



Australasia

2024 LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS AUSTRALASIA DESIGN AWARDS

Invitation to Enter and Essential Information

As a leader in the field of educational facilities, Learning Environments Australasia, invites you to make submissions for the 2024 Learning Environments Australasia Design (LEAD) Awards.

These Awards are open to LEA members whose educational facilities' projects demonstrate excellence in the planning and design of educational facilities across the Australia, New Zealand and Asia regions.

The core mission of the awards is to celebrate excellent learning spaces where innovative architectural ideas support the education philosophy.

The 2024 LEAD Awards will be presented at the Awards Ceremony Dinner on Thursday, 16 May 2024 at 7pm in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, during the [2024 Learning Environments Australasia Annual Conference - AMPLIFY](#), 15-17 May 2024.

The following information describes the terms and conditions of entering the 2024 LEAD Awards. Please read this document completely to ensure that projects are entered correctly.

AWARDS TIMELINE

Registration & Entry Submission Opens:
Wednesday, 1 November 2023

Registration and Payment Due:
Friday, 16 February 2024, 5pm (AEST)

Entry Submission Due:
Friday, 23 February 2024 11pm (AEST)

Announcement and Presentation Ceremony:
7pm Thursday, 16 May 2024 in Melbourne, Australia at [AMPLIFY](#) Conference Dinner.

Awards Conference Dinner sponsored by: **Interface®**

AWARD CATEGORIES

There are 8 Categories for the LEAD Awards. If you have any questions regarding category selection, please contact the Award Coordinator.

Category 1: An Innovative Education Initiative.

Designed to showcase significant contributions to learning environments by schools, educators, students, designers, community organisations etc. Education Initiatives must have been delivered to students for at least 6 months – that is since 17 August 2022.

Category 2: New Campus with Educational Facilities

This category applies to construction of a new school or educational institution on a new campus. Only a single educational facility on one campus can be entered into this category. If you have more than one facility, you will need to choose which facility you wish to enter or enter two separate entries. Entries that feature more than one facility will not qualify for entry.

Category 3: New Building/s or Facilities - Large

This category applies to a new building or new buildings in an existing school or campus, value over AUD \$10 million. *(please see note below.)

Category 4: New Building/s or Facilities - Small

This category applies to a new building or new buildings in an existing school or campus value less than AUD \$10 million. *(please see note below.)

Category 5: Modernisation - Large

Renovation/modernisation projects valued over AUD \$5 Million. Projects need to demonstrate extent of work completed. *(please see below.)

Category 6: Modernisation- Small

Renovation/modernisation projects valued less than AUD \$5 Million. Projects need to demonstrate extent of work completed. *(please see below.)

Category 7: Small Project Under \$2 Million

A new building or a renovation, must be a learning environment.

Category 8: Landscaping/Outdoor Learning Area.

Designed to showcase outdoor learning environments or landscapes targeted at improving educational outcomes.

OTHER ESSENTIAL ENTRY QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Projects that feature new buildings and renovations must be separated and entered into the relevant category for "new building" or "renovation". Judges will be asked to disregard renovations in the "new buildings" category and new buildings in the "renovations" category.

Only one educational facility can be entered into each entry. Any entry featuring more than one facility will be disqualified.

All projects must have been occupied for at least 6 months before the entry submission date closing (that is: **before 23 August 2023**) and construction completed within the past 3 years to qualify for entry.

Projects that are category winners in the previous LEAD Awards do not qualify for entry into the 2024 LEAD Awards.

Value of the project is the "Final Contract Sum" excluding GST.

AWARD ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

An Award or Commendation for each Category may be presented to the entry whose educational facility project best demonstrates the comprehensive effectiveness of planning and design as outlined in the Award Assessment Criteria.

Judging of these award entries is by at least three experienced industry practitioners appointed by Learning Environments Australasia. The jury reserves the right to award, make commendations or not to make an award or commendations in any of the categories.

All criteria are equally weighted and given a score out of 10 by the judges. Succinct answers to the criteria, including bullet points, are encouraged.

All Categories:

Criteria A: Planning Process:

- i) Provide evidence of a comprehensive planning process including project-specific research; consulting with clients, users, stakeholders and information gathering.
- ii) Provide evidence that a comprehensive educational specification/brief and program of requirements has been developed as part of the planning process.

[400 words max for both responses in total]

Categories 2 to 8:

Criteria B: Design Outcome: Provide evidence that the architectural design meets the requirements of the educational brief with a special emphasis on the educational value of the space.

[250 words max]

Criteria C: Flexibility: Provide evidence of the unique functionality of the design as well as its responsiveness to changes in the educational program.

