

PowerHousing Academy Scholarships and National Awards 2024 Nomination Information



PowerHousing Australia
Awards Principal Partner



About the awards

The PowerHousing Academy Scholarships and National Awards is PowerHousing Australia's most prestigious and commemorative event of the year.

They are designed to showcase the individuals, teams, programs, developments, and partnerships across the PowerHousing membership whose significant achievements have gone beyond expectations and have set new sector standards for excellence and innovation.

The Awards dinner allows Members and invited guests to connect and celebrate the accomplishments of staff and organisations who have brought people together, provided outstanding support, and created innovative changes that have enhanced the lives of their colleagues and tenants, their organisations, and the wider sector.

Our Awards are part of our larger PowerHousing Academy which assists future leaders in the community housing sector to further develop their skills and enhance their experience through a range of professional development opportunities.

The winners will be announced at the PowerHousing Academy Scholarships and National Awards ceremony held at **The National Arboretum, Canberra on Tuesday the 19 November 2024.**

Why nominate?

The **PowerHousing Academy Scholarships and National Awards** provide a platform to recognize outstanding achievements in the community housing sector at the national level. Nominated individuals, teams, programs, developments, and partnerships receive significant recognition for their exceptional efforts in promoting best practices in social and affordable housing.

Completing the nomination form will require a small investment of time but the benefits for nominees and their organizations are substantial.

These awards celebrate the remarkable stories of sector champions and highlight their inspiring contributions to the community housing field.

Award and scholarship winners have significant opportunities afforded to them, which include:

- 1. Official Recognition:** Whether you're a winner, runner-up, highly commended, or nominee, your achievements will be celebrated nationwide.
- 2. National Exposure:** Shine on the PowerHousing Australia website, in the Powerful Housing newsletter, and across promotional materials—reaching audiences both locally and internationally.
- 3. Scholarship Funds:** Individual award winners, runners-up, and highly commended recipients gain access to nominated scholarship funds for further education and training.
- 4. Expert Mentoring:** Benefit from professional guidance by sector or industry leaders.
- 5. Global Connections:** Explore local and international immersion opportunities.
- 6. Sector Engagement:** Contribute to PowerHousing Australia's national Roundtables, Communities of Practice and Working Groups.

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The PowerHousing Academy Scholarships and Awards for 2024 are:

Individual Awards with Scholarships



1
Outstanding
Achievement Award



Rising Star Award



Excellence in Customer
Service and Business
Support Award

Organisational Awards

4

Tenant Engagement and
Social Inclusion Award

5



Team Leadership
and Culture Award

Team Awards



Government Program
Collaboration Award



Modernisation of a Built
Form Development Award



Business Partner Award

The nomination process

Nominations for the 2024 PowerHousing Academy Scholarship and National Awards must be received by close of business, **Thursday 19 September 2024**.

To nominate for our individuals, teams, or organisations awards, please complete the online nomination form which can be found at www.powerhousingexchange.com. Nominations are to be limited to **1,500 words or less**.

Along with your nomination, please include a **separate** (individual file) **high resolution JPEG image (300 pixels per inch or more)**.

An independent panel of judges will assess all nominations. Additionally, an independent external moderator will be appointed to ensure thematic consistency of the judges' choices.

Winners, Runners Up and Highly Commended recipients of our Individual Awards will receive an Academy Scholarship with the scholarship amount disclosed under each category description below. The scholarships are designed to support our members and their staff with continuous professional development. Scholarship funds have a 2-year validation period. If funds are not utilised before their expiry date, they are returned to the PowerHousing Academy for reallocation.

Please only submit one nomination per category per organisation.

Previous nominations that have not received a winner, runner up, and/or highly commended status are welcome to resubmit. Please review the checklist of 'Things to Include' before submitting your nominations.

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1 Category One Outstanding Achievement Award (Individual Award with Scholarship)



Award description

The Outstanding Achievement Award is a prestigious honour that recognises individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, hard work, and contribution professionally. This award is given to those who have made significant impacts in their roles, their organisations, the community housing sector, and society at large.

