



EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AWARDS

**Entries close
7th September 2025**

**Celebration Dinner
Saturday 8th November 2025**



Presented by





The Enchanted Garden

**Gala Evening for Excellence in
Early Childhood Education Awards**

**Saturday 8th November 2025
Hyatt Regency, Sydney**

Dress: Green & Floral.

For further information, please visit www.eeceawards.com.au



EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AWARDS

Enter and Celebrate Your Achievements.

It's that time of year again!

The Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards is upon us, and we can't wait to celebrate with you! We'll be honouring services, leaders, teams, educators and teachers and the importance of early childhood education!

The awards program has become the pinnacle for the recognition of individuals who have made extraordinary contributions within early childhood education. There is a wide range of categories that services may enter. Your service may enter one or more.

The winners are selected by an independent panel of expert judges who are representatives from across the early childhood education and care sector.

The award winners will be announced at the "Enchanted Garden" on 8th November 2025. Start planning now for this big evening and it could be your service(s), educators and teachers on stage accepting an award(s)!

Don't miss this opportunity for your service and team to be recognised for your dedication and commitment towards the children you care for, their families and the community.

Steve Loe
Awards Manager
Excellence in
Early Childhood
Education Awards

Presented By



Managed By

precedent

The Process & Important Dates

Each year, the Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards are your services', your educators' and your teachers' opportunity to be recognised. Being publicly recognised enables you to communicate your invaluable contributions to your families and local communities.

The Excellence in Early Childhood Education Awards is open to all NSW-based long day care services.

Services may submit for a wide array of Excellence Awards for their programs and activities, as well as Awards for individuals and teams.

The full list of categories is included in this Official Guide.

Important Dates

Nominations for Awards Open	9th May 2025
Nominations for Awards Close	7th September 2025
Finalists Announced	19th September 2025
Gala Awards Evening, Hyatt Regency	8th November 2025

How to complete your nomination

1. Activities or programs must have been conducted during 1 January 2024 to 30 August 2025.
2. Review the Award categories and decide which categories best suit your nominations to be recognised.
3. Each nomination should respond to all specific questions within the category criteria.
4. Ensure you include five high resolution photos that illustrate each category entered.
5. Include additional supporting material such as reports, testimonials or press cuttings to back up statements made in your submission(s).

All entries and materials will remain confidential and will be viewed only by judges and managers of the Awards. At the end of the judging process, all judges materials will be destroyed.





EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AWARDS

Awards Categories

Metropolitan Services Excellence Awards

1. Large Private Metropolitan Service (40 places or more)
2. Small Private Metropolitan Service (39 places or less)
3. Large Community Metropolitan Service (40 places or more)
4. Small Community Metropolitan Service (39 places or less)

Regional/Rural Services Excellence Awards

5. Large Private Regional/Rural Service (40 places or more)
6. Small Private Regional/Rural Service (39 places or less)
7. Large Community Regional/Rural Service (40 places or more)
8. Small Community Regional/Rural Service (39 places or less)

Excellence Awards

9. Excellence in Educational Program & Practice
10. Excellence in Environmental Program
11. Excellence in Partnerships with Families
12. Excellence in Community Involvement
13. Excellence in Inclusivity Practices
14. Excellence in Children's Wellbeing & Health
15. Excellence in Children's Safety
16. Excellence in Food & Nutrition
17. Excellence in Multicultural Program
18. Excellence in Food & Menu Design
19. Excellence in Australian History & Culture

Excellence in Training

20. Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care
21. Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care
22. Training Excellence Award

Excellence in People

23. Team Excellence Award - Metropolitan Service
24. Team Excellence Award - Regional/Rural Service
25. Employer Excellence Award
26. Director/Nominated Supervisor Excellence Award
27. Female Educator Excellence Award
28. Male Educator Excellence Award
29. Educational Leader Excellence Award
30. Young Female Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)
31. Young Male Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)
32. Service Support Person Excellence Award

Children's Outcomes

33. Outcomes for Children (Birth - 3 Years)
34. Outcomes for Children (Preschool)

Business Excellence Awards

35. Large Metropolitan Service (40 places or more)
36. Small Metropolitan Service (39 places or less)
37. Large Regional/Rural Service (40 places or more)
38. Small Regional/Rural Service (39 places or less)



Your Entry Form Checklist

- Entries must be submitted via the online no later than 11.59pm on Sunday 7th September 2025.
- Services may enter as many categories as they wish.
- Services must complete a separate entry online for each category being entered.
- Entries must have a different photo for each category being entered.

Checklist

Each category entry must include the following.

- Category Number
- Category Name
- Service Contact Details
- Personal Contact Details
- Answers to each Criteria Question
- Two High Resolution Photos (Note: File formats can be in JPEG/PNG, at least 300DPI or 1920x1080 pixels.)

