



**PRIME MINISTER'S  
AWARDS FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN  
PUBLIC SECTOR  
MANAGEMENT  
INVITATION TO  
NOMINATE  
2017**

**CLOSING DATE FOR  
STAGE 1 NOMINATIONS  
2 JUNE 2017**



## INVITATION TO NOMINATE

The Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) ACT Division is calling for nominations for the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Management (the Awards). These pre-eminent Public Sector Awards aim to encourage and recognise better practice and innovation in all levels of Government in Australia.

The Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Management focus on specific initiatives and are based on organisations demonstrating success against four demanding criteria. They are designed to honour the achievements of public sector work groups, units and teams rather than individuals.

Organisations have to demonstrate that they are able to devise and implement innovative customer-focused initiatives. They must also demonstrate that their success was not accidental—it must have been the result of a methodical and sustainable approach to improving the organisation's practices in client satisfaction, leadership, people management, change management, planning, governance and innovation.

### IPAA PUBLIC SECTOR EXCELLENCE MODEL

The Awards are based on the IPAA Excellence in Public Sector Management Model, which draws on the best features of international excellence frameworks and assessment methodologies.

It combines these with concepts and practices in a way that contextualises the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Management more closely with the Australian Public Sector, across all three tiers of government.

The Awards covered by this Model are:

- **Sustainable Excellence in Public Sector Management**—Gold, Silver, Commended.

Two supplementary Awards may be awarded at the discretion of the Judges to nominees for the Sustainable Excellence in Public Sector Management Award.

- **Collaboration**—joint nominations between two or more agencies or across levels of government, involving high performing initiatives; and
- **People and Change Management**—initiatives involving highly effective approaches to people and change management.

Further information about the *IPAA Public Sector Excellence Model* is available from the IPAA web site as detailed on the following page.

## BENEFITS

There are many benefits in applying for an Award. Some of the benefits that all applicants will get from the nomination process include:

- Helping to maintain a focus on outcomes and results;
- Using the preparation of the nomination as an opportunity to review a major initiative/program or to consolidate understanding about the outcomes of a major initiative/program; and
- Receiving a comprehensive feedback report that identifies areas for ongoing improvement.

The agencies that achieve recognition have the added benefits of:

- Public recognition of the efforts and achievements of teams and groups; and
- Raising the profile of their organisation.

Agencies should have a clear idea of their primary motivation for applying. This will help them get the most out of the nomination process and from the feedback report that they will receive at the end of the assessment process:

- If they are applying because they want to win an Award, then they should expect that their performance against the Awards criteria will be evaluated to a very high standard.
- If they are applying because they are seeking to learn and improve their approach to achieving outcomes, then the rigour of the nomination and assessment process will provide scope for this to occur.

## ELIGIBILITY

Any work unit, group or team within the Commonwealth, State or Territory and local government Public Sectors may nominate an initiative for the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Management.

**Only public sector organisations are eligible to nominate.**

Initiatives that involve other organisations, private sector and/or community-based organisations are also eligible, but only if the initiative is sponsored by the nominating public sector organisation. It is imperative that nominations that fall into this category are endorsed by the Secretary/CEO of the nominating public sector organisation.

Cross-agency or whole-of-government initiatives are also eligible and are strongly encouraged.

Eligible initiatives can be large in scale and impact across the entire organisation (or multiple organisations), or they can be small in scale and impact at a more local level (or anywhere in between).

## TWO-STAGE NOMINATION

A two-stage nomination process has been introduced for the 2017 awards, to make the award program more accessible.

### Stage 1 – Initial Nominations

Agencies are invited to submit a preliminary nomination in which they must outline what they have done for the Plan and Implement dimensions of the Plan, Implement, Monitor and Measure, Sustain (PIMMS) assessment model for each of the four Awards criteria.

Nominations will be assessed against the PIMMS model and potential finalists will be invited to submit a more detailed nomination for Stage 2 of the nomination process.

### Stage 2 – Finalists

Agencies will be invited to submit a more detailed nomination which addresses all four Awards criteria against all four PIMMS assessment dimensions. All evidence mentioned in the agency's preliminary nomination will need to be supplied with the Stage 2 nomination.

At the end of Stage 2, a committee of eminent judges will review the list of finalists and select the Award Winners. The final decision to confer Awards is based on there being nominations of an appropriate standard.

## NOMINATION AND DATES

All nominations must be submitted online through IPAA's new Awards platform. All the information required is available at:

[www.act.ipaa.org.au/pm-awards](http://www.act.ipaa.org.au/pm-awards)

The following dates apply for the 2017 awards:

- Stage 1 Nominations – due by 2 June;
- Stage 2 Finalist Invitations – issued on 3 July;
- Stage 2 Finalist Nominations – due by 11 August.

Award winners will be announced at a dinner function on Tuesday 14 November at the National Arboretum, as part of the 2017 IPAA National Conference in Canberra.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained from:

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