

Northern Territory Branch Meritorious Service Award

Terms of Reference



Northern Territory Branch

Description

The Northern Territory Branch Meritorious Service Award is awarded on a case by case bases, to acknowledge outstanding contribution to the function of the RANZCP or the practice of psychiatry in a clinical, academic or administrative capacity.

Background

The award is intended to recognise the achievements of 'unsung heroes', i.e. those psychiatrists who have made significant contributions without having received formal acknowledgement or accolades in the usual course of their work. The award is also intended to acknowledge the achievements of those who have 'gone above and beyond' the duties of their job, having made important contributions to psychiatry (often unpaid or voluntary) that go outside their job description. The award selection panel will give nominees who fit these descriptions special consideration.

Form of Award

The Northern Territory Branch Meritorious Service Award comprises a A\$500 voucher plus an engraved plaque.

Presentation of the award will take place at the Northern Territory Branch dinner event of the Northern Territory Branch, by the Chair of the Northern Territory Branch Committee.

Criteria

This award is usually given to a Fellow of the College in Northern Territory, but in some circumstances the award may be presented to an agency or individual who is not a College member who has contributed to the improvement of mental health in Northern Territory.

This distinguished service can be in any area (or more than one area) of psychiatric practice, such as:

- clinical care of patients in private and/or public practice
- teaching and/or training of medical students, registrars or other mental health clinicians
- mentoring of junior colleagues
- participation in College activities, such as examinations, Branch Committee roles or administrative roles for the College
- research in psychiatry
- administrative roles within mental health
- advocacy for consumers and carers within the mental health system
- activities that enhance the public image of psychiatry or improve public understanding of mental illness.

Nomination Process

1. Call for nominations for the award will be advertised in the Summer edition of the local Northern Territory Branch e-bulletin/newsletter. This will be repeated in the February e-bulletin.
2. The Northern Territory Branch Meritorious Service Award is given by nomination only. Nominations may be made by any member of the RANZCP, and must set out the reasons for the nomination. Nominations must be in writing to: ranzcp.nt@ranzcp.org .
3. The closing date for submissions will be COB the 31 March 2025.
4. Once all submissions have been collated as of COB 31 March, a meeting of the awards selection panel, consisting of three Members, either active or immediate-past, of the Northern Territory Branch Committee, will be arranged approximately 2 weeks after the deadline.

Selection Process

1. This award will be awarded to a maximum of ONE Fellow each year, unless there are exceptional circumstances, in which it may be awarded to an agency or individual who is not a College member who has contributed to the improvement of mental health in the Northern Territory.
2. Nominees who do not receive the award in any year may be renominated subsequently, but any Fellow can only receive the Meritorious Service Award on one occasion.
3. A call for nominations will be made from all Northern Territory Members via the e-bulletin and email. Three members, either active or immediate-past, of the Northern Territory Branch Committee will form the selection panel. The selection panel will consider the written information provided but can seek further information from other sources if desired. The selection panel is appointed annually by the Northern Territory Branch Committee.
4. The selection panel will recommend the ONE nominee to the Northern Territory Branch Committee who they believe best meets the criteria for the award, as set out in the criteria.
5. The Northern Territory Branch Committee will consider ratifying this recommendation, by process of a vote of the whole committee.
6. The list of nominations will not be published.
7. There is no appeal process.

Revision Record

Contact:	Branch Coordinator, Northern Territory Branch		
Date	Version	Approver	Description
8/8/2023	1.0		New document.