The winner receives a scholarship to the value of \$2,000 to further enhance their professional development. The runner up receives \$1,000 in scholarship funds, and highly commended nominees will receive a \$750 scholarship.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, nominations should highlight two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominee has exhibited:

- innovation and excellence in practice.
- the ability to work inclusively within their organisation and the wider community.
- positive relations with tenants.
- a successful working relationship with business and community partners.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominee has:

- made a real difference over a sustained period to increase and/or improve housing outcomes for tenants.
- accomplished achievements that have resulted in significant value added to their organisation and/or the wider community.
- made a positive contribution to the mission, goals and/or advocacy of their organisation and/or the community housing sector.

Examples of evidence include:

Nominee's contribution, letter/s of recommendation, a high-level work product.

Award specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Outstanding Achievement Award Category, the nominee must:

- be an individual whose contribution has resulted in real benefits to their organisation, tenants, community, and/or the broader housing sector.

Considerations to assist with nominating

- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has demonstrated their ability to go beyond their usual scope of work?
- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has shown themselves to be a positive example to others in 2024?
- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has advanced the profile of the community housing sector?

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2 Category Two Rising Star Award (individual Award with Scholarship)



Award description

The Rising Star Award recognises and celebrates up-and-coming staff who are within the initial stages of their community housing careers. Nominees of this Award are individuals whose performance reflects ongoing and exceptional growth, has benefited their organisation, and have demonstrated increased levels of leadership, responsibility, and impact that exceeds expectations of their current roles. While eligible nominees have not yet reached a senior or chief-level position, their track-record reflects a strong career trajectory with the possibility of forward advancement and potential for appointment at the highest levels of the profession.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, nominations should present two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominee has exhibited:

- initiative, creativity, and resourcefulness in their everyday work.
- initiative-taking and/or innovative behaviours that have exceeded beyond their current role.
- an exceptional ability to develop positive relations and work inclusively within their organisation, and within the wider community.
- remarkable leadership potential.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominee has:

- provided positive outcomes in projects, publications, activities, or initiatives that, in total, demonstrate exceptional early and ongoing achievement.
- demonstrated leadership capabilities that have resulted in significant value delivered to the nominating organisation.
- contributed a sustained and positive impact on their tenants and/or the community housing sector.
- a portfolio of work that demonstrates an increasing level of responsibility, both internal and external to their organisation.
- made a real difference over a sustained period to increase and/or improve the housing outcomes for tenants.

Examples of evidence include:

Nominee's contribution, letter/s of recommendation, a high-level work product.

Award specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Rising Star Award Category, the nominee must:

- **not** currently part of the Executive or Management team, but who has demonstrated potential through their work to be a leader in the organisation or sector.
- be a younger staff member within the first ten years of their community housing careers.

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Considerations to assist with nominating

- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who is new to the community housing sector who has gone beyond their usual scope of work?
- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has shown exceptional leadership potential in 2024?
- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has advanced the profile of the community housing sector?

Ongoing program for Rising Star nominees and the Rising Star Award recipients:

Rising Star nominees will:

- be officially recognised as part of the 2024 Rising Star Alumni cohort.
- be invited to participate in the Emerging Leaders and Rising Star Working Group.
- have the opportunity to engage in CHP CEO Mentoring and CHP Management Coaching sessions.
- be invited to potential future career supporting engagements as available.
- receive a rising star discount each year on PowerHousing Australia's annual conference ticket.

Rising Star Award Winner will, in addition to opportunities listed for nominees above:

- will receive a \$3,000 PowerHousing Academy Scholarship towards professional development of their choosing, subject to organisation and PowerHousing approval.
- be provided with the option for additional structured mentoring from sector and/or industry leaders.
- with support from PowerHousing staff, chair (or co-chair) the three Emerging Leaders and Rising Star Working Group online meetings in 2025.

