

These guidelines apply to both Deaf Australian of the Year and Deaf Youth of the Year Awards, unless otherwise stated.

The Awards are open to any Deaf person living anywhere in Australia.

Only individual Deaf people may be nominated.

The Award can only be received once – i.e. an individual Deaf person can be recipient of the Award only once. An individual can be nominated many times but once they have won the Award, they cannot be considered again for this Award in subsequent years.

A nominee must be recognised for their dedication, services and contribution towards the Australian Deaf Community.

The nominee for Deaf Australian of the Year must be a person who is aged 25 years or older, and who makes exceptional contributions (either paid or voluntarily) in one or more of the following areas:

- Supports Deaf people in social and cultural activities;
- Presents a positive image of Deaf people;
- Undertakes research programs to promote better understanding of the Deaf community, its language and culture;
- Establishes successful coordination of affirmative action aimed at Deaf people;
- Provides high quality services enabling Deaf people to participate in community activities;
- Provides programs to increase options and opportunities for Deaf employees and clients;
- Improves access to technology;
- In any other way has benefited Deaf people or the Deaf community.

The nominee for the Deaf Youth of the Year must be a person who is aged 25 years or younger, and who makes exceptional contributions (either paid or voluntarily) in one or more of the following areas:

- Develops programs and activities aimed at supporting Deaf youth;
- Supports young Deaf people in social and cultural activities;
- Presents a positive image of Deaf youth;
- Establishes successful co-ordination of affirmative action aimed at Deaf youth;
- Provides high quality services enabling Deaf youth to participate in community activities;
- Provides programs to increase options and opportunities for young Deaf employees and clients;

- Improves access to technology;
- In any other way has benefited Deaf youth or the Deaf community.

Nominations may be made by:

- Any person who is a member of Deaf Australia Inc.
- Any Organisation which is a National Ordinary Corporate member of Deaf Australia Inc.
- State branches of Deaf Australia.

A completed nomination form for each nomination must explain the reasons why the Deaf person is being nominated. This nomination is necessary to allow the Award panel to make their decision.

Nominations can be submitted in written English or in Auslan using the nomination form.

The Board of Deaf Australia will appoint a Convenor to form the Award panel. This panel will normally consist of:

- the Convenor who will be a member of the Board of the Deaf Australia;
- board members of Deaf Australia and who have not either submitted a nomination or been nominated; and
- a youth representative.

The panel will review nominations and select the best nominee for the Award.

The closing date for nominations is outlined on website

Nominations received after the closing date will not be considered.

The decision of the Award panel will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

The announcement of the Awards winners will be made by the Chairperson of Deaf Australia, or some other person as determined by the Board of Deaf Australia.

The Award will be presented during Deaf Australia's Annual General Meeting as announced through members notice.