

Faculty of IT Awards for Programs that Enhance Learning

One award to the value of **\$1,000** may be awarded for programs which enhance student learning. This award recognises learning and teaching support programs and services that make an outstanding contribution to the quality of student learning and the quality of the student experience. The programs and services that receive this Award must have demonstrated their effectiveness through rigorous evaluation that will set future benchmarks for similar activities at Monash University.

Nominations are encouraged from academic staff, professional staff, and sessional staff (individual or teams), from the Faculty of IT.

It is intended that eligible programs are broader than one or two units or a limited service that involves only a few students. For example, programs may involve a service or program provided at the faculty or school level, a program of study across a year or number of years, or a service or program directed at particular groups of students.

Please note that program awards may not be issued every year.

Categories

There are seven program award categories:

1. **Widening participation** encompassing approaches to teaching and learning which enhance student access, widen participation, and support progression.
2. **Educational partnerships and collaborations with other organisations** encompassing partnerships between universities, and universities and other organisations - such as schools, professional bodies businesses and industries – in collaborative approaches to learning and teaching.
3. **The first-year experience** encompassing the academic and social transition to higher education, teaching and learning within large student groups, and the quality of the first year student experience
4. **Flexible learning and teaching** encompassing approaches to learning and teaching that afford flexibility in time, place and/or mode of learning
5. **Innovation in curricula, learning and teaching** encompassing innovations that encourage novel approaches to learning and teaching, innovations that align assessment with curriculum design, innovations that encourage or support multi-disciplinary, research-based learning and teaching approaches, innovations that utilise the potential of new and/or emerging technologies
6. **Postgraduate education** encompassing programs that focus on postgraduate students, postgraduate coursework teaching and learning, postgraduate research supervision and research higher degree candidature, and postgraduate learning support
7. **Services supporting student learning** encompassing services directly related to student learning such as services for specific groups of students, information access, course advising, language and learning support, counselling and disability support.

Selection criteria

Applications for this award must **address all four (4) selection criteria (see below)** for one of the above specified categories:

1. **Distinctiveness, coherence and clarity of purpose**
Extent to which the program has clear objectives and systematic approaches to coordination, implementation and evaluation
2. **Influence on student learning and student engagement**
Extent to which the program targets identified needs and directly or indirectly enhances student learning, student engagement and/or the overall student experience of higher education
3. **Breadth of impact**

Extent to which the program has led to widespread benefits for students, staff, the institution, and/or other institutions, consistent with the purpose of the program

4. Concern for equity and diversity

Extent to which the program promotes and supports equity and inclusiveness by improving access, participation and outcomes for diverse student groups

Lodgement information essential documentation for program awards

The following essential documentation is required to complete the application:

1. Nomination form (available from the Teaching excellence awards webpage)
2. Written statement (synopsis and statement addressing the selection criteria)
3. One reference

Nominees' written statement includes:

1. A 350-400 word synopsis written in the third person providing a description of the program and its focus, the program's contribution to student learning and engagement and the program's impact on students.
2. The remainder of the written statement should address the category of the nomination and each of the selection criteria. Evidence to support the claims must be provided. Feedback from students, collaborators and/or colleagues, as appropriate, will be a key element in the assessment of nominations.

The written statement should be no longer than nine (9) A4 pages, 11 point font, with single line spacing and margins of 25mm all around.

References

1. One reference, limited to one (1) A4 page, must be provided by a colleague who is able to comment on the nominee's claims against the selection criteria.
2. If the nomination is from a team, the reference should refer to the team as a whole.
3. The reference must be signed by the referee (electronic signature supplied by the referee to the nominee is acceptable).

Supporting material

Optional supporting material (eg: MonQueST, Unit evaluations, Teacher evaluations, peer reviews, student testimonials, survey responses, etc) supporting the written statement can be submitted. The relevance of this material must be made clear in the written statement. Supporting material may be a website (URL), CD ROM/DVD, digitised video, or 10 pages of printed material.

Submission of Application

The application (including supporting materials) is submitted as one .zip file via a web-form <https://secure.monash.edu/infotech/resources/staff/academic-award/?nominatetype=self>