Rising Star Runner Up will, in addition to opportunities listed for nominees above:

- Have access to all rising star nominees' opportunities listed above and
- Receive a \$1,000 PowerHousing Academy Scholarship towards professional development of their choosing, subject to organisation and PowerHousing approval.

Rising Star Highly Commended recipients will, in addition to opportunities listed for nominees above:

- Have access to all rising star nominees' opportunities listed above and
- Receive a \$750 PowerHousing Academy Scholarship towards professional development of their choosing, subject to organisation and PowerHousing approval.

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3 Category Three Excellence in Customer Service and Business Support Award (Individual Award with Scholarship)



Award description

The Excellence in Customer Services and Business Support Award recognizes an individual that has consistently demonstrated outstanding dedication and commitment to providing exceptional customer service and comprehensive business support. The recipient of this award has gone beyond their regular duties, setting new standards in responsiveness, professionalism, and overall customer satisfaction. Their efforts have significantly contributed to the success and growth of their organisation, making them a true asset to the organization.

The winner receives a scholarship to the value of \$2,000 to further enhance their professional development. The runner up receives \$1,000 in scholarship funds, and highly commended nominees will receive a \$750 scholarship.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, the nominations should present two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominee has exhibited:

- innovation and excellence in organisational, strategical and/or customer experience practices and processes.
- an exceptional ability to work inclusively within their organisation, and within the wider community.
- and developed positive and successful working relations with key business partners and other external stakeholders.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominee has:

- made a real difference over a sustained period to increase and/or improve the housing or service outcomes for tenants.
- made a real difference over a sustained period to improve the business processes and practices for staff within their organisation.
- demonstrated exceptional customer service and/or business support capabilities that have resulted in significant value being delivered to the nominating organisation.
- made a contribution which shows a sustained and positive impact on the organisation's tenants and customers, staff, and/or the community housing sector.

Examples of evidence include:

Nominee's contribution, letter/s of recommendation, a high-level work product.

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Award specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Excellence in Customer Services and Business Support Award Category, the nominee must:

- be an individual whose contribution to their organisation has resulted in real benefits to the organisation in either a customer service or a business support role.

Considerations to assist with nominating

- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has participated in the implementation of a new system or process that shows best practice?
- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has shown themselves to be a positive example to others in 2024?
- Does your organisation have an individual staff member who has advanced the customer service experience offered by your organisation?

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4 Category Four Tenant Engagement and Social Inclusion Award (Team Award)

Award description

The Tenant Engagement and Social Inclusion Award celebrates teams that have developed and implemented inclusive practices, programs, or initiatives. Their efforts have resulted in greater support, improved access, enhanced representation, increased participation, or a stronger sense of belonging for both staff and tenants.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, the nominations should present two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominated team has exhibited:

- innovation in tenant engagement and social inclusion practices.
- and developed positive relations with tenants.
- and developed genuine avenues for tenant input and incorporated tenant input into organisational processes and/or programs.
- and developed opportunities for tenants to connect with and participate in their community.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominated team has:

- provided successful and sustainable social, economic, and housing outcomes for tenants and customers.
- driven successful practices in community development and social inclusion.
- demonstrated exceptional community development and/or social inclusion capabilities that have resulted in significant value delivered to the nominating organisation.
- had a sustained and positive impact on the organisation's local community and the community housing sector.

Examples of evidence include:

Photo collages, links to relevant webpages and social media, marketing materials, program and project reports.

Awards specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Tenant Engagement and Social Inclusion Award Category, the nomination must:

- Organisation Teams can self-nominate with the approval of a CEO or Senior Manager.
- Recognise an outstanding program that contributes to tenant enrichment and/or encompasses social inclusion within the local community that results in improved community development.

Considerations to assist with nominating

- Does your organisation have a team who has implemented a successful tenant engagement program?
- Does your organisation have a team who has shown innovation and improvement in tenant engagement and/or social inclusion practices?
- Does your organisation have a team who has advanced the tenant profile of your organisation?

