



SELECTIONS FROM VCE SEASON OF EXCELLENCE

VCAA Bulletin Supplement 1

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) Achievement Awards Program 2005

The VCAL Achievement Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of young people who participated in the VCAL in 2005.

The awards also recognise the contribution and achievement of VCAL teachers and partner organisations that have contributed to the development and delivery of innovative VCAL programs.

The VCAL was developed to provide an innovative option for Years 11 and 12 students who wish to complete a senior secondary qualification. Clear endorsement of the certificate's success is demonstrated through the third year of state-wide implementation in 2005, with 379 schools, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutes and Adult and Community Education (ACE) organisations delivering VCAL to more than 10 400 students. In 2006, 28 additional schools and ACE organisations will offer VCAL for the first time.

The VCAL is a clear example of how Victoria is responding to the diverse needs of students. The VCAL gives students practical work-related experience, as well as literacy and numeracy skills and the opportunity to build personal skills that are important for life and work.

Schools, TAFE or ACE organisations are encouraged to consider nominating VCAL students, partners and teachers for the VCAL Achievement Awards in one or more of the award categories.

The VCAL Achievement Awards for 2005 will be presented in three categories:

- Student Achievement Awards
- Partner Achievement Awards
- Teacher Achievement Awards.

Award categories

Student Achievement Awards

There are three VCAL Student Achievement Awards sub-categories.

These sub-categories relate to the level students graduated in 2005, as follows:

- VCAL Student Achievement Award – Foundation
- VCAL Student Achievement Award – Intermediate
- VCAL Student Achievement Award – Senior.

Four awards will be made in each sub-category and relate to student achievement in one of the following areas:

1. Work Related Skills
2. Personal Development Skills
3. Outstanding Achievement
4. Team Achievement.

From 2006, a new award – VCAL Koorie Student Achievement Award – will be made to a Koorie student from any of the three levels, e.g. Foundation, Intermediate or Senior VCAL.

A total of 13 awards will be made in the student category.

Partner Achievement Awards

There are four VCAL Partner Achievement Awards sub-categories. One award will be presented for each sub-category as follows:

- VCAL Partner Achievement Award – Workplace Learning
- VCAL Partner Achievement Award – VCAL Promotion
- VCAL Partner Achievement Award – VCAL Partnerships.

Teacher Achievement Awards

There are three VCAL Teacher Achievement Awards sub-categories. One award will be presented for each sub-category as follows:

- VCAL Teacher Achievement Award – Integrated Program
- VCAL Team Achievement Award – Team Teaching
- VCAL Teacher Achievement Award – Program Development.

Selection/Assessment criteria

A VCAL Achievement Award Nomination Form must be completed for each nominee, indicating the VCAL Award they are nominated for. All questions must be completed and supporting evidence that endorses the nomination must be submitted against the appropriate selection criteria for the nominated award.

Student Achievement Awards

The VCAL student awards recognise students who have been outstanding in their VCAL program. The evidence submitted should demonstrate why the student should receive the award.

Students being nominated for a VCAL Student Achievement Award will be assessed on the following selection criteria:

Successful completion of the VCAL in 2005 at the level of the Award being nominated; and:

For *VCAL Work Related Skills (WRS) Awards* – Providers need to supply evidence of how the nominated student has performed in the VCAL Work Related Skills strand (e.g. progress with a SBNA, quality work placement, pathway goal through VCAL Work Related Skills units); or

For *VCAL Personal Development Skills Awards* – Providers need to provide evidence of how the nominated student has performed in the VCAL Personal Development Skills strand (e.g. completion of a project of value to the local community, demonstrated personal growth in leadership, communication through VCAL Personal Development Skills units); or

For *Outstanding Achievement Award* – Evidence of outstanding achievement in the VCAL in the four VCAL curriculum strands. Evidence must highlight why the student is outstanding and why he/she should receive an Award; or

For *Team Achievement Award* – Evidence of outstanding achievement by a team of VCAL students from one level or from combined levels in a VCAL learning program or VCAL unit. Evidence also needs to be submitted that demonstrates the development of teamwork as well as the completion of the task. Where a team comprises students from two or more VCAL certificate levels the team will be considered for an award under the highest certificate level.

For *Koorie Student Achievement Award* – Evidence of outstanding achievement in any aspect of the student's VCAL program. The student must also be enrolled on the Victorian Assessment Software System (VASS) as a Koorie student. This award will be made to one student from any of the three VCAL levels.

If a VCAL Senior Extension student is being nominated, evidence of outstanding achievement in the VCAL Senior Extension units must be demonstrated.

Evidence must be submitted to support student nominations and may include, but is not limited to:

- recognition of achievement by the VCAL provider or partner organisation such as a local award, letter of commendation, offer of continuing employment
- media clippings
- photographs.

