



Australian
National
University

2025 CASS Awards for Excellence in Supervision

Application information

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Overview

The CASS Awards for Excellence in Supervision is facilitated by the Associate Dean HDR. In 2025, there will be one award of \$7,500.

Selected applicants and winners of the CASS Awards may be nominated by the Judging Panels for the 2026 Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Education.

Nominees should prepare the application portfolio according to the specifications and submit via the [online portal](#) by **9am Monday 27 October 2025**.

CASS Education Sharepoint Site and Awards information:

<https://anu365.sharepoint.com/sites/CASSEducation/SitePages/Grants-Awards.aspx>

VC Awards and Australian Awards for University Teaching information:

<https://services.anu.edu.au/education-support/awards-grants>

Enquiries:

education.cass@anu.edu.au

2025 Critical Dates

Table 1: Critical dates and deadlines

Deadline	Event	Responsibility
Monday 22 September – Monday 6 October	Nominations from students and colleagues are open via portal. (Staff can also apply without a student or staff nomination)	CASS Education to distribute nomination portal and information to CASS colleagues and students
Wednesday 8 -27 October	Application portal open	Applicants to submit their applications via the online portal
Monday 27 October	Schools/Centres receive applications from their discipline	CASS Education to provide applications to Schools/Centres
5pm Wednesday 5 November	College application deadline The HoS in consultation with the School Exec and/or School Education Committee shortlists applications based on School/Centre FTE	Schools/Centres provide their shortlisted names to CASS Education. CASS Education to communicate outcomes to applicants
mid November	Judging Panels will meet to select 2025 CASS Award winners and identify suitable nominees for the 2026 VC Awards for Excellence in Education.	
Early December	Announcement of winner Presentation of awards and prizes at CASS end of year celebration	

Application Components

All applications will be submitted via the [application portal](#) by **9am Monday 27 October 2025**.

1. Application cover sheet

Completed through the [application portal](#)

2. Written statement

The written statement (3 pages max) should be presented in order, under the following headings:

Overview

150 words max. A summary of the nominee's particular contribution and its specific context.

Statement Addressing Selection Criteria

Where possible, support claims with evidence (including formal or informal evaluation). Each award category has its own set of criteria, please refer to the nominated category for the specific criteria.

3. Curriculum Vitae

The curriculum vitae (2 pages max for individuals; teams may allow 1 additional page per team member) should outline the nominee's educational qualifications, employment history, teaching positions, teaching experience, and a list of key publications.

4. References

Two references (up to one page each) are to be provided by people who are able to comment on the nominee's claims against the assessment criteria.

- One referee must be the head of the nominee's department, School or College.
- For team nominations, the references should apply to the team not individual members
- References must be signed - electronic signatures are accepted.
- References should be on an institutional letterhead where applicable.

5. Supporting materials

The supporting materials (2 pages max) can include: e.g. screen captures of websites/online resources, ANU SELT scores, printed teaching material, media files. While assessment is based primarily on the written statement, selected supporting material can be included to provide evidence against the assessment criteria.

6. High-resolution digital photograph: jpeg or png.

A high-resolution digital photograph must be submitted and may be used in the announcement of the award winners. If the application is for a team, one group photo must be submitted. File size: 1MB – 10MB.

Format

- Margins must be at least 2cm with clear definition between paragraphs
- Font must be 11 point Arial or Calibri

Award for Excellence in Supervision

Eligibility

1. Nominee/s must have been engaged in a supervisory role at CASS for at least three (3) years, and must also be a member of staff during the deliberations and decisions of the Judging Panel in November – December 2025. For team nominations, the team leader and at least one staff member must have been employed at CASS for at least three (3) years.
2. Nominations must predominantly relate to research supervision within CASS.
3. Previously unsuccessful nominees are eligible for renomination, but previous successful Supervision award winners are ineligible for renomination within 5 years, unless they are a member of a team and not the lead applicant, and the team nomination does not substantially replicate the original award.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be assessed on the evidence provided in response to the following **five criteria** which will be given equal consideration by the assessors:

1. Advancing students as researchers through developing their intellectual rigour and disciplinary expertise, and instilling ethical and responsible research practices

Evidence supporting Criterion 1 may include:

- development of a research program that attracts and maintains high quality candidates, while appropriately reflecting equity and diversity concerns;
- a record of students attending, and being involved in, disciplinary seminars and other relevant activities,
- encouraging and assisting candidates with publication during their period of study;
- development of independent, ethical researchers, as evidenced by an outstanding record of research practice that demonstrates strong adherence to the highest ethical standards;
- ensuring that students access appropriate research education opportunities ranging from workshops on the concept of research, through to using data sources;
- While many of these features might be expected of all research supervisions, the focus in the submission should be on evidence-based appraisal of this area that is consistent with outstanding performance.