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5 Category Five Team Leadership and Culture Award (Team Award)



Award description

The Team Leadership and Culture Award celebrates teams that have collaboratively developed and led innovative internal programs. These initiatives significantly enhance workplace culture, promote mental well-being among staff and tenants, and improve workplace health and safety within their organisation.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, the nominations should present two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominated team has exhibited:

- innovation in organisational leadership and/or workplace culture practices.
- built, and/or enhanced the resilience capabilities of the staff within the organisation.
- an active provision of wellbeing awareness and support to staff and tenants.
- clear cultural diversity and employee inclusion in their workplace structure, duties, and responsibilities.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominated team has:

- provided a significant positive impact on the wellbeing and mental health awareness of staff and clients.
- achievements have resulted in a significant improvement in employee performance and organisational culture.
- developed programs and/or practices that have successfully increased the resilience capability of the staff in the community housing sector.

Examples of evidence include:

Photo collages, links to relevant webpages and social media, marketing materials, program and project reports.

Award specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Team Leadership and Culture Award Category, the nomination must:

- Demonstrates exceptional effort in workplace leadership and/or genuine innovation for encouraging a positive workplace environment.

Considerations to assist with nominating

- Does your organisation have a team that has implemented a successful positive workplace culture initiative?
- Does your organisation have a team that has shown innovation and improvement in promoting workplace resilience and performance?
- Does your organisation have a team that demonstrates an exceptional effort in increasing awareness of employee wellbeing and participation?

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Category Six

Government Program Collaboration Award (Organisation Award)



Award description

The Government Program Collaboration Award recognizes and celebrates programs or projects that demonstrate positive collaborative efforts between PowerHousing Australia Members and either the State or the Commonwealth Government. These initiatives exemplify effective engagement and cooperation, benefiting both parties and contributing to the community housing sector.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, the nominations should present two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominated partnered program or project has exhibited:

- innovation practices in government/ organisation collaboration.
- outstanding leadership when partnering with agencies.
- and developed positive relations with tenants, government agencies, and the broader community.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominated partnered program or project has, through a successful government/ organisation collaboration:

- enhanced housing or services outcomes for tenants and their communities.
- resulted in significant value being delivered to the nominating organisation.
- made a sustained and positive contribution to the provision of affordable housing in communities.

Examples of evidence include:

Summarised project document/s, links to relevant webpages and social media, marketing materials.

Award specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Government Program Collaboration Award Category, the nomination must:

- Recognise a project or a program that demonstrates industry leadership and/or genuine innovation in partnership with a State or Commonwealth Government.

Considerations to assist with nominating

- Does your organisation have a team that engages in a project, program, or partnership with the Government of which you are proud?
- Do you view this collaboration as a model partnership that exemplifies best practices and can be duplicated elsewhere?
- Is this project, program, or partnership the exemplar of CHP and Government partnership?

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7 Category Seven Modernisation of a Built Form Development Award (Organisation Award)



Award description

The Modernisation of a Built Form Development Award celebrates exceptional new or revitalized built-form development projects. These projects stand out for their groundbreaking innovations, industry-leading environmental practices, universal design elements, and contributions to overall well-being.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, the nominations should present two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominated project has exhibited:

- innovation and best practice in the development and delivery of the built form.
- outstanding leadership within organisation and with partnering agencies.
- and developed positive relations with tenants, partnering organisations, associates and services, and the broader community.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominated project has

- enhanced housing outcomes for tenants and their communities.
- resulted in significant value being delivered to the nominating organisation.
- made a sustained and positive contribution to an increased provision of affordable housing in the community.

Examples of evidence include:

Summarised project document/s, links to relevant webpages and social media, marketing materials.

Award specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Modernisation of a Built Form Development Award Category, the nomination must:

- Not have been a previous year's winner, runner up or highly commended award recipient in this category.
- Recognise a project, either a new build development or revitalisation, which demonstrates industry leadership and genuine innovation.
- Have a functional built form that clearly demonstrates environmental, universal design and/or wellbeing features considered in its development.

