

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Award

Form Preview

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About Lowitja Institute Awards

Lowitja Institute celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership and excellence throughout our work. As Australia's national community controlled health and wellbeing research institute, the biennial conference awards recognise outstanding contributions to the field of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing research. These awards showcase research that is culturally, ethically, and intellectually rigorous and for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

About the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Award

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Award recognises an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student who is in the process of completing a Higher Degree by Research (Masters by Research or PhD), or has finished one of these degrees within the last two to three years.

In 2025, the award was given to Dr Stephen Harfield.

The awardee will receive:

- \$5,000 towards professional development
- One full registration to Lowitja Institute's 5th International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference from 8 - 10 June 2027 in Garramilla (Darwin), including travel and accommodation. Please note, applicants should be available to attend the Awards Ceremony at the Conference Gala Dinner

Eligibility criteria

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student.
- In the process of completing a Higher Degree by Research (Masters by Research or PhD), or has finished one of these degrees within the last two to three years.
- Field of study must be within basic science, medicine, epidemiology, public health, social health or community health.
- Focus of studies must be for the benefit of the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Must have undertaken study that has demonstrated research benefit for the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, in line with Lowitja Institute's research agenda.
- Demonstrated community involvement throughout studies, with a high-level research impact both locally and nationally.

Submitting your application

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- The application must be completed in full with all required supporting documentation collated and attached at submission.
 - Applicants are to provide at least one letter of support, with the referee also including brief comments against the selection criteria.
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 - The referee must identify as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person or community member.
 - An applicant biography (approximately 200 words) must be included, noting this will be used on promotional materials and at the award ceremony if selected.
 - Applicants must upload a headshot, noting this is the image that will be used on promotional materials and at the award ceremony if selected.
 - Applications to be submitted via SmartyGrants **by Friday 16 October 2026, 11:59pm (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)**
- **Please note:**
 - It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure their full application has been submitted correctly via SmartyGrants. Applicants will receive notification from SmartyGrants acknowledging submission of their application.
 - Lowitja Institute does not accept any liability if an application is not received (in full) by the due date.
 - Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Application form

* indicates a required field

Is this application a self-nomination? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Nomination by other person

Name of person completing this form *

Title	First Name	Last Name

Position *

Name of organisation *

Organisation Name

Relationship to nominee *

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Nominee contact details

Name *

Title

First Name

Last Name

Preferred pronouns

- ☐ He
- ☐ She
- ☐ They/them
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Other

Address *

Address

Remote Status**Phone Number ***

Must be an Australian phone number.

Email *

Must be an email address.

Organisation *

Organisation Name

Position ***Does the nominee identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander? ***

- ☐ Aboriginal
- ☐ Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Neither

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

Confirmation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status is required if your application is successful.

Is the nominee an individual member of Lowitja Institute?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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☐ Unsure

Please note membership category below.

- ☐ A: Full Member - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Organisation
- ☐ B: Associate Member Organisation
- ☐ C: Lowtija Institute Alumni
- ☐ D: Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Individual Member

Enrolment details

* indicates a required field

Name of university *

Campus location *

Faculty / school *

Title of enrolling program *

Example: Aboriginal health, epidemiology, public health etc.

Project title *

Commencement date *

Must be a date.

Proposed completion date or completion date *

Must be a date.

Name of primary supervisor *

Primary supervisors email address *

Must be an email address.

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Primary supervisors phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Selection criteria

* indicates a required field

Describe how the nominee has demonstrated excellence in research, focussing on health and wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Describe how the nominee has demonstrated excellence in contributing to one of Lowitja Institute's research agenda themes: 1) self-determination; 2) sovereignty; 3) cultural determinants; and 4) racism. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Describe how the nominee has demonstrated research benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, including contributions to developing and communicating the research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities locally and nationally. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Letter of Support *

Attach a file:

Letter of support should include brief comments against the selection criteria.

Image and biography

* indicates a required field

If you are the successful awardee, a clear headshot and short biography is required for use on conference promotional materials and at the award ceremony.

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Applicant biography *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Upload a clear, high resolution headshot. *

Attach a file:

End of application

Thank you

Please ensure your application has been completed and submitted in full. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact the team via conference@lowitja.org.au