



Ministerial Award for Cardiovascular Research Excellence

2026 Guidelines and Application Form



Instructions to applicants

Please read the instructions carefully before completing the application form. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Closing Date: 5pm, Friday 20 November 2026

Background

The Ministerial Awards for Cardiovascular Research are presented annually at the NSW Cardiovascular Research Network Showcase and Ministerial Awards ceremony to recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions to research in cardiovascular diseases, including diabetes, stroke, and renal disease.

The Ministerial Award for Cardiovascular Research Excellence was established to recognise distinguished researchers for their life-long achievement and contribution to breakthroughs in cardiovascular disease.

Application for this Award is by nomination by a senior researcher, senior executive or peer in a similar or related field of research.

Who can be nominated?

Any senior scientist, researcher, clinician or health services specialist currently working within NSW who has made outstanding contributions to cardiovascular research, has a proven track record of collaborations, and evidence of successful translated outcomes, in at least the last ten years.

Selection criteria

Achievement excellence in cardiovascular research as demonstrated by the researcher's track record.

This must include, but is not limited to:

- A demonstrated and distinguished career of research excellence in medical, clinical, public health or basic sciences, cited publications in peer reviewed journals, competitive research grant success, awards and prizes, and other examples of research productivity, over at least the last ten years based on academic and employment record.

- Contribution to enhancing the CVD research environment in NSW.
- A track record of successful research collaborations.
- Successfully translated research outcomes which have contributed to health outcomes.
- Demonstrated contribution to providing an excellent research training environment and exemplary mentorship to nurture early- to mid-career researchers.

Eligibility criteria

The Ministerial Award for Research Excellence is open to residents of NSW working on research in cardiovascular disciplines, including diabetes, stroke, and renal disease.

Note:

- Only individual researchers are eligible (not research teams).
- The Nominee must be a member of the NSW Cardiovascular Research Network (CVRN) and, preferably, be employed at an NSW CVRN Member Organisation. If not yet a member of the NSW CVRN, it is free to [join](#).
- Nominees should currently be working in NSW and be committed to carrying out their research/work in NSW in 2027.
- Nominees must either be permanent residents or citizens of Australia.
- Self-nominations are not eligible.

Nomination requirements

Nominators of individuals for the award should hold a senior research or executive position and be from a similar or related field to that of the nominee.

Nomination forms should be completed by the Nominator and Nominee. A completed form should include:

- Nominator's reference and statement
- An outline by the Nominee of their research;
- Nominee's full resume or curriculum vitae and key publications (maximum 5 page) completed by the Nominee.
- Names and contact details of 2 referees.

Entries with insufficient documentation, documentation in excess of requirements, or those

received after the closing date, will not be considered. Submitted material will not be returned.

Renominations

Past nominees who were not selected for a Ministerial Award may be re-nominated, provided their nomination is updated to reflect achievements and contributions since the original nomination.

Previous Ministerial Award recipients are not eligible for re-nomination and cannot receive the same award more than once.

Selection procedure

The CVRN Ministerial Award Review Committee (Review Committee) may include representatives from the CVD research community, both within NSW and nationally. The degree and value of the contribution, collaborations and research translation rather than merely length of service, is the primary focus of the Review Committee's consideration.

The Review Committee will shortlist nominees against the selection criteria. From the shortlist, the Review Committee will reach their decision on the recipient of this award solely on the material submitted by the Nominees and Nominators and in some circumstances a testimonial provided by their nominated referees. The deliberations of the Review Committee will remain confidential. The decisions of the Review Committee in the selection of the Award recipients are final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

Referees

If required, the Review Committee may contact referees who would be in a position to comment directly on the Nominee's service.

Award

The recipient of the Ministerial Award for Cardiovascular Research Excellence will receive a framed certificate alongside public and peer recognition at the NSW CVRN Showcase and Ministerial Awards (Showcase).

