



2026 **JOBLINK PLUS** **FIRST NATIONS** **ART COMPETITION**

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Joblink Plus First Nations Art Competition?

The Joblink Plus First Nations Art Competition (formerly known as the Joblink Plus Indigenous Art Competition) is a bi-yearly art competition and exhibition run by Joblink Plus and open to NSW artists who identify as First Nations of Australia or New Zealand.

This will be the fifth occurrence of the Competition, with previous exhibitions held in 2018, 2020, 2022 and 2024. It grows every year, with 35 entries in 2018 increasing to 83 entries in 2020, 149 entries in 2022, and most recently 297 entries in 2024.

Joblink Plus established the Competition after identifying a lack of opportunity across our footprint for First Nations artists of all skill levels to exhibit and sell their work. The Competition has grown in consultation with and feedback from community every year, with the addition of 3D/Weaving, Youth and Junior categories.

Who can enter?

The competition is open to individuals who identify as First Nations of Australia or New Zealand. Individuals are not required to provide any “proof” of their identification as First Nations or be professional artists in order to enter. All artists must reside in New South Wales to enter.

Joblink Plus staff members are not eligible to enter, however family and friends are encouraged!

What are the categories?

This year there are four categories:

- Painting & Drawing
- 3D & Weaving
- Children (for entrants aged 10 and under)
- Youth (for entrants aged 11-17)

There is a maximum of four entries per artists allowed across all categories.

Digital artworks will not be accepted in any category.

Is there a theme?

There is no theme for the Joblink Plus First Nations Art Competition. Artists may submit works containing any themes and subjects they wish.

When do we start accepting artworks?

Entries officially open on Thursday the 23rd October 2025. Artworks can be presented at site to consultants or posted to the Tamworth office as per instructions on the entry form. If posted, artists are responsible for cost of postage.

What do we need to do when dropping off/sending artworks?

When dropping off or sending artworks to Joblink Plus, artists should confirm the following:

- Artwork is accompanied by entry form that has **all sections** completed (you can ask a Joblink Plus consultant to assist with this if needed)
- Artwork has labels (included with entry form) attached to back or underside
- Paintings/drawings are within size constraints (122 x 92cm)
- Art is dry and ready to hang
- Any art involving animal products must be properly cleaned and hygienic

When do we stop accepting artworks, and what if someone brings in a late entry?

Entries close Friday 20th March 2026 at 5pm. This is a firm cut-off date – with a 5 month entry period and the logistics of putting together the exhibition, we are unfortunately unable to accept any entries beyond this date.

What happens during the exhibition?

During the exhibition, all artworks will be put on display at Tamworth Town Hall. If an artist has indicated that they would like their artwork to be made available for sale, the public will be able to purchase it for the price set by the artist.

The exhibition opens to the public on the morning of Saturday 2nd May 2026, opening daily until close on Sunday 10th May 2026. The exhibition will also be available digitally; both through a virtual online gallery and through an online sales website.

Does Joblink Plus take a commission on painting sales?

Joblink Plus does not take a commission or any percentage of painting sales. Artists receive the full sale amount on all artworks sold.

What happens after the exhibition?

After the exhibition, all art is either returned to the artist or given to the purchaser if sold. Artists and purchasers will be advised where to collect their art from, usually their local Joblink Plus site. Ensuring that contact details are recorded on the entry form is essential, as sometimes we have difficulties returning artworks. All artworks uncollected after 30 days following the close of the exhibition become property of Joblink Plus, as per the terms and conditions.

Where do we find more information?

The Joblink Plus website has a dedicated page with Art Competition information and downloads for public use – this page can be found <https://www.joblinkplus.com.au/first-nations-art-competition>.

If you have a question that isn't covered on the website or in these FAQs, please don't hesitate to contact the Communications Team on communications@joblinkplus.com.au – we are here to help!