



**The NATA Excellence Award** is a highly esteemed recognition that honours collective accomplishments and inspires others to pursue excellence in their areas of expertise. By granting this award, NATA aims to cultivate a community that prioritises innovation, collaboration, and high standards in accreditation, technical infrastructure, and scientific practices.

### **Technical Infrastructure Excellence and Innovation**

This distinguished award acknowledges organisations that have made outstanding contributions to improving the quality and reliability of accredited processes. It highlights advancements that drive innovation, strengthen technical capabilities, and enhance operational efficiency. Additionally, the award aims to showcase initiatives that deliver positive impact across Australia, benefiting industries, communities, and the nation's scientific and technical landscape.

**Nomination must relate to one of these categories:**

#### **Category 1. Quality and Reliability Enhancement**

##### **Criteria:**

- **Significant Contributions to Accreditation:** Recognise significant contributions that enhance the quality and reliability of accredited processes and services.
- **Innovative Practices in Accreditation:** Emphasise innovative approaches that surpass traditional practices.
- **Continuous Improvement Culture:** Demonstrate a commitment to fostering a culture of continuous improvement in technical infrastructure and accredited processes.

#### **Category 2. Advancements and Innovations in Accredited Activities**

##### **Criteria:**

- **Strengthened Capabilities:** Highlight strengthened capabilities with improvements in precision, accuracy, and overall effectiveness.

- **Innovative Methodologies:** Recognise organisations introducing innovative methodologies that set new standards in the industry.
- **Efficiency Improvements:** Demonstrate initiatives that increase efficiency and effectiveness in accredited activities.

### **Category 3. Positive Impact within Australia**

#### **Criteria:**

- **Domestic Industries Improvement:** Emphasise contributions that improve domestic industries and local communities through advancements in technical infrastructure.
- **Scientific and Technical Landscape Enhancement:** Showcase initiatives with tangible benefits to Australia's scientific and technical landscape.

#### **Award Benefits:**

The finalists from each category will receive:

- a NATA Conference and Celebration Dinner registration for one representative, so there is a representative from your organisation should you win.
- Finalist Certificate
- Promotional Campaign

The NATA Excellence Award recipient receives:

- \$3,000 cash prize
- NATA Excellence *Engraved* Award
- Promotional Campaign

#### **Evaluation criteria:**

The Award Winner will be chosen from each category's finalists based on the significance and reach of their impact, highlighting excellence and recognising the most transformative contributions to accreditation.

An independent panel will assess applications based on:

- **Alignment with the Selected Criteria for each Category:** How well the nomination demonstrates contributions that reflect the chosen award category's criteria.
- **Innovation and Excellence:** The extent to which the nominee has introduced innovative practices or demonstrated exceptional achievements in their field.

- **Impact and Significance:** The scale and depth of the nominee's contributions, including measurable benefits to the organisation, industry, communities, or the broader scientific and technical landscape.
- **Positive Stakeholder Feedback:** Consider positive feedback and recognition from technical infrastructure and accreditation stakeholders.
- **NATA accredited activity.**
- **Current NATA membership**
- **Relevance to the period 2021-2026**
- **Applications of sufficient quality**

### **Nomination Requirements, Eligibility and Process:**

Nominees for this esteemed award are invited to align their achievements with one of the three award categories that best represent their contributions. A finalist will be selected for each category based on their exceptional alignment with the category's criteria.

- Nomination to one category only
- Any current NATA member organisation can nominate.
- Only current NATA financial members are eligible.
- One nomination per member (organisation).

Nominations must include:

- Detailed project, product or technology development description.
- Reference how your nomination meets the category's criteria.
- Outcomes that demonstrate improvements, including measurable benefits.
- Details of staff involved in the project.
- At least one supporting reference for the nomination.
- Organisational benefits and customers/community activity view.

Please ensure to upload supporting information, including written details, media, and references. Uploaded information should be concise and relevant. Submission format can be written or electronic formats. Video content is also accepted and encouraged. File size limits of 500MB

### **Important Dates:**

- Applications close on April 24, 2026.
- Finalists will be notified and announced by May 22, 2026.
- The Award will be presented at the Accreditation Matters Celebration Dinner on July 7, 2026, in Melbourne.

**Contact Information:**

For further queries, contact NATA at [excellenceaward@nata.com.au](mailto:excellenceaward@nata.com.au).

***Celebrate innovation. Recognise impact. Inspire excellence.***