

Allied Health Awards 2012

Information Sheet for Applicants

The Tasmanian Allied Health Professional Advancement Committee was established after the 2007 National Allied Health Conference in Hobart to undertake 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:

- To reward allied health professional excellence in Tasmania
- To 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.

Award Categories 2012:

- 1. Consumer Centred Care: Measuring and Demonstrating Impact.**
This award seeks to recognise Allied Health Professionals who have transformed a service and, by doing so, can demonstrate an improved patient and staff experience. Applicants need to demonstrate the transformed service is delivered in a way that improves the quality of consumer care and must show the service is sustainable.
- 2. Rethinking Care Pathways.** The work of health care professionals in diagnosis and treatment is key to ensuring consumers are treated promptly. The work of Allied Health Professionals helps to speed their journey home and to support them in the community. This award recognises the crucial part Allied Health Professionals play in improving client service access and boosting productivity.
- 3. Into the Spotlight.** A challenge for Allied Health Professions is to find a way to describe to the public and the media how they contribute to improved patient care. It is time that others moved into the spotlight so their role can be understood, appreciated and developed. This award illuminates projects and initiatives which

have helped explain Allied Health Professionals work to the public and have impacted on the profile of Allied Health Profession services. Applicants need to show how this has been achieved with an increased public awareness or knowledge of an Allied Health Profession and its role in health care.

How to nominate:

Applications may be made by individuals or practice related groups. Application can be on line. This is the preferred mode of lodgement. However, if you do not have on line access a hard copy can be posted. (See **Lodgement of Applications** below) Applicants must be actively engaged in clinical work to be eligible for an award. Nominations will be accepted from sole practitioners, clinical teams, practice groups, or organisations/agencies. Each of these groups may self-nominate or be nominated by colleagues.

Conditions of entry:

Applicants 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. (See **Eligibility** below).

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

Applicants:

- must work and reside in Tasmania.
- may be employed in private practice, public sector, non government and not for profit agencies.
- must have individually 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 are¹:

Audiology	Health librarian	Pharmacy
Cardiac perfusion	Health physics	Physiotherapy
Chiropractic	Medical radiation oncology physics	Podiatry
Dental therapy	Medical Imaging	Prosthetics and orthotics
Dental hygiene	Medical science	Psychology
Dental prosthetics	Nuclear medicine technology	Radiation therapy
Dietetics and Nutrition	Occupational therapy	Social work
Environmental health	Optometry	Sonography
Exercise Physiology	Orthoptics	Speech pathology
Genetic Counsellor	Osteopathy	

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 3 A4 pages

¹ This list is compiled to include those professional groups recognised by the Department of Health and Human Services (Tasmania) and the Department of Health and Aging (Australian Government).

- All entries must include details outlining how the prize money would be utilised for continuing professional development that will 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.**)
- Funds will be transferred to the account detailed on the Application Entry Form

Confidentiality:

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

How will applications be assessed:

A panel of judges will select the winners. Judges will be nominated to the panel by professional associations and jurisdictions from Tasmania and interstate. Judges will be senior allied health professionals with professional standing recognised by their peers.

The judges' 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
- a jurisdiction representative nominated by the National Allied Health Advisory Committee (NAHAC)
- a nominee from Services the Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH)
- a nominee from the University of Tasmania, University Department of Rural Health.

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

Consumer Centred Care: Measuring and Demonstrating Impact.

- Judges will be looking for demonstration of:
 - How the service was changed to be organised around client/patient needs
 - How the transformed service philosophy demonstrates patient centred care
 - How the service changes impacted on the quality of client/patient care

- Work practices that have improved client/patient centred care
- New models of care that have improved client/patient centred care
- Ways in which client/patients have been included in decisions about the services provided to them or their care

Rethinking Care Pathways.

- Judges will be looking for demonstration of:
 - New ways of working with direct client benefit
 - How the service has been organised around client/patient needs
 - How care and/or services are coordinated to ensure the best possible outcome for clients/patients
 - Multi-disciplinary, multi-service or inter-service approach
 - Application of innovative thinking to identify a client/patient centred solution to a safety and quality issue
 - New ways of working that have improved the efficiency and effectiveness of client/patient centred care
 - New ways of working using existing resources to meet the needs of clients/patients

Into the Spotlight.

- Judges will be looking for demonstration of:
 - Public promotion of an allied health profession
 - Projects that help explain your professional work to the public and/or media
 - How the project highlighted the profile of Allied Health
 - How the project has increased public knowledge and awareness of the role of your profession in health care.
 - How the impact was achieved

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.

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

Or posted to: TAHPAC Allied Health Award, GPO Box 111 North Hobart

The Utilisation of Funds form is to be submitted to tahpac@gmail.com after the training activity which must be undertaken within twelve months from the receipt of the award.

Online application is preferred.

Deadline for application:

Applications close on **Friday 20 July 2012.**

Notification of receipt of application:

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