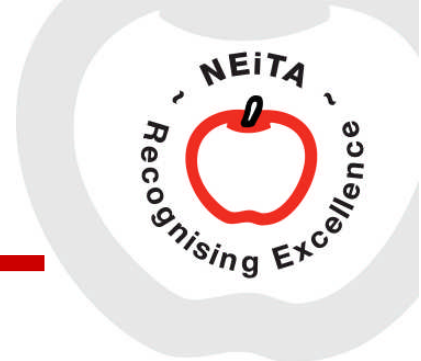


NEiTA FAQs



What is NEiTA?

- ❑ NEiTA - the **National Excellence in Teaching Awards**, is an annual teaching awards program that gives recognition to inspirational and outstanding teaching accomplishments in Australia and New Zealand.
- ❑ NEiTA's *ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards* are unique as they are the only national teaching awards where nominations are made by parents, students, and school communities – making these the 'people's choice' teaching awards. Nominees can include teachers, principals and directors, from the early childhood, primary and secondary education spectrums.
- ❑ NEiTA formed in 1994 as an education initiative of the Australian Scholarships Group (ASG). ASG is Australia's leading friendly society specializing in education benefits.
- ❑ NEiTA's people include; NEiTA Patron, the noted scientist and Australian of the Year 2000, Sir Gustav Nossal; NEiTA Chairman, Mr Terry O'Connell and Vice-Chairman, Dr Arnold Bonnet.

Who can be nominated to receive an award?

- ❑ NEiTA's annual *ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards* are designed to recognise teachers who connect with their students and inspire them to achieve to the best of their abilities.
- ❑ The NEiTA awards program is open to all qualified full-time teachers in primary and secondary schools; and to qualified early childhood teachers (who teach preschool programs for at least 20 hours a week). Teachers are usually nominated for their commitment, dedication, and outstanding achievements within the teaching profession.
- ❑ NEiTA has a new leadership category, which recognises the important role school leaders play in encouraging great teaching in schools and centres. Nominees can include principals, deputy principals, and centre directors, as well as the many other forms of school leaders, from team or house leaders, to department heads etc.

Who can nominate?

- ❑ Parents, school, and early childhood communities can nominate through their school council, committee of management, parent association, or secondary student council. Parents can also nominate teachers, principals and directors independently.
- ❑ When a nomination is received, verification of the nominated teacher is obtained from the school's principal or Committee of Management. NEiTA then invites the nominated teacher to take part in the next level of the awards program. All nomination details are kept private.

How do I nominate a teacher?

- ❑ Nominating a teacher, principal or director is easy and simple. You can nominate online at: www.neita.com.au and click on the *Nominate Now!* link. Alternatively, you can request a nomination form by mail, email or fax. Contact NEiTA by phone: 1800 624 487 or email: neita@asg.com.au or fax: 03 9276 7798.

When do nominations close?

- ❑ All nominations for the NEiTA 2010 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards must be received by **Friday 30 July 2010**.

Why should I nominate?

- Nominating a teacher for an award is a celebration for the whole school community.
- A great teacher is an inspiration to generations of current and future teachers.
- Nominations keep the focus on high standards of education in our schools.
- Grants and prizes promote professional development.
- Great teachers change the future today and they deserve recognition.

What are the prizes?

The awards program includes three levels of awards:

1. Certificates of Nomination

- Every valid nomination will receive a NEiTA 2010 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards nomination certificate.

2. State and Territory Awards

- There are 60 State and Territory awards and all nominees who receive a Nomination Certificate are invited to take part in their relevant State and Territory awards program. After going through the selection process, each State and Territory Award recipient will receive an engraved plaque and commemorative award certificate.

3. National Award and Grant

- State and Territory award recipients will be short-listed for one of 10 national awards relating to the categories of; leadership and development, innovation, and community engagement.
- National award recipients receive a specially crafted NEiTA crystal apple trophy and an ASG grant of \$5000—to be used for their professional development or a chosen project.
- One exceptional national award recipient will also be selected to participate in the International Space Camp, held at the US Space and Rocket Center, Alabama, USA. The teacher selected will represent Australia, and join around 80 international 'Teachers of the Year' recipients.

When are the Award recipients announced?

- Recipients of the NEiTA 2010 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards will be announced in October 2010.

How are State and Territory Award recipients selected?

- When NEiTA receives a valid nomination, the nominee is asked to complete a questionnaire on their teaching background, experience and accomplishments. A selection panel examines each submission, which includes any supporting documents from the early childhood center or school, to determine the 60 nominated teachers who will receive an *ASG Inspirational State and Territory Award*.

How are NEiTA National Award recipients selected?

- To be considered for a national award, a selection panel will determine a number of short-listed teachers from the State and Territory Award recipients. Short-listed teachers are asked to submit an essay and video on their teaching expertise. The national selection panel assesses each submission to determine National Award recipients.

What does a 'valid' and approved' nomination mean?

- For a nomination to be seen as 'valid', it must be verified by the NEiTA Secretariat by the closing date and be verified by the nominee's school principal or Committee of Management.

***** ends *****

For more information, please contact:

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