



SEEKING VOLUNTEER ASSESSORS: PUBLIC SECTOR INNOVATION AWARDS

The Institute of Public Administration Australia, ACT Division (IPAA ACT), and the PSIN are seeking volunteer assessors from the network for the 2016 Public Sector Innovation Awards.

The Public Sector Innovation Awards are a new addition to IPAA ACT's series of Award events and aim to recognise, celebrate and share innovative approaches to public administration. These Innovation Awards will be run annually by IPAA ACT in partnership with the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, and the PSIN.

The Awards aim to help:

- Highlight the innovation happening within the APS
- Spread the good ideas that have been put into practice, and the lessons learnt, and
- Foster a culture that supports and celebrates people and agencies doing things differently.

Nominations for the Awards are open from **1 March and 15 April 2016**. Individuals, work groups and teams employed by a Commonwealth Government entity are eligible to nominate. Applications will be considered against four Award categories: **Innovative Solutions; Engaging with the Edge; Culture and Practice; and Digital Transformation**.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

A panel of assessors from within the APS will assess and shortlist nominations against agreed criteria. Assessment will allocate applications to the agreed Award categories; provide a rating score and a brief summary for feedback to nominees, and a shortlist of applications for final nomination.

To minimise the risk of bias, we require that each nomination be independently assessed by at least two assessors.

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to give a presentation to a panel of judges, with winners announced at a presentation ceremony on **27 July 2016**.

WHY VOLUNTEER AS AN ASSESSOR?

Assessors play a crucial role in the success of the Award by providing impartial evaluations of the work of their peers, based on their shared experience in the public sector.

Being an assessor is a challenging and rewarding experience that will enhance the skills of those individuals that participate, by exposing them to the innovative work of agencies or bodies within the Commonwealth Government. There are no formal qualifications or experience required of assessors.

Assessors will be asked to undertake a 90-minute workshop on how to assess the Awards against agreed criteria. Assessor training intends to ensure that a consistent and comprehensive approach is taken to the assessment of all initiatives.

HOW TO BECOME AN ASSESSOR

Send a brief expression of interest to innovation@act.ipaa.org.au by **1 April 2016**. For more information, contact Paulette Paterson on 02 6154 9800.