



# Nomination Guide & FAQ

## Purpose & Overview

The NATA Excellence Award celebrates organisations that demonstrate outstanding achievements in accreditation, technical infrastructure, and scientific practice across Australia. This guide will help organisations prepare a high-quality nomination, understand the process, and provide practical tips to ensure the submission is clear, compelling and meets the requirements.

## Award Categories

Choose **one** category that best fits your achievement:

### Category 1: Quality and Reliability Enhancement

- Improving quality, reliability, and continuous improvement in accredited processes.

### Category 2: Advancements and Innovations in Accredited Activities

- Pioneering methodologies, strengthened capabilities, and efficiency improvements.

### Category 3: Positive Impact within Australia

- Delivering significant benefits to industry, community, or Australia's scientific/technical landscape.

## Eligibility Checklist

- Current NATA financial member organisation
- Nomination relates to a NATA-accredited activity
- Project/activity occurred between 2021 and 2026
- Only one nomination per organisation, in one category

## Preparing Your Nomination

A strong nomination should:

- Clearly describe the problem or opportunity addressed
- Outline actions, innovations, or improvements implemented
- Provide measurable outcomes (accuracy, reliability, efficiency, impact)
- Demonstrate relevance to accredited activity
- Highlight broader value to customers, industries, or communities
- Include credible references and supporting evidence (documents, images, videos under 500MB)

## Submission Process

1. **Select Your Category** – Choose the category that best reflects your achievement.
2. **Prepare Your Submission** – Draft and compile all required content.
3. **Gather Evidence** – Collect supporting data, references, and media.
4. **Complete the Online Form** – Submit via the online platform and upload supporting files.
5. **Review Before Submitting** – Ensure clarity, completeness, and alignment with criteria.

## Key Dates

- **Applications close:** 24 April 2026
- **Finalists announced:** 22 May 2026
- **Award presented:** 7 July 2026 (Accreditation Matters Celebration Dinner, Melbourne)

## Evaluation Criteria

Judges assess nominations based on:

- Alignment with category criteria
- Innovation and excellence
- Impact and significance (organisation, industry, community)
- Stakeholder feedback
- Relevance (2021–2026)
- Quality of submission (clarity, completeness, evidence)

## What Makes a Strong Nomination?

- Specific, data-driven statements (avoid generalities)
- Compelling story: challenge, solution, impact
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Use of visuals (charts, images, videos)
- Focus on measurable impact for industry, customers, or Australia

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### **1. Who is eligible to apply?**

Any current NATA financial member organisation, with one nomination per organisation in one category, for activities between 2021 and 2026.

### **2. What benefits do finalists receive?**

- Complimentary registration for the NATA Conference and Celebration Dinner
- Finalist certificate
- Promotional campaign

### **3. What does the Award Winner receive?**

- \$3,000 cash prize
- Recognition in NATA News
- Engraved NATA Excellence Award
- Promotional campaign

### **4. How are nominations evaluated?**

By an independent panel using criteria such as category alignment, innovation, impact, stakeholder feedback, relevance, and submission quality.

### **5. What must be included in a nomination?**

- Project/product/technology description
- Explanation of category alignment
- Evidence of measurable improvements
- Details of staff involved
- At least one supporting reference
- Description of organisational and community/customer benefits
- Optional media (under 500MB)
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### **6. Can video submissions be included?**

Yes, and they are highly encouraged to showcase processes, innovations, or testimonials.

### **7. Why should organisations nominate?**

To gain national recognition, celebrate teamwork, promote innovation and strengthen reputation.

## Tips for Success

- Be specific: Use data, timelines, and examples
- Tell a compelling story: Describe the challenge, solution, and impact
- Highlight teamwork and collaboration
- Use visuals to enhance understanding
- Focus on impact, especially for the industry, customers, or Australia

## Final Checklist

- Eligibility confirmed
- Category selected
- All required content included
- Supporting materials reviewed and relevant
- Submission is clear, concise, and complete
- Final review by senior staff

### Ready to nominate?

Prepare your submission, gather your evidence, and showcase your organisation's excellence!