Photos

Photos will be included as part of your entry.

Every entry must include at least **five different photos relevant to the category**. This could include members of your team integrating with children or community members.

Photos will be used for the presentation evening. **Every category you enter must have different photos.**

Submitting your entry

Scan and Submit Online:



or visit:
<https://bit.ly/eeceawards2025>



Entries Close: 11.59pm on Sunday 7th September, 2025

For further information, call (02) 8363 3333 or email awards@precedent.net

Excellence Awards

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

Metropolitan Services Excellence Awards

1. Large Private Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
2. Small Private Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)
3. Large Community Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
4. Small Community Metropolitan Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Describe your service including type of service, number of places, age range of children, number of staff. Also include the history and values of the service.
2. Describe your service's approach to education and care.
3. Outline involvement with families and the community.
4. How do you ensure quality education and care?
5. What are the plans for your service in the future? (Note: This may include improvements to your service, additional offerings for all enrolled children and their families, collaborations with external agencies for children's health and development.)
6. Outline the strengths of your service and why you believe it should win this award.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence Awards

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

Regional/Rural Services Excellence Awards

5. Large Private Regional/Rural Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
6. Small Private Regional/Rural Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)
7. Large Community Regional/Rural Service of the Year Award (40 places or more)
8. Small Community Regional/Rural Service of the Year Award (39 places or less)

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Describe your service including type of service, number of places, age range of children, number of staff. Also include the history and values of the service.
2. Describe your service's approach to education and care.
3. Outline involvement with families and the community.
4. How do you ensure high-quality education and care?
5. What are the plans for your service in the future?
6. Outline the strengths of your service and why you believe it should win this award.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to each category entered.
Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence Awards

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

9. Excellence in Educational Program & Practice
10. Excellence in Environmental Program
11. Excellence in Partnerships with Families
12. Excellence in Community Involvement
13. Excellence in Inclusivity Practices
14. Excellence in Children's Wellbeing & Health
15. Excellence in Children's Safety
16. Excellence in Food & Nutrition
17. Excellence in Multicultural Program
18. Excellence in Food & Menu Design
19. Excellence in Australian History & Culture

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Describe the aims of your program.
2. What activities did your program involve?
3. What were the benefits and outcomes for children?
4. Outline the benefits to the community.
5. Outline how the team were involved.
6. Why was your program successful?

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence in Training

Do you have an outstanding trainee within your organisation? Are they displaying an outstanding commitment to your training and making a difference?

Categories

20. Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care

21. Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to be nominated for either of the above awards you must meet the criteria below:

- Must be enrolled or completed the CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care or CHC50121 Diploma of Early Childhood Education Care qualification with Kool Kids Training College (RTO 40636) in NSW
- Have (or had prior to completion) a registered training contract with the NSW Department of Industry
- Have completed the following criteria questions on separate pages.

Criteria Questions (to be completed by the trainee/EDUCATOR)

Address the following criteria questions.

This must be completed by the nominated trainee.

1. Full Name
2. Trainers Name
3. Qualification you are completing / completed at Kool Kids Training College (CHC30121 OR CHC50121)
4. Are you yet to complete the course? (Yes/No)
5. Completion Date (if you have completed your training)
6. Provide a short overview of why you chose to undertake training as an early childhood educator.
7. What has given you the most satisfaction from this decision to become an educator?
8. Provide a short overview that impresses the judges with a WOW moment. It could be an idea you put forward, an experience or event with the children or families that was amazing, an initiative that helped the growth and development of children in an early learning centre.
9. Provide a short overview of how you are going to make a difference in Early Childhood Education in the coming years. Knock it out of the park!

Photos & Supporting Material

Include a portrait photo of just the nominee and five different photos of the nominee at the service with activities, or the children. Supporting material may also be included.



The Training Excellence Award recognises long daycare services that have an approach that has evidence of successes in their service's selection of the best training organisation(s), ensuring quality measurable outcomes, and supporting their educators to fulfil their best potentials.

Category

22. Training Excellence Award

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the category.

1. Explain the service's training approach and criteria for selecting the best training organisation(s).
2. Demonstrate how the service measures expected outcomes of their selected training organisation(s) against actual results from their trainees and educators?
3. When actual results are not aligned with expected outcomes, what is the remedial plan of action implemented for both the service and the training organisation(s)?
4. Outline your service's measurable successes in terms of children's outcomes and your service's successes, as well as educators' recruitment and retention as a result of the service's training approach?
5. Does your service have any future amendments to the existing training approach and criteria? If so, what are they and why?
6. Complementary to what the training organisation(s) offer, what other training and development does your service provide for your trainees and educators in order to further advance their professional, vocational and personal aspirations?

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to each category entered.
Supporting material may also be included.