[250 words max]

Criteria D: Innovation: Your description could include evidence of innovative design solutions; value for money; design elements and sustainability.

[250 words max]

Category 1 only:

The **Innovative Education Initiative** category award will be presented to the entrant whose project best meets the following criteria. [All criteria equally weighted]

Criteria E: Innovative Program: Provide evidence that the education initiative challenges and transforms the role that educational facilities play in the learning process.

[250 words max]

Criteria F: Innovative Approach: Provide evidence that the education initiative introduces innovative ideas or approaches to current practices in the development of educational facilities and aims to inform the field of educational facility planning.

[250 words max]

Criteria G: Innovative Use: Provide evidence that the education initiative demonstrates innovative use of an educational facility by educators and students and/or members of the community. Include any evidence of improved educational experiences for students.

[250 words max]

REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

STEP 1: REGISTER AND PAY

Register your project via [Learning Environments Australasia - Event details](#).

A fee of \$400 AUD + GST per submission, will be charged.

Payment can be made by EFT or credit card (non Australian members please pay by credit card).

One educational facility may be entered in multiple categories. However, one AUD \$400+GST fee for each entry/category the educational facility is entered is payable. Submissions for one educational facility in multiple categories should be tailored to suit each category and respond to the assessment criteria.

Payment Or Withdrawal: Must be received by 5pm Friday, 16 February 2024 (AEST).

- Projects withdrawn between registration date (16/2/24) and submission closing date (23/2/24) will receive a 50% refund only.
- No refund will be available after the submission closing date on 16 February 2024.
- Entries for which no fee has been received will not progress to judging.

Please ensure that you register your project to receive all communications during the entry submission period.

STEP 2: SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT(S):

Enter your project via <https://learningenvironments.awardsplatform.com/>

Entrants can submit their project/s from Wednesday, 1 November 2023 until entry submission closes on 11pm, Friday 23 February 2024 (AEST).

If you have previously entered a project into any of the 2023 LE Chapter awards (VIC/TAS, or NSW/ACT), you will be able to copy and edit your entry into the 2024 LEAD Awards. More details on how to do this are described on the Awards Platform portal.

Note: the entry submission portal (Awardsplatform) is a *different website* to the Learning Environments website. Entrants who have not used the Awardsplatform website previously will need to create a new profile/login.

Thank you for entering the awards and good luck with your submission.

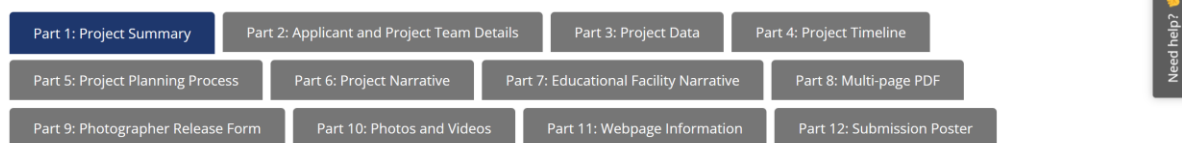
For any questions regarding entry submissions please contact:

Soraya Ramsey
LEA Awards Coordinator
awards@learningenvironments.org.au
+61 409 276 794

SUMMARY OF THE ONLINE ENTRY PROCESS

[My entries](#) → [Entry form](#) → [Edit entry](#)

All questions must be answered, unless marked optional.



- Parts 1-2: Administrative data & contact information
- Part 3: Project Data including budget and area
- Part 4: Timeline data
- Part 5: Assessment Criteria A
- Part 6: Assessment Criteria B-D or E-G, depending on category.
- Part 7: Educational facility narrative – supporting the assessment criteria.
- Part 8: Document supporting assessment criteria.
- Parts 9-12: Information, including photographs, which are made public and used for promotional or publication purposes.

An example of the online entry form is available here: [2024 LEAD Awards Entry Form Example](#) . Please **do not** use this example to start your entry submission. Entry forms are specific to each category. You can download your own entry form from the [Awardsplatform](#) once you have started your entry.

Entry into the awards is an entirely online process and entries must be submitted online only.

Entrants will be able to save their submission and return to it anytime during the submission period.

There are no interviews, site visits or presentations to the jury required. Once the online submission has been made, the process of entering the awards is completed.

The jury panels will review the online submissions to decide the award winners and/or commendations.

This Awards entry process is constantly reviewed and streamlined. Learning Environments Australasia welcomes feedback regarding your experience with entering the LEAD Awards at any time. Please email Soraya Ramsey (Awards' Coordinator) with your feedback at awards@learningenvironments.org.au

For any questions regarding entry submissions please contact:

Soraya Ramsey
LEA Awards' Coordinator
awards@learningenvironments.org.au
+61 409 276 794