2. An outstanding sustained record of supervisory practices that have resulted in successful completions, significant research outputs and excellent graduation outcomes for students

Evidence supporting Criterion 2 may include:

- evidence of outcomes of research supervision at a minimum including numbers of supervisions (of each kind) supplemented by a record of achievement using examples from the points below (sheer number of completions is *not* sufficient on its own);
- completion rates, timely completions or completions in spite of difficulties arising within the degree, meeting of milestones;
- progression to academic or research careers for completed students;
- other employment outcomes for completed students;
- external measures of successful research outcomes from the supervised research (e.g. publications, quality of journal, published books, conference presentations/invitations, competitive research funding, funded Fellowships);
- specific examples of: students who have progressed particularly well after completion;

- students with whom fruitful research collaborations have continued, and objective measures of success for those research collaborations (e.g. journal quality, citations, invitations to major conferences, etc.);
- While there is a “data gathering” element to this criterion in terms of listing notable evidence of supervision outcomes, reflection on these outcomes is also useful. Note that accumulation of successful completions does not, on its own, warrant strong consideration for award – evidence of outstanding practice leading to positive outcomes is what is needed.

3. Outstanding modelling of the research process for students, including supporting students in choosing a research topic; setting and maintaining clear mutual expectations between student and supervisor; providing timely, constructive, clear and actionable feedback; and nurturing progress through research milestones including processes of completion, publication and research dissemination.

Evidence supporting Criterion 3 may include:

- provision of resources, necessary coursework if required, and research plan design;
- developing students’ theoretical, analytical and methodological skills appropriate to the discipline;
- assisting candidates in the development of research, writing and communication skills, particularly through providing appropriate resources/access to relevant training opportunities;
- monitoring student progress e.g. through regular meetings, annual reviews and plans, with particular focus to the meeting of “milestone” events during a student’s candidature;
- constructive and timely comment on written work e.g. chapter drafts, early literature work, papers;
- journal manuscripts and structure of the dissertation including specific advice where required;
- constructive and timely feedback on candidate presentations e.g. proposal seminar, conference papers;
- selection of appropriate examiners and support for students during and following the examination process;
- particularly useful are testimonials from past students related to the broad engagement of supervision that reflects the diverse needs of students.

Also included in this criterion is a focus on respect for research students as individuals, evidence for which may include:

- clear setting and clarification of mutual expectations within the supervisor-student relationship;
- engagement with supervision panels to provide broad-based advice to students;
- flexible approaches to supervision that reflect sensitivity to the diverse needs of students, including those from equity groups;
- effective mentoring of students on career development and enhancement.

4. Providing and supporting engagement between students and broad scholarly communities through networking and research dissemination opportunities.

Evidence supporting Criterion 4 may include:

- evidence of modelling a scholarly approach to research in a global context which recognises the complexity and challenges research candidature in contemporary academic contexts;
- encouragement and support for students to access a range of research scholars and projects nationally and internationally, providing opportunities for students to work within an international context through exchanges, meetings, and collaborative work;
- facilitation of student networking with other national and international researcher colleagues, appropriately evidenced by student engagement at conferences and other networking opportunities;

- provision of career support and opportunities at a national and international level, leadership of, or contribution to, an effective supervisory panel;
- facilitating the construction of a well-balanced panel, including working effectively with other panel members;
- encouragement to students to effectively utilise supervisory panel members including encouraging students to take advantage of the particular strengths of other members of the panel;
- specific research outcomes for the student involved, such as invited presentations at international conferences;
- publications in high-quality, peer-reviewed journals;
- academic reputation/position of past completed students.

5. A systematic and scholarly approach to professional development of supervisory academic practice and skills in disciplinary or interdisciplinary settings, including evidence-informed evaluation of professional practice in supervision, and leadership in supervision practice

Evidence supporting Criterion 5 may include:

- evidence of advanced skills in evaluation and reflective practice;
- participating in and contributing to professional activities related to research supervision;
- coordination, management and leadership roles in relation to research supervisions;
- conducting and publishing research related to research supervision;
- leadership through activities that have broad influence on the profession, department, school and research candidates;
- contribution to relevant policy development at College, University, or even sector level.