Considerations to assist with nominating

- Has your organisation opened a new building?
- Has your organisation re-developed an existing dwelling?
- Has your organisation improved dwellings to enhance green initiatives?

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8 Category Eight Business Partner Award (Organisation/Partner Award)



Award description

The Business Partner Award recognises and celebrates successful corporate/commercial partnerships which have been established between PowerHousing Australia Members and external corporate/commercial organisations and/or industry consultants, where extraordinary collaboration and dedication have enabled both partners to achieve mutual goals for benefit of all parties and the wider community housing sector.

Award criteria

To address the criteria for this award, the nominations should present two or more of the following characteristics and demonstrated outcomes:

Characteristics

The nominated partnership has exhibited:

- an outstanding working relationship between the nominating organisation and the associated partner.
- a successful receptiveness to the changing needs of the housing sector.
- open and clear relations between parties, with positive prospects for further future collaboration.

Demonstrated outcomes

Evidence that the nominated project has:

- made a sustained and positive contribution to an increased provision of affordable housing in the community.
- enhanced housing outcomes for tenants and their communities.
- resulted in significant value being delivered to the nominating organisation.
- resulted in measurable improvements to the community housing sector.

Examples of evidence include:

Summarised project document/s, links to relevant webpages and social media, marketing materials.

Award specific eligibility

To be eligible to enter the Business Partner Award Category, the nomination must:

- Be nominated by PowerHousing member CEO in conjunction with an Affiliate or business partner.
- Recognise a successful working partnership between a corporate/commercial partner or industry consultant and a PowerHousing member.

Considerations to assist with nominating

- Has your organisation worked with a business partner to deliver a successful project, construction development or tenant service?
- Has your organisation worked with a business partner to enhance the tenant experience of the community housing sector, reduce costs, and provide better services?
- Has your organisation worked with a business partner to promote best practice and innovation?

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Terms and Conditions

Prizes and scholarship funds

- Any Prizes and/or Scholarship Funds are non-transferable.
- Funds must be used for educational and/professional development purposes only. Misuse (e.g., spending on non-educational expenses) may lead to disqualification.
- Scholarship Recipients may be required to participate in events, write thank-you letters, and/or allow their names to be publicised.
- Acknowledgment of scholarship and its impact is encouraged.
- Scholarships are valid for 2 years. Funds that are not utilised before their expiry date are returned to the PowerHousing Academy for reallocation.

General eligibility

- Each organisation is allowed to submit only one nomination per category.
- All Individuals and team nominations must be employees of one of PowerHousing Australia Member organisations.
- All entries must be nominated by the CEO, a senior manager, or an individual chosen by the CEO, unless entering in the individual award categories where individuals can self-nominate with the approval of a CEO or Senior Manager.
- Organisations are welcome to submit entries in as many distinct categories as they desire.
- Previous nominations that have not received a winner, runner up, and/or highly commended status are welcome to resubmit.
- Winner, Runner Up, and/or Highly Commended nominations are not eligible for resubmission.
- All entries must be submitted via the online Nomination form.
- Entries must stick to the word limit on the online nomination form. Nominees are reminded that judges will not consider formatting or presentation of entries.
- Nominees must include at least one high resolution JPEG image (300 pixels per inch or more) to support their submission.
- All nominations and contents will remain the property of PowerHousing Australia and may be used for publicity.
- Please note entries are exclusive to the PowerHousing Academy Scholarships and National Awards and no details private or professional will be distributed to outside contacts.
- The judge's decision is final, and no communication will be entered into concerning the final decision.
- PowerHousing Australia reserves the right to publish the results and winner details.
- The finalists should be available to attend the PowerHousing Academy Scholarships and National Awards Gala Dinner to be held in Canberra at the National Arboretum on Tuesday, 19 November 2024.
- All entries must be received by 5:00 pm (AEST) on Thursday 19 September 2024.



**PowerHousing
Australia**

Contact Us

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