

## **2016 NSW PREMIER'S PRIZES FOR SCIENCE & ENGINEERING GUIDELINES**

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The NSW Premier's Prizes for Science & Engineering recognise excellence in science and engineering, and reward leading researchers for cutting-edge work that has generated economic, environmental, health, social or technological benefits for New South Wales. The Prizes also aim to raise community awareness and appreciation of the important contribution scientists and engineers make to our lives, and encourage careers in STEM fields.

### **Prize Categories**

The top award, the prestigious NSW Premier's Prize for Scientist of the Year, will be awarded to an outstanding individual who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of science and/or engineering which has benefited or has the potential to benefit the people of New South Wales. The 2016 Scientist of the Year will receive a trophy and \$60,000 in prize money.

A trophy and \$5,000 in prize money will also be awarded to individual winners in the following nine categories:

1. Excellence in Mathematics, Earth Sciences, Chemistry and Physics
2. Excellence in Biological Sciences (Ecology, environmental, agricultural and organismal)
3. Excellence in Medical Biological Sciences (Cell and molecular, medical, veterinary and genetics)
4. Excellence in Engineering and Information and Communications Technology
5. Energy Innovation in NSW
6. NSW Early Career Researcher of the Year
7. Leadership in Innovation in NSW
8. Innovation in NSW Public Sector Science and Engineering
9. Innovation in Science and Mathematics Teaching in NSW

Please be aware that the categories are not strictly exclusive and each nomination should be submitted under the category which correlates best with the nominee's field of expertise. The selection committee may at its discretion allocate the nomination to a more suitable category.

Prizes in Categories 1-8 will be presented to individuals on the basis of excellence and impact of research which has been primarily conducted in the last five years. The nomination should clearly explain how the researcher's work has benefited New South Wales or the wider community, or how it has addressed a significant economic, environmental, health or technological challenge.

Nominees in Category 9 must demonstrate an outstanding ability in leadership and innovative thinking in their contribution towards science and mathematics learning in NSW primary and secondary schools.

### **Important Dates**

**Monday 20 June 2016**

Nominations open at 9am AEST

**Friday 29 July 2016**

Nominations close at 5pm AEST

**14 October 2016**

Premier's Prizes ceremony

## Eligibility

Nomination by another party is preferred; however, self-nomination will be accepted where the nomination is supported with strong written references.

The 2016 NSW Premier's Prizes for Science & Engineering can only be awarded to individuals. Where the outcome of the research has been the result of collaboration between two or more persons, the individuals involved are encouraged to submit separate nominations outlining their specific involvement in the research.

Eligibility for the 2016 NSW Premier's Prizes for Science & Engineering is limited to Australian citizens or permanent residents who have resided in NSW for at least five years up to and including the nomination deadline of 29 July 2016 and who have performed a majority of the work being acclaimed while a resident and working in NSW. Primarily work undertaken in the five years up to and including the nomination deadline will be considered for this year's Prizes.

In addition to the above conditions, eligibility for Category 9 for the *Innovation in Science and Mathematics Education in NSW* award is limited to applicants who have been teaching at primary and/or secondary school level in NSW for a period of at least two years up to and including the 29 July 2016. The nominee must be teaching in a NSW primary and/or secondary school at the time of nomination.

## Nominations

Each **nominator** must include:

1. *Curriculum Vitae* of the Nominee, including:
  - Full publication record including top 5 publications with citation metrics, h-index (required for categories 1-8 only)
  - Contact details for 3 referees
  - Full career details, including current and former appointments
  - Full grants record
2. A completed nomination form, including a 250-word written statement for categories 1-8 explaining the the significance, impact and quality (include indicators) of the nominee's research, and explaining specifically how their achievements in science and engineering have translated into beneficial outcomes for the wider community of NSW; or, for category 9, a 250 word written statement explain how this teacher has contributed to innovative science and mathematics teaching methods, and how this has impacted on inspiring the students in the school.
3. If self-nominating, written references supporting the nomination
4. Signed Declaration of Consent, to be completed by the Nominee

The **nominee/nominator** may also be asked by the judging panel to provide:

1. Proof of Australian citizenship or permanent residency (e.g. birth certificate, citizenship certificate, visa). Certified copies are allowed on the proviso that they are clearly legible and copies of identification pages of passports accompany any visas
2. A signed Statutory Declaration asserting that the majority of research being acclaimed was performed in NSW and that the nominee has resided in NSW for at least five years, up to and including 29 July 2016 (for categories 1-8).

## Closing date

Nominations for the NSW Premier's Prizes for Science & Engineering **must be submitted by 5.00pm AEST on Friday 29 July 2016**. Late applications will not be considered.

Send one electronic copy of the nomination form with all relevant attachments to:  
[premiers.prizes@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au](mailto:premiers.prizes@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au)

### Selection Process

The Selection Committee is comprised of prominent members of the Australian science, technology and education sectors.

The Committee's recommendation will be submitted to The Premier for endorsement. The recommendations of the selection panel are final and the NSW Government reserves the right not to make an award in any year. Nominations are only relevant for categories 1-9. There is no need to nominate for Scientist of the Year as the Selection Panel manages this by another process.

It is anticipated that successful finalists will be notified by mid-September 2016. The winners will be officially announced at the ceremony on 14 October 2015 so they must be present to accept their award, or alternatively nominate a representative to attend the ceremony and accept the award on their behalf.

*Please Note: The selection committee reserves the right to identify researchers that have not been put forward through the nomination process. All nominees may also be put forward for nomination to other major awards, such as the Prime Minister's Prizes for Science.*

### Privacy Statement

The personal information that the nominator and nominee provide will be used by the NSW Department of Industry to select prize winners and for publicity purposes as part of the 2016 NSW Premier's Prizes for Science & Engineering. The nominators' and nominees' personal information will also be disclosed to members of the selection committee and the content of the nomination that is submitted to the Department may be placed on NSW Government websites.

For more information on our privacy policies including rights to access and/or correct personal information, please visit our website at <http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/privacy>

### More information

For any questions or comments please contact:

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