Allied Health Awards 2015

Information Sheet for Applicants

The Tasmanian Allied Health Professional Advancement Committee (TAHPAC) was established following the 2007 National Allied Health Conference in Hobart to oversee, and provide governance for, the use and disbursement of funds generated by the conference.

The aim of the Committee is to support professional development opportunities for all Tasmanian Allied Health Professionals.

The Committee has expanded that support through the TAHPAC Allied Health Awards.

Purpose of the annual Awards is to:

- Reward allied health professional excellence in Tasmania.
- Promote the role of allied health professionals in the provision of all levels of health care.

Awards:

There are 3 categories of award each year. $1000 will be awarded for each category. The categories will vary each year to enable recognition of excellence across the spectrum of Allied Health Professional practice.

The context of your submission may be any service setting, including, but not limited to, acute care, primary health, private practice, aged or community care, reflecting the breadth of roles of allied health professionals in the provision of care for Tasmanians.

Award Categories 2015

1. Allied Health Research Initiatives: implementation of research findings for the benefit of patients

This award seeks to recognise those allied health professionals who have translated the outcomes of their own or others’ research initiatives and put them into practice. The judges are looking for clear evidence of the way the service has been improved to benefit clients as a result of changing practice according to research findings.
2. Consumer Centred Care Pathways

This award seeks to recognise allied health professionals who go out of their way to make positive changes to the health care journey for individuals or communities. This change has led to a transformed client and staff experience, and focusses on sustainability and improved access. The change may be in collaboration with other health care providers and/or across sectors to deliver improved quality of health and well-being and improved client outcomes. Examples could be in service provision, research or health promotion.

3. Collaborative Leadership Initiatives in Allied Health

This award seeks to recognise those allied health professionals who have shown excellence in providing leadership through mentoring colleagues, positively influencing the culture of the work area, and fostering learning and development of others, including across professions and work areas. Leaders use their experience and knowledge to inspire and influence others. Leadership can be shown in all areas of allied health service provision.

How to nominate:

Applications or nominations may be made by individuals or practice related groups. You may apply for yourself and/or your colleagues or you may nominate an individual colleague or group of colleagues for recognition of their work.

To be eligible for an award, applicants or nominees must be actively engaged in direct client related work, including work that will lead to service improvement. Applications and nominations will be accepted from sole practitioners, clinical teams, practice groups, researchers or organisations/agencies. Online application is the preferred mode of lodgement. (See Lodgement of Applications)

Conditions of entry:

Applicants or nominees must be recognised as an allied health professional. The list of eligible professions is compiled from those recognised by the Australian Government and the Allied Health Professional (Tasmanian Public Sector) Industrial Agreement 2014 and AHPRA. (See Eligibility).

A condition of the Award entry is acceptance of privacy conditions including publishing of Awards winner details and project content. (See Confidentiality Terms of Agreement: Application Form)

1 The definition of a client is broad and not restricted to an individual receiving face to face contact.

2 Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
Applicants or nominees:

- Must work and reside in Tasmania.
- May be employed in private practice, public service, non-government and not for profit agencies.
- Must have made a significant contribution to the conceptual development, execution and evaluation of the work.
- Must demonstrate they have taken a leading role in an identifiable allied health project.

The submission must:

- Relate to professional practice in Tasmania.
- Outline work that has been in place for at least 6 months and can show definitively an impact on client/patient care, service delivery or professional identity.
- Be initiated and lead by a Tasmanian allied health professional.
- Show how the gains can be re-produced in other work places.
- Reflect substantially new work.
- Not be for work previously recognised through an award or similar.

**The judging panel decisions will be final and the panel reserves the right not to award a prize in any category if it believes no application has met the requirements satisfactorily.**

**Eligibility:**

Tasmanian Allied Health Professions eligible for these awards are 3:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audiology</th>
<th>Genetic Counsellor</th>
<th>Podiatry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol and Other Drugs Worker</td>
<td>Health/Medical Librarian</td>
<td>Prosthetics and Orthotics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiac Perfusion</td>
<td>Health/Medical Physics</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Cardiology/Health Professional</td>
<td>Hospital/Medical Science</td>
<td>Radiation Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child and Families Worker</td>
<td>Mammography</td>
<td>Radiography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chiropractic</td>
<td>Nuclear Medicine</td>
<td>Respiratory Scientist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Therapy</td>
<td>Occupational therapy</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Hygiene</td>
<td>Optometry</td>
<td>Sonography</td>
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</tbody>
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3 This list is compiled to include those professional groups recognised by the Department of Health and Human Services (Tasmania) and Australian Health Practitioner Agency.
Dental Prosthetics | Orthoptics | Speech Pathology  
---|---|---  
Dietetics and Nutrition | Osteopathy | Youth Justice Worker  
Environmental Health | Pharmacy |  
Exercise Physiology | Physiotherapy |  

**Application Conditions:**

- Entries must be submitted using the Awards Application Entry Form. Entries must be typed and be limited to 1000 words per category.