Partner Achievement Awards

The VCAL partner awards recognise partners who have been outstanding in their support of a VCAL program/s. The evidence submitted should demonstrate why the partner should receive the award.

VCAL partner organisations being nominated for a VCAL Partner Achievement Award will be assessed on the following selection criteria:

Commitment to the goals of the VCAL; and:

For *workplace learning* – Evidence of successful collaboration with a 2005 VCAL provider (e.g. completion of a successful workplace learning program deemed of value to the VCAL student)

For *VCAL promotion* – Evidence of successful promotion of the VCAL within individual sectors and/or the general community (e.g. promotion of the VCAL through targeted resource materials, publications or presentations)

For *VCAL Partnership* – Evidence of successful collaboration with at least one external partner in the delivery of high quality project/s or program/s to VCAL students.

Teacher Achievement Awards

The VCAL teacher awards recognise teachers who have been outstanding in their delivery of a VCAL program/s. The evidence submitted should demonstrate why the teacher should receive the award.

Teachers being nominated for a VCAL Teacher Achievement Award will be assessed on the following selection criteria:

Commitment to the goals of the VCAL – evidence could include an endorsement by an independent person such as a School Principal, VCAL Coordinator, Local Learning and Employment Network Executive Officer; and:

For *the VCAL Teacher – Integrated Program Award* – evidence of a high quality integrated and well managed VCAL program across two or more VCAL curriculum strands; or

For *the Team Teaching Award* – evidence of high quality practice and innovation in the delivery of a program by a team of teachers (the team of teachers may be from one provider or a number of different providers) to VCAL students; or

For *the Program Development Award* – evidence of high quality practice and innovation in the development of a VCAL unit.

All secondary teachers must have Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) registration to be eligible for a VCAL Achievement Award.

Teachers at Registered Training Organisations (RTO) who intend to apply for a teacher award must meet Standard 7 in the 2005 Australian Quality Training Framework Standards for Registered Training Organisations.

Application guidelines and timeframe

1. Applications must be made on the attached nomination form and submitted no later than **close of business Thursday 1 December 2005** to:

VCAL Awards

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
41 St Andrews Place
East Melbourne VIC 3002

2. Nominations can be made by individuals (self nomination) or by organisations on behalf of individuals or organisations.
3. Please submit **one original and five copies** of your application for student awards and **one original and four copies** of your application for the partner and teacher awards. Applications must not be stapled or bound.
4. Please provide **five copies, not original documents**, of any supporting evidence to be included as part of the nomination. If providing videos, CDs, etc. five copies must also be provided.

Judging

The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) will appoint three panels to assess the applications received for each award category – Student Achievement, Partner Achievement and Teacher Achievement.

The panels will comprise representatives of the VCAA, Victorian Qualifications Authority (VQA), Department of Education & Training (DE&T) and stakeholder organisations. A list of judges will be finalised by November, 2005 and communicated to all VCAL providers via the VCAA Bulletin.

Short-listed applicants may be required to attend an interview in person or by teleconference with the judging panel in January 2006.

Ceremony and prizes

All awardees will be recognised at a VCAL Achievement Awards ceremony to be held in Melbourne on a date in April 2006.

Awardees will be invited to attend along with guests and a representative from their nominating organisation.

Contacts

VCAL providers, nominating organisations and nominees can contact the VCAA as follows:

Cornelia DeBrincat

Project Manager, VCAL Achievement Awards
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
41 St Andrews Place
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Tel: (03) 9651 4383
Fax: (03) 9651 4324
email: debrincat.cornelia.c@edumail.vic.gov.au

or

Roslyn Mullins

Project Officer – VCAL
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
41 St Andrews Place
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Tel: (03) 9651 4435
Fax: (03) 9651 4324
email: mullins.roslyn.g@edumail.vic.gov.au

Conditions of entry for awards

All nominations for the VCAL Achievement Awards must comply with the following terms and conditions:

- The closing date for nominations is Thursday 1 December 2005. No nominations will be accepted after 5:00 pm on this date.
- All nominations must be on the nomination form and all questions must be answered. Nomination forms are available from the VCAA or VCAL provider sites.
- Students are only eligible to receive an award if they have successfully completed the VCAL at the award level they are being nominated.
- The VCAA and DE&T are collecting the information on this form to assist with the organisation of the awards.

