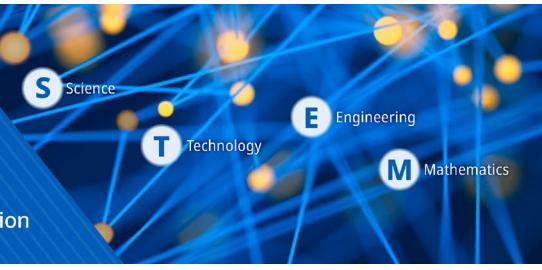


# 2026 Peter Doherty Awards

for Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education



## Application guide: 2026 STEM Education Partnership Awards

In this guide, you will find information to assist you with your application for a **Peter Doherty STEM Education Partnership 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 STEM Education Partnership Award**, you must:

- be a tertiary, industry, business or research institution partner, volunteer, mentor or community organisation working with a Queensland school or cluster of schools; or
- be a Queensland Environmental Education Centre or Outdoor Education Centre or a cluster of Queensland schools working together on productive STEM initiatives; and
- 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; and
- provide the nominator with the necessary information so they can address all selection criteria.

### 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;
- 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; and
- click on the [Entrant Portal](#) to create an account and submit via upload:
  - your application; and
  - details of two referees.

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 the partnership, its activities and achievements in STEM education, and why you believe the partnership should receive a **Peter Doherty STEM Education Partnership 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 the partnership's achievements and experiences in STEM education.

### **Selection criteria: STEM Education Partnership Award**

<p><b>The partnership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Demonstrates a long-term commitment to increasing student participation and/or lifting student achievement through the fostering of curiosity, imagination, knowledge and enthusiasm for real-world science or technology or engineering or mathematics through schools.</b></li></ul>
<p>This criterion is demonstrated through evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- increased student participation or student achievement that can be attributed to the impact of the partnership;</li><li>- the scope of the initiative, including the number of schools and students involved and the range of real-world opportunities offered;</li><li>- the relationship of the program to real-world science or technology or engineering or mathematics;</li><li>- the sustainability of the program beyond the initial commitment;</li><li>- the endurance of the partnership, that is a long-term sustained commitment to science or technology or engineering or mathematics education; and/or</li><li>- use of the projects or activities mentioned in the application.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Enhances teacher capability through professional development and experiences that allow teachers to engage with contemporary STEM procedures, pedagogies and/or experiences beyond the classroom environment.</b></li></ul>
<p>This criterion is demonstrated through evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- a positive effect on teacher capability, indicated through feedback (or other) data;</li><li>- increased teacher engagement with contemporary STEM procedures, pedagogies and/or experiences;</li><li>- professional learning opportunities that extend beyond the classroom environment and into real-world STEM contexts; and/or</li><li>- the sustainability and endurance of the program leading to continued impact over time.</li></ul>

## **More about the awards**

### **How the award is to be used**

The **Peter Doherty STEM Education Partnership Award** is to be used to assist the partnership to undertake further STEM activities with the department.

### **Award ceremony**

Recipients of the **Peter Doherty STEM Education Partnership Award** will be invited to nominate one representative to attend the August award presentation ceremony in Brisbane. It is anticipated that successful applicants will attend the award ceremony.

If required, the travel and accommodation expenses of the person representing the partnership receiving a **STEM Education Partnership Award** 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 the partnership meets the eligibility requirements for the award;
- written a statement of no more than 1,000 words that clearly responds to the award selection criteria; and
- included the details of two referees.

Once you have completed all items on this checklist, click on the [Entrant Portal](#) to create an account and submit your application.

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).