- The same project can be submitted against one or more of the categories listed. If applying for more than one category, a separate Application Entry Form must be used for each category entered. The category entered must be clearly stated on the Application Entry Form(s).

- Supporting attachments are optional and should be limited to no more than three (3) A4 pages.

- All entries must include details outlining how the prize money would be utilised for continuing professional development to benefit patient/client care in your facility or practice.

- Award funds must be used within 12 months of receipt and details on the use of the funds must be provided within 12 months of receipt. (See Report on Utilisation of Funds.)

**Confidentiality:**

- TAHPAC reserves the right to publish details of award winners and related project information. Information may be published on a public website(s).

**How will applications be assessed?**

A panel of judges will select the winners. Judges will be senior allied health professionals with professional standing recognised by their peers from management, clinical and education streams.

The judge’s decision will be final. The judging panel reserves the right not to award a prize in any category if it believes no application has met the requirements satisfactorily.

Each panel will consist of a:

- Chair to be elected by panel members;
- Jurisdiction representative nominated by the National Allied Health Advisory Committee (NAHAC);
• Nominee from Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH);
• Nominee from the University of Tasmania.

If required, the panel may seek the advice of a profession specific senior allied health professional with standing recognised by their peers. This person would be nominated by the professional association of the project’s Lead Clinician as specified on the application form.

**Assessment**

1. **Allied Health Research Initiatives: Implementation of research findings for the benefit of clients**

   Judges will be looking for demonstration of:

   o What research was undertaken or reviewed to change practice.
   o Why this research was chosen.
   o How the research translated into practice – showing evidence of project planning, implementation and evaluation.
   o The benefits to clients/patients from this change in practice.
   o Impacts on quality of client/patient care, work practices and service philosophy.
   o Multi-disciplinary, multi-service or inter-service approach.
   o Application of innovative thinking to identify a client/patient centred solution to a safety and quality issue.

2. **Consumer Centred Care Pathways**

   Judges will be looking for demonstration of:

   o In what ways the allied health professional acted above and beyond their normal service delivery scope to make a positive change.
   o How the change was made.
   o Identification of those changes and their positivity for the individual/group/community.
   o Evidence of sustainability and improved access.
   o Multi-disciplinary, multi-service or inter-service approach.
   o Application of innovative thinking to identify a client/patient centred solution to a safety and quality issue.
3. **Innovative Leadership in Allied Health**

Judges will be looking for demonstration of:

- How the allied health professional(s) has provided leadership to their colleagues.
- How this leadership has positively impacted on the culture of the workplace.
- How the allied health professional has fostered a ‘learning environment’ for colleagues from other professions and work areas.
- The benefits to staff and clients flowing from this leadership.
- Impacts on quality of client/patient care, work practices and service philosophy.
- Multi-disciplinary, multi-service or inter-service approach.

**Selection Criteria**

All applications will be assessed on the evidence provided against each criterion for each category. **Applicants/nominees should not feel limited by any illustrative examples.**

All applications will be assessed on the evidence provided against each criterion for each category.

- Work practices that have improved client/patient centred care.
- How the service philosophy demonstrates patient centred care.
- Multi-disciplinary, multi-service or inter-service approach.
- Level of engagement with community and clients/patients.
- Application of innovative thinking to identify a client/patient centred solution to a safety and quality issue.
- Models of care that have improved client/patient centred care.
- Models of care that have improved service outcomes for the benefit of clients/patients.
- Ways of working within existing resources efficiently and effectively while meeting the needs of clients/patients.
- Ways in which clients/patients have been included in decisions about the services provided to them.

**Lodgement of application:**

Application packages are available by emailing: tahpac@gmail.com
Application packages consist of the Information Sheet for Applicants, Application Form and Report on Utilisation of Funds.

All Application Forms are to be submitted by email to: tahpac@gmail.com

The Utilisation of Funds form is to be submitted to tahpac@gmail.com after the CPD activity has been undertaken. This must occur within twelve (12) months from the receipt of the award.

**Online application is required.**

**Deadline for application:**

Applications close on 11th September 2015

**Notification of receipt of application:**

All applications will be sent an acknowledgment of receipt within one week of lodgement.