

The RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award

Terms of Reference



Description

The RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award (the Award) was established in 1979 to encourage and promote research in psychiatry in Australia and New Zealand. The Award is presented to the trainee, or Fellow or Affiliate (within seven years of obtaining their primary specialist psychiatry qualification) who has contributed the most significant paper published in the past two years.

Eligibility Criteria

Applications/nominations may be made by or on behalf of trainees (Associates), or Fellows or Affiliates who have been awarded their primary specialist psychiatry qualification within seven years of the opening date of the award submission. Periods of extended leave (e.g. parental leave) may alter the period of eligibility and can be taken into account by the Selection Panel. Relevant information should be outlined within the submission.

The Award may be made to one person or shared by two or more persons.

Previous recipients of the Award are not eligible to receive the Award on a further occasion.

Applicants are encouraged to apply who have worked or trained on a part-time basis, are on or are returning from parental leave, a break in training, or undertaking another form of leave including carers/family leave.

Form of Award

The Award comprises a framed certificate plus a sum of \$10,000 AUD which is to be used at the discretion of the recipient(s) for the furthering of their research, together with a return economy airfare to the College Congress in the year of the Award.

The recipient is invited to attend the College Ceremony at the RANZCP Congress where the Award will be presented. The recipient will also be encouraged to present their work within the Congress program.

Frequency

The RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award is presented annually. If there are no suitable applicants, the Early Career Psychiatrist Award will not be granted in that year.

Application/Nomination Process

Applications/nominations for the Award may be made by trainees (Associates), Fellows or Affiliates, or on their behalf by another RANZCP member in the manner specified by the RANZCP.

It is required that written applications/nominations include:

- A curriculum vitae
- The nominated published paper.

The nominated paper should be in a refereed journal and published within two years of the award's submission opening date. Work performed wholly in Australia/New Zealand or partly in Australia/New Zealand and partly elsewhere is acceptable.

The candidate should, in normal circumstances, be the principal author.

The submission must also include:

- A statement (of up to 50 words) explaining the candidate's role in producing the paper
- A statement (of up to 100 words) on why the paper is significant.

Selection Requirements

The Selection Panel will consider the significance of the nominee's/applicant's submitted paper and the role they played in producing the paper.

Selection Panel Composition and Operation

The Selection Panel shall consist of the Chair of the Awards and Recognition Committee (Convenor), the President, the Chair and one other member of the Committee for Research, the Editor of the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, and a representative of the New Zealand National Committee (if not otherwise represented).

At least one member of the Selection Panel must be from Australia and at least one from New Zealand. Achieving appropriate diversity, including gender balance, will also be considered when forming the Selection Panel.

The Panel may consult recognised subject matter experts as necessary.

It is the responsibility of all members of the selection panel to comply with the [RANZCP Declaring and Managing Conflict of Interest Guideline](#) and to promptly take appropriate action to effectively manage the conflict of interest. In the event that a conflict of interest is identified:

1. the Chair will be responsible for addressing the conflict and taking appropriate steps to ensure the integrity of the selection process is maintained; or
2. where the Chair declares a conflict of interest, and it is not possible to make alternative arrangements, the decision will be deferred to the remaining members of the selection panel.

Final determination

After reviewing the scoring and comments of each Selection Panel member, the Convenor will determine the highest ranked applicant or nominee. This will then be confirmed by the Panel.

Revision Record

Date	Executive Manager, Membership, Events and Publications		
Authorising Body:	Board		
Responsible Committee:	Awards and Recognition Committee		
Document Code:	ToR The RANZCP Early Career Psychiatrist Award		
Date	Version	Approver	Description
19/11/2015	1.0	B2015/7	Updated to reflect correct terminology and processes.
10/02/2018	1.1	B2018/1 R14	Updated to reflect correct terminology and processes.
August 2019	1.2	Coordinator, Membership Services	Updated clarify nomination and presentation process.
25/08/2020	1.3	B2020/12 R17	Updated with CfR feedback to eligibility, application process and selection panel composition.
15/03/2025	1.4	B2025/5	Updated following in depth committee and Board review of top six College awards, including review by a CCC and CfR member and a Past President.
NEXT REVIEW: TBC			

