­­

**Application guide   
2019 Outstanding Teacher of STEM Awards**

In this guide, you will find information to assist you with your application for a Peter Doherty Outstanding Teacher of STEM Award. Please read through this information carefully and complete the application checklist on page 3 before submitting your application.

**Eligibility requirements**

To be eligible to receive a Peter Doherty Outstanding Teacher of STEM Award, you must:

* teach at any stage of schooling (at least 0.5 classroom based) in a Queensland state or non-state school
* not have previously received a Peter Doherty Award.

Applicants can nominate themselves or be nominated. If the applicant is nominated by another person, the applicant must agree to the nomination.

**How to apply**

Once you have determined that you are eligible to apply for the award, you will then need to:

* write a statement of no more than 1,000 words in support of your application that responds to the selection criteria outlined on page 2
* complete the [project consent form](https://education.qld.gov.au/about/news/Documents/Peter-Doherty-Awards-project-consent-form.doc). The form will allow the Department of Education to use names and photographs for promotional purposes
* have the details of two referees who agree to endorse your application. The referees may be asked to provide more information about aspects of your written statement
* Click on the [Entrant Portal](https://www.e-award.com.au/2019/peterdohertyawards/newentry/index.php) to create an account and submit your application, provide details of two referees and upload your signed project consent.

All forms should be completed electronically and submitted with your written statement.

**Written statement**

Your written statement provides you with an opportunity to tell us about yourself, your achievements and interests in STEM, and why you should receive a Peter Doherty Outstanding Teacher of STEM Award.

Your statement should be no more than 1,000 words and should clearly respond to the selection criteria outlined in the table below. A selection panel will use these criteria to assess your application.

When writing your response, make sure you are succinct — consider using dot points (where appropriate) to summarise — and give examples of your achievements and experiences in STEM. You should also include outcomes data to support your application.

**Please note the selection panel will not assess statements beyond 1,000 words.**

***Selection criteria: Outstanding Teacher of STEM Award***

|  |
| --- |
| **The applicant:** |
| * **Demonstrates consistently outstanding science or technology or engineering or mathematics teaching practices leading to improved student achievement** |
| This criterion is demonstrated through evidence of:   * teaching practices tailored to meet the needs of individual learners, with a focus on lifting student achievement. The applicant consistently promotes practices that affirm the belief that every student can learn and achieve * fostering a vibrant, supportive and safe learning environment where students are challenged to be critical and creative thinkers * a commitment to enacting best pedagogical and curriculum practices in science or technology or engineering or mathematics, including providing developmentally-appropriate work for students that is aligned with the Australian Curriculum (or other approved curriculum) * providing opportunities for extension that promotes and develops deep student understanding of science or technology or engineering or mathematics ideas. |
| * **Develops highly innovative programs that foster students’ curiosity, imagination and enthusiasm leading to increased student engagement and participation in STEM** |
| This criterion is demonstrated through evidence of:   * leading innovative school science or technology or engineering or mathematics programs that reflect a commitment to the Australian Curriculum (or other approved curriculum) and state school or non-state school curriculum priorities * developing programs that are engaging and relevant to the local context, leading to an increase in student participation * using content and practices that reflect contemporary scientific and technological developments. |
| * **Exhibits a deep commitment to building teacher capability through the sharing of best practice in science or technology or engineering or mathematics education** |
| This criterion is demonstrated through evidence of:   * building partnerships within and beyond the school community to implement effective science or technology or engineering or mathematics projects * working within professional communities of educators to improve the quality and effectiveness of science or technology or engineering or mathematics education * collegial sharing of best practice and building of teacher capability in science or technology or engineering or mathematics education through coaching, mentoring or facilitating professional development. |

**More about the awards**

**How the award is to be used**

The Peter Doherty Outstanding Teacher of STEM Award is to be used to assist you to undertake appropriate professional development activities acceptable to your principal and within the normal guidelines of your employing authority.

**Award ceremony**

Recipients of the Peter Doherty Outstanding Teacher of STEM Award will be invited to attend the awards presentation ceremony in Brisbane in August. It is anticipated that successful applicants will attend the awards ceremony.

If required, travel and accommodation expenses for Outstanding Teacher of STEM Award recipients will be paid by the Department of Education.

**Application checklist**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Before submitting your application, please ensure that you have: | |
|  | read carefully through the application guide |
|  | checked that you meet the eligibility requirements for the award |
|  | written a statement of no more than 1,000 words that clearly responds to the award selection criteria |
|  | details of two referees |
|  | completed the project consent form |

Once you have completed all items on this checklist, click on the [Entrant Portal](https://www.e-award.com.au/2019/peterdohertyawards) to create an account and submit your application, provide details of two referees and upload your signed project consent.

All forms should be completed electronically and submitted with your written statement.

**Further information**

If you would like further information or if you have any questions about the Peter Doherty Awards for Excellence in STEM Education, please email [peterdohertyawards@qed.qld.gov.au](mailto:peterdohertyawards@qed.qld.gov.au).