health website for more information or to start making your nomination through the electronic form: <https://www.health.act.gov.au/careers/allied-health/learning-and-professional-development/reward-and-recognition-schemes>