

Important information about nominating for the 2010 Individual Excellence In Early Childhood Education & Care Award

This award recognises the achievements of individuals in the provision of outstanding early childhood education and care. The pursuit of excellence in early childhood education and care professionals is vital to ensure that childhood services in Australia are World's Best Practice and are focused on putting the needs of the children above all else.

Nominations for this award can be made by early childhood education and care practitioners, the families of children attending early childhood services, operators and colleagues who wish to acknowledge the provision of early education and care by an individual they consider to be exceptional and who demonstrates high quality practice.

Tips for preparing your nomination

1. Nominations are to be made by electronic submission.
2. For nominations submitted online, the nominator will receive an acknowledgement and receipt via the email address provided.
3. Only nominations for individuals are acceptable for the Individual Excellence award.
4. Ensure you thoroughly read and understand the nomination criteria, eligibility criteria and terms and conditions for nomination.

Nomination Criteria

Nominees must:

- exemplify the highest standards of early childhood education and care, and professional practice in their role, working with children
- enhance the image and status of early childhood education and care in Australia
- have undertaken the achievements described in the nomination to support improved outcomes for children in early childhood education and care settings.

Nominations:

- may be made by the general public, staff, managers and operators in early childhood services, academics, policy makers and officials, peak bodies and advocacy organisations

- self-nomination for this category is encouraged
- the achievements described in the nomination must have taken place between 1 July 2008 and 30 July 2010 to be considered eligible.

The judging panel's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the *Individual Excellence In Early Childhood Education & Care Award*, the nominee must be:

- legally eligible to work in Australia
- a resident of Australia
- currently working in a licensed or government approved early childhood education and care setting.

Selection Criteria

Nominations for this category are judged on their ability to demonstrate the nominee's achievements in **one** of the following four areas:

1. supporting children's learning and development, or
2. supporting child diversity and inclusive practice, or
3. involving parents, families and the community, or
4. exceptional distinction – acting above and beyond their role as an early childhood education and care practitioner.

Terms and conditions of nomination

1. The information provided in your nomination will be used to determine the nominee's eligibility for the *Individual Excellence In Early Childhood Education & Care Award*.
2. Attendance by the individual nominated is required at the award ceremony – on Friday 1 October – in order to be a finalist and/or winner of the award.
3. The Judging Panel can only perform a review of all nominations based on the information provided.



Therefore it is very important that the entry is fully completed and all relevant information is included.

4. All criteria in the nomination form must be completed including clear examples of the nominee's accomplishments.
5. In determining finalists and overall category winners, a representative of the HESTA Early Childhood Education & Care Awards may contact the nominator and their nominee to verify any information submitted in the nomination, and to determine the eligibility of the nominee.
6. To maintain the privacy of the person you are nominating and the integrity of the judging process, when referring to the nominee throughout the body of your submission, only refer to the person's first name. Only include the nominee's full name where requested on the nomination form.
7. To maintain integrity of the judging process, do not refer to the name of the nominee's employer in the body of your submission. Only include this information where requested in the nomination form.
8. Nominations must be fully completed. Incomplete nominations will not be considered.
9. Finalists, overall category winners and their nominators may be requested to speak with the judging panel, the media and/or other groups about the nomination.
10. By participating in this competition, the nominators and nominees agree that H.E.S.T. Australia Ltd, Early Childhood Australia and ME Bank shall be permitted to use the submitted entries and any photographs/ media/copyright of the nominators or nominees for promotional purposes, without any reference, payment or compensation.
11. The nomination may be submitted for one category only. If you are unsure of the category to select, please e-mail ecawards@hesta.com.au
12. No responsibility will be taken for lost, incomplete, or delayed nominations.
13. Current H.E.S.T. Australia Limited staff, ME Bank employees, Early Childhood Australia Inc., HESTA Early Childhood Education & Care Award Judging Panel members, or their immediate family are ineligible for an award and may not nominate or endorse a candidate for an award.
14. The Judging Panel's decision is final and made at its sole and complete discretion. No correspondence will be entered into. The Judging Panel and organisers of the HESTA Early Childhood Education & Care Awards retains full discretion in the awarding of prizes.



Nominations are now closed.
Thank you to everyone who nominated.



The HESTA Early Childhood Education & Care Awards

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