- A panel of judges will assess each nomination and determine a short list in rank order.
- Judges may interview short-listed nominees in person or via teleconference.
- The VCAA reserves the right not to present an award in a particular category if in the opinion of the judges there is no application that meets the selection criteria.
- The written nomination and the interview, if undertaken, will be used by the judges to select recipients for each VCAL Student Achievement Award sub-category, the VCAL Koorie Student Achievement Award and one recipient in each of the VCAL Partner and VCAL Teacher Achievement Awards sub-categories.
- Individuals can be nominated only once in a category, but can be nominated for more than one category if eligible.
- All finalists must be prepared to attend the ceremony and presentation to be held in Melbourne on a date in April 2006.
- Nominees must agree to abide by the decision of the judging panel and no appeals will be entered into.
- The VCAA will acknowledge each application received, where an email address is provided, and all award nominees will be advised in writing of their success.
- Nominations will be kept for three months. Those wishing to obtain their original nomination must contact Ms Roslyn Mullins at the VCAA on (03) 9651 4435.
- All nominees must comply with these conditions of entry.
- Only authorised staff will have access to your information. The VCAA may give some or all of this information to sponsors and media with your consent. Your personal information will not be disclosed to any other third party without your consent, unless authorised or required by law.
- A consent release form will be sent to finalists and winners to have their photographs taken and their personal details used by the VCAA and DE&T to encourage students, providers and organisations to use and recognise the VCAL.
- Finalists and winners must be prepared to be involved in promotional events and activities if required.

Sponsorship

The Victorian Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VECCI) and Group Training Association of Victoria are proud sponsors of the VCAL Achievement Awards 2005.



VECCI is leading the future of employer training needs by linking industry and education through the use of VCAL, Vocational Education and Training (VET) and School Based New Apprenticeship.



As an active partner in the promotion of the VCAL with employers, Group Training Association of Victoria takes great pleasure in sponsoring the VCAL Awards.

VCAL Achievement Awards

Privacy Statement

The VCAL Achievement Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of those who participated in the VCAL during 2005. There are three award categories *Student Achievement Awards*, *Partner Achievement Awards* and *Teacher Achievement Awards*.

To assess applications for the Awards we need personal details such as the nominee's name, address, telephone number.

Nominations for an achievement award will be assessed against the selection criteria for evidence of achievement as detailed in the VCAL Achievement Awards guidelines and as follows:

Students in

- Work Related Skills
- Personal Development Skills
- Outstanding Achievement
- Team Achievement
- Koorie Student Achievement

Partners in

- Workplace Learning
- VCAL Promotion
- VCAL Partnerships

Teachers in

- VCAL Teacher – Integrated Program
- Team Teaching
- Program Development

This information will be used by the VCAA and the judging panels. All personal information will be kept secure.

If you wish to nominate an individual for the awards it is your responsibility to ask for their permission to send their details to the VCAA.

All winners will be contacted. The VCAA may wish to use photographs of award winners to promote the VCAL to the wider community. The VCAA has implemented measures to protect personal representation including photographs from unauthorised access, usage or alteration. Therefore, award recipients will be asked to complete an Authorisation Form – Agreement for Personal Representation consent form.

If you have any concerns on how your nominees' personal information will be used please contact Cornelia DeBrincat on (03) 9651 4383.



VCAL Achievement Awards – Nomination Form

Award category you are nominating for:

Student Achievement Awards *(select one only)*

- VCAL Student Achievement Award – Foundation
- VCAL Student Achievement Award – Intermediate
- VCAL Student Achievement Award – Senior

Achievement area *(select one only)*

- Work related skills
- Personal development skills
- Outstanding achievement
- Team achievement
- Koorie Student Achievement

Partner Achievement Awards *(select one only)*

- VCAL Partner Achievement Award – Workplace Learning
- VCAL Partner Achievement Award – VCAL Promotion
- VCAL Partner Achievement Award – VCAL Partnerships

Teacher Achievement Awards *(select one only)*

- VCAL Teacher Achievement Award – Integrated Program
- VCAL Teacher Achievement Award – Team Teaching
- VCAL Teacher Achievement Award – Program Development

Nominee's name: _____

(Insert all name/s for student team and teacher team nominees. All fields are mandatory)

Nominee's personal contact details:

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email address: _____

Nominee's VCAL provider: _____

(School, TAFE institute or ACE organisation, employer, LLEN etc.)

Secondary teachers – Please include VIT Registration Number: _____

Students – Please include VCAA Student Number: _____

Nominated by:

Your name: _____

Your organisation: _____

(School, TAFE institute, ACE organisation, employer, LLEN etc.)

Your association with the person/s or organisation you are nominating: _____

Are you also included in this nomination? Yes No

To be completed by the nominee:

(All nomination forms must be signed by the person being nominated for the award.)

I confirm that I have read and agree to abide by the *conditions of entry for awards* as set out in the VCAL Achievement Awards documentation.

Name

Signature

Date

Send your nomination by close of business **Thursday 1 December 2005**

Send this form with any supporting documentation to:

VCAL Awards
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
41 St Andrews Place
East Melbourne VIC 3002



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