The recipient will also receive a cash prize of \$10,000 paid to their institution's research administration office; intended to support their research or to attend a conference relevant to their research.



Privacy legislation

Individuals, investigators, or research institutions associated with NSW CVRN Ministerial Awards shall abide by the current [NHMRC Guidelines](#) issued pursuant to Section 95 of the Privacy Act 1988. All applications will be treated confidentially and will only be viewed by reviewers, review committees, and NSW CVRN staff.

Closing date

All nominations must be received by 5pm AEDT on Friday 20 November 2026. Following receipt, each nomination will be thoroughly checked, and referees contacted as necessary. When all relevant information has been obtained, the nomination is submitted to the Review Committee for consideration.

When are recipients advised?

Shortlisted Nominees will be notified approximately two months prior to the Showcase. Shortlisted Nominees may be requested to participate in promoting and marketing of the Awards and Showcase, prior to the ceremony.

The recipient of the Award will be announced at the Showcase.

Following the Showcase, the recipient will be advised officially in writing of the offer of the award. The name of the successful Award recipient will be published on the NSW CVRN (Heart Foundation) website.

The Showcase will be held in May 2027 (Date TBC).

Are nominators advised?

Nominators are advised of the outcome of their nomination coincident with notification of shortlisted nominees.

More information or help

If you have any questions or require guidance, please contact Dr Shamona Eaves, NSW CVRN Manager (Shamona.eaves@heartfoundation.org.au).

Nomination Form

Nominee Details

Title First Name Surname

Current Appointment

Current Institution

Degrees and Decorations

Preferred contact number Email

Research Area (Basic-Biomedical / Clinical Medicine and Science / Public Health/ Data Sciences / Health Services)

Current Research Interests (key phrases only)

Signature

Date

Nominator's Details

Please provide your contact details to enable officers of the Review Committee to seek further information, if required.

Title		First Name		Surname	
Current Appointment					
Current Institution					
Degrees and Decorations					
Preferred contact number		Email			

Describe the nature of the Nominator's relationship with their Nominee

Signature		Date	
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Nominator’s Reference - to be completed by the Nominator

Briefly outline how the nominee has made a significant positive impact on the cardiovascular health of NSW community members. Include a statement in your own words about why you think the person should be singled out for special recognition by this Ministerial Award.

Maximum 200 words

Nominee's Statement - to be completed by the Nominee

Please provide a statement which addresses why the nominee's contributions to cardiovascular scientific/medical research are outstanding. **Maximum 2 pages.** You may wish to consider:

- Track record of research excellence in medical, clinical or basic science based on academic and employment record, cited publications in peer reviewed journals, research and award grant success, and other examples of research productivity.
- Specific contributions to enhancing the research environment in NSW.
- Track record of successful research collaborations.
- Research translation into health outcomes.
- The degree, value and significance of the contribution to health outcomes, collaborations and research translation above and beyond the nominee's peers.
- Contribution to providing an excellent research training environment and exemplary mentorship to nurture early- to mid-career researchers.



Nominee's CV and Key Publications - to be completed by the Nominee

Please complete this Nomination Form including contact details of the Nominee and Nominator, the Nominator's Reference and Nominator Statement.

Please attach:

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A full resume or curriculum vitae of the Nominee including a list of key publications (Maximum 5 pages)

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Name and contact details of two referees.

Completing and Submitting Nomination

Please include:

- Nominee's and Nominator's contact details
- Nominator's Reference Statement
- Nominee's Statement.
- Nominee's curriculum vitae including a list of key publications (max 5 pages)
- Names and contact details of two referees.

Incomplete submissions will not be considered by the Selection Committee

To Submit: Please email to CVRN@heartfoundation.org.au

Nominations must be received by 5pm AEDT on Friday 20 November 2026

Your Personal Information is being or has been collected by the National Heart Foundation of Australia ABN 98 008 419 761 (Heart Foundation, we, us, our) to facilitate services requested by you and/or to keep you informed about

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