Excellence in People

These awards go to the teams that have developed and maintained an excellent standard of early childhood learning, showing exceptional group values and a commitment to working together for the common good.

Categories

23. Team Excellence Award - Metropolitan Service

24. Team Excellence Award - Regional/Rural Service

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Explain the service's philosophy for building and retaining a high performance team.
2. What does the team structure look like? Explain each role.
3. What are the service's practices for recruitment, induction and their availability of training and development?
4. How motivated are your team – what evidence do you have?
5. What progression opportunities are there in the service?
6. Outline your service's success during the past year and how the team has contributed to it.

Category

25. Employer Excellence Award

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. Explain the service's approach toward recruiting and retaining talented educators and teachers.
2. What are the service's practices for training and development of employees?
3. What evidence do you have that demonstrates your team's motivation for and focus on producing results.
4. What are the service's support structures and/or programs that directly contribute to the positive well-being of your educators and teachers? eg. ACA NSW's Telus Health Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
5. How has management impacted on the success(es) team member(s).
6. Provide examples of feedback from the team regarding the Service's workplace and culture.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.

Categories

Each category selected requires a separate entry form.

26. Director/Nominated Supervisor Excellence Award

This award will be presented to a Director or Nominated Supervisor who ensures the service operated in compliance with regulations and oversees the day-to-day management in maintaining high standards of care and education.

27. Female Educator Excellence Award

This award will be presented to a female educator who has shown outstanding care in developing a thriving, high quality service which delivers a superb educational program for children.

28. Male Educator Excellence Award

This award will be presented to a male educator who has shown outstanding care in developing a thriving, high quality service which delivers a superb education program for children.

29. Educator Leader Excellence Award

This Award will go to an Educator who shows the leadership skills required to provide a safe and stimulating environment for children, excellent ability to support and develop other team members, and an ability to observe, assess and track children's learning and development.

30. Young Female Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)

This Award will be given to a young female under the age of 25, who excels in their personal and team roles, and exhibits enthusiasm, professionalism, confidence and a shining commitment to their on-going career development.

31. Young Male Educator Excellence Award (25 years or less)

This Award will be given to a young male under the age of 25, who excels in their personal and team roles, and exhibits enthusiasm, professionalism, confidence and a shining commitment to their on-going career development.

32. Service Support Person Excellence Award

This Award goes to a person who excels in their position that supports the success of the daily activities of the service. This could be an administration clerk, cook, parent or volunteer.

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

1. How long has the nominee been employed at the service?
2. What are the nominee's main responsibilities?
3. List the nominee's qualification(s) and training experience.
4. Outline the nominee's substantive contribution they have made through the service.
5. What impact has this person had on children, families, the local community, their colleagues and the early childhood education service and/or sector?
6. What is/are the nominee's unique characteristics that differentiates them from other educators/teachers?

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to each category entered.
Supporting material may also be included.

Children's Outcomes

33. Outcomes for Children (Birth - 3 Years)

34. Outcomes for Children (Preschool)

Criteria Questions

Provide examples of programs, activities AND outcomes of a child or children in terms of her/his/their improvements.

1. Describe your educational program that relate to the intended outcomes.
2. What activities did your program involve to achieve the relevant outcomes for children?
3. How are the outcomes of children measured, and how are their benefits communicated?
4. Outline the benefits to the community.
5. Outline how the educator(s)/teacher(s) were aligned to your program.
6. Demonstrate those children's parents' appreciation.

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to each category entered. Supporting material may also be included.



Business Excellence Awards

These Awards relate to the business operations and management of a service. The Criteria is based on elements that are important in the success of a business.

Categories

- 35. Large Metropolitan Service (40 places or more)
- 36. Small Metropolitan Service (39 places or less)
- 37. Large Regional/Rural Service (40 places or more)
- 38. Small Regional/Rural Service (39 places or less)

Criteria Questions

Address the following criteria questions ensuring your answers relate to the relevant category entered.

- 1. Describe the services your business provides.
- 2. Briefly describe the history of the business.
- 3. Describe how you promote your business.
- 4. Describe the level of customer service and the quality of your service your business provides.
- 5. How are staff trained and motivated? Please include the number of staff in your team.
- 6. Detail your commitment and endeavours in business and/or environmental sustainability.
- 7. Detail the successes of the business during the past two years. This may include business growth, turnover, awards successes, recognition given by the industry, community, customers or suppliers
- 8. Describe how your business supports the local community. This could include sponsorships, donations and assistance to local community groups.
- 9. Describe where you see your business in the future. (Note: This may include improvements to your service, additional offerings for all enrolled children and their families, collaborations with external agencies for children's health and development.)
- 10. Why should your service receive a Business Excellence Award?

Photos & Supporting Material

Include five different photos relevant to your selected category. Supporting material may also be included.





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