

2011 LexisNexis | ALTA Award

for Excellence and Innovation in the Teaching of Law

FAQs

What is the purpose of this award?

To recognise and reward a university teacher in our region who demonstrates excellence and innovation in the teaching of Law including:

- Curriculum advancement and pedagogical improvements in their courses;
- Engagement with students in order to achieve outstanding learning outcomes;
- Innovation of learning design including the use of technology to achieve improved learning results for students.

Who is eligible to enter?

To enter either category you must be currently teaching at a university in Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific or Papua New Guinea. You may nominate for only one Category. For these purposes an “Early Career teacher” is one who has no more than five years’ experience teaching in a higher education setting in Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific or Papua New Guinea. This should be interpreted as five consecutive calendar years and includes all tutoring, part-time teaching, and teaching at more than one higher education institution. The panel will consider the career stage of nominees in this category when assessing criterion 4.

What is the award?

The winner of the major category will:

- receive an engraved medal and a cash award of \$AU 4000;
- receive one year ALTA membership;
- be invited to participate on the judging panel the following year;
- be invited to present on legal education at an ALTA event, such as a Teaching Workshop or the annual conference;
- be invited to write a brief article in relation to the award, which will be made available through both the LexisNexis and ALTA websites.

The winner of the Early Career teacher category will:

- receive an engraved medal and a cash award of \$AU1000;
- receive one year ALTA membership;
- be invited to present on legal education at an ALTA event, such as a Teaching Workshop or the annual conference.

How do I enter?

Complete the entry form available at LNA, LNNZ or ALTA website and include the following:

- A curriculum vitae (3 pages maximum) with at least the following suggested headings (Employment History; Awards, Committee Membership, Learning & Teaching publications).
- A General Statement (100-150 words) establishing teaching context and philosophy.
- A statement of no more than 2000 words supporting the criteria;
- Cover letter clearly stating what evidence has been included;
- An evidence portfolio supporting the statement (not more than 20 pages). This portfolio may include screen captures of resources you have developed; summaries of student evaluations and peer review of course material and teaching. Where student evaluations are summarised, please ensure the number of students surveyed is included; A soft copy of the entry is to be made available or three printed copies;
- Support for your nomination with testimony from two colleagues addressing the criteria (each no more than one page long);
- Support for your nomination with testimony from two students who have participated in your classes (each no more than one page long).

The statement addressing the criteria should be clearly cross referenced with material in the evidence portfolio, testimonials and any other resources.

Sending your entries:

- Electronic copies of the entry form and supporting materials should be forwarded to Kim Thomson at kim.thomson@lexisnexis.com.au
- You may support your entry by a CD, DVD or USB containing resources by sending four copies to:
Kim Thomson
LexisNexis Australia
Tower 2, 475 Victoria Avenue,
Chatswood, NSW 2067
- If you wish to support your entry with on-line resources you should provide the judges with the relevant url and any necessary passwords.

Please do not send copies of original student survey forms, books, or VHS tapes in support of your entry.

How will my entry be assessed?

A judging panel will be appointed comprising three teaching delegates from ALTA, the ALTA chair, the previous major award winner and two representatives from LexisNexis.

- All entries will be assessed by the panel against the criteria. All four criteria will be given equal consideration.
- In each category a short list will be established;
- An award winner will be selected by the judges and the other short-listed entries will be awarded as finalists.
- The judges may nominate a finalist as highly commended.
- The judging panel's decision will be final.

Nominations that do not specifically address the selection criteria, including the word count, will not be considered.

When will the winners be announced?

- The winners will be announced at the Conference Dinner at the ALTA conference in 2011;
- The award will be presented jointly by a representative of ALTA and a representative from LexisNexis.

What are the key dates I need to know?

- Entries close on Monday, **16 May 2011**.
- The Award will be announced at the ALTA conference dinner on **Tuesday, 5 July 2011**.
- All results will be available on the LexisNexis Australian website by **Friday, 08 July 2011**.

