



Australia Awards

Alumni Awards 2026

Inspiring the Future



PNGAus Partnership
Yumi Stap Wantaim

Recognise Papua New Guinea's outstanding alumni today!



In partnership with the Australian High Commission in PNG, the theme for this year's Alumni Awards is "PNG-Australia Alumni: Inspiring the Future", sets focus on the development contribution by Australia Awards alumni of PNG into the next 50 years of nation building. The PNG-Australia Alumni Awards recognise and honor outstanding alumni of any Australian education program who studied either in Australia or in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and have or continue to make outstanding contributions to their profession, community and country.

Award winners will receive:

- K5,000 towards professional development activities
- recognition of achievements
- enhanced professional profile and
- valuable networking opportunities that arise from receiving international recognition.

Award categories

Eligible alumni can be nominated for one of the following five award categories:

1. Alumni of the Year
2. Innovation and Entrepreneurship Award
3. Woman in Leadership Award
4. Community Impact and Service Award
5. PNG-Australia Partnership Award
6. Public Service Excellence and Innovation Award
7. Young Alumni of the Year Award

All nominees should, in addition to category specific requirements, support and build links between PNG and Australia while ensuring a commitment to the principles of gender, disability and social inclusion.

Nominees are judged on their individual work or as part of a group or organisation.

Successful recipients of the awards serve as an example for prospective Papua New Guinean students wishing to pursue world class education in Australia.

Nominate via link: <https://smr.to/p112042>
Nomination close on Friday 9 October 2026

For more information
Email: alumni@australiaawardspng.org





Alumni of the Year

Demonstrates outstanding leadership and achievement in their field; has made a significant contribution to national, sectoral, or community development; reflects the values and impact of Australia Awards; serves as a role model for other alumni.



Young Alumni of the Year Award

Shows strong leadership potential and initiative early in their career; has contributed meaningfully to their workplace, community, or sector; demonstrated or is demonstrating innovation, commitment, and positive influence; actively applies knowledge and skills gained through their study experience.



Community Impact and Service Award

Has made a practical and measurable contribution to improving community wellbeing; supports vulnerable, rural, or underserved groups; demonstrates commitment, compassion, and service; contributes to inclusive development through outreach, advocacy, frontline service, or community-led initiatives.



Papua New Guinea – Australia Partnership Award

Has strengthened the relationship between Papua New Guinea and Australia through professional, community, academic, or development work; promotes collaboration, mutual understanding, and shared development priorities; contributes to lasting partnerships or networks between PNG and Australia.



Public Service Excellence and Innovation Award

Has contributed to improved public service delivery, policy, governance, or institutional strengthening; demonstrated or is demonstrating innovation, integrity, and professionalism in public service; has introduced practical improvements, systems, or reforms; contributed or is contributing to better outcomes for citizens or communities.



Woman in Leadership Award

Demonstrates leadership that advances gender equality, inclusion, or women's empowerment; has created positive change in their workplace, sector, or community; serves as a role model or mentor for women and girls; promotes inclusive and ethical leadership.



Innovation and Entrepreneurship Award

Has developed or implemented new ideas, solutions, services, businesses (SME/MSME), or initiatives; demonstrates creativity, problem-solving, and sustainability; contributes to economic, social, or community development; shows potential for growth, replication, or long-term impact.