ENTRY GUIDE

THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2020
BALLSBRIDGE HOTEL, DUBLIN

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The Education Awards

A new programme for recognising excellence in the third level education sector in Ireland.

Launched in 2016, The Education Awards will recognise, encourage and celebrate excellence in the third level education sector on the island of Ireland from both State and privately funded institutions.

The award categories are designed to highlight the key areas that impact upon student performance and provide opportunities for educational institutions, their employees and contributors to have their achievements recognised across the various important facets of their operations.

Being shortlisted for an Education Award is an achievement in itself and gives you the chance to showcase your strengths to the whole sector and prospective new students.

The awards ceremony itself also offers a unique PR opportunity to make new connections and strengthen existing ties.

Shortlisted entrants will have their national profiles raised just by making the final, and winners will receive coverage in the national press. And of course, there’s the beautiful trophy which the successful entrants will take away on the night.

There is no charge to enter the awards so get your thinking cap on and start putting your entries together!

We wish all our entrants the best of luck and we look forward to receiving your entries.

Entering

There are 27 categories to choose from:

- Best College of Business
- Best College of Science & Engineering
- Best College of Medicine
- Best College of Arts & Social Science
- Best Language School
- Best Further Education Provider
- Best Third Level Institution
- Best Erasmus Programme
- Best International Third Level Institution
- International College Achievement Award
- Best International Collaboration Project
- Best Business & Third Level Institution Collaboration
- Best Marketing / Communications Team
- Best International Marketing Team
- Best Library Team
- Best Academic Partnership
- Excellence in the Provision of Professional Services
- Best Student Experience Award
- Best Student Campus Award
- Career Impact Strategy Award
- Best Online Learning Experience
- Best Education Outreach Award
- Student Engagement & Communications Award
- Business Collaboration Award
- Best Use of Educational Technology/ICT Initiative of the Year
- Best Research Project
- Best Green Campus Award
- Best Estates / FM Team
- Best Graduate Training Programme
- Best International Research Project Collaboration

How to Enter

It is free to enter The Education Awards.

When completing your entry, please follow these rules:

- All activities cited in support of your entries must have been ongoing within the past 12 months from the closing date of these awards.

- Please ensure your submission fits onto no more than 5 A4 pages in portrait PDF format, including supporting materials such as pictures, graphs, tables etc.

- Please answer each of the key criteria points allocated to the category that you are entering. This is what the judges base their scores on. Back up your key points with other information such as tables, graphics, figures, pictures etc.

- You may enter as many categories as are relevant, however each entry must be tailored to meet the category criteria.

- The entering party does not have to be a resident in the ROI or NI, but the projects that support their entry must have taken place in these areas.

You will need the following to complete your entry:

- Your 5 A4 page PDF entry document.

- A 50 word summary of your entry. This may be used in full in our Awards booklet or in our script. It must be relevant to the category you are entering. So, if you are entering a project, the summary must be about the project, if you are entering a person, it must be about that person.

- 2 high resolution landscape photos (300 dpi) relevant to your entry and the category you are entering. So, if you are entering a project, the photos must be about the project, if you are entering a person, they must be of that person. No graphics/collages/logos/watermarks.

- These will be used as part of the AV presentation on the night, so choose photos that you are proud to display.

- A jpeg version of your organisation logo

- The name of the person who will accept the trophy on your behalf in the event you should win. This may be used in post Awards media coverage.

- Please note: All of the above items will be required in order to submit your entry, and you will not be able to modify your entry once uploaded.
1. Read the criteria and make sure you answer each point. The judges use the criteria points as a basis for their scores, so make sure you touch on each criteria point. You can use additional facts, figures and information to back up or add to these points. By following the criteria you stand a better chance of scoring highly and make the judge’s job easier!

2. Enter the right categories. Some organisations seem to enter certain categories, and then ignore the one that they would stand a much better chance of winning. To start, look through the categories carefully and choose the most relevant to you. This will give you a better chance of winning.

3. Facts are very powerful; and waffle or generalities cut very little ice with the judges. There are lots of ways of presenting data, and one may look a lot stronger than the others. We’re not advocating you twist the truth; but we do feel it’s within the rules for you to make the strongest possible case for your organisation.

4. Don’t write more than you’ve been asked to supply. There is a limit on the number of pages you can submit (5 A4 Pages). Don’t go above this as the judges won’t read reams of supporting information. In the same way don’t do ultra-minimal entries and simply rely on your profile to get yourself noticed.

5. Put yourself in the judges’ shoes. Think about what would really impress them? What makes you special and distinctive? Our judges are all senior people and you need to think about your entry from their perspective. In many cases we see entries prepared by junior members of the team who can miss key selling points. The best entries have input from someone at Board level.

6. Check everything carefully. Many entries include fundamental errors – mainly spelling or grammatical errors.

7. Phone a friend. The events team working on the awards are happy to talk through draft entries and are always willing to give guidance. So if you want to try something a bit different, and would like our thoughts on that before you submit your entry give us a call – we’ll do our best to give you a sensible steer.

8. Good presentation pays dividends. You are not judged on how pretty your entry looks, but busy judges are inevitably attracted to easy-to-read, neatly laid out entries. Some of the better submissions include simple, summary bullet points. The best presented entries often incorporate a range of small photographs, clever charts or graphs and other visual material that makes it very easy to absorb and digest.

9. Boast, don’t be modest! Your positive opening words are crucial - so begin with the end! This is the hook which will encourage those judging to delve deeper. Don’t ramble; get to the point, every word should count. Be proud of what you have done, this is one time when it is absolutely right to boast. Testimonials are very powerful too!

10. Promote your organisation. It is not often you are given the chance to generate free publicity; so encourage and praise your team and you might be surprised to discover that you can win one of the most prestigious awards in the sector. And if you win, think of the huge marketing advantage that will give you.

Judges & Judging Process
An independent panel of recognised and expert judges, representing Ireland’s education sector, will determine the winners of The Education Awards. The expert panel of judges will bring their expertise and experience to the judging process.

To view who will be judging this year’s Awards, visit www.educationawards.ie.

Shortlisting
- Once the entry deadline is reached, all entries will be carefully examined and scored using the criteria by the shortlisting panel of experts.
- The highest scoring submissions will be selected to go forward to the shortlist for each category.
- You will receive an email from the Event Team letting you know if your entry was successful or not.
- The shortlist of finalists will be published in the national press and also on the Awards’ website, www.educationawards.ie.

Judging
- Judges are divided into panels, based on their expertise, to ensure any possible conflict is avoided.
- All judges score finalists based on the relevant category criteria.
- Scores are then collected by the event team and collated.
- Scores are sent to the judging coordinator who checks and verifies all scores.
- The highest scoring entrant is declared the winner of that category.

The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in The Ballsbridge Hotel, Dublin, on February 20th.
This award will go to the business school demonstrating the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all business schools in Ireland, both within universities and the private sector.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the school to improve its offering and excel in its field.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the school, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with the business community, and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**

This award will go to the school of science and engineering demonstrating the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all schools of science and engineering in Ireland, both within universities and the private sector.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the school to improve its offering and excel in its field.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the school, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with the business community, and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**
This award will go to the school of medicine demonstrating the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all schools of medicine in Ireland, both within universities and the private sector.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the school to improve its offering and excel in its field.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the school, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with the business community, and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**

This award will go to the school of arts and social science demonstrating the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all schools of art and social science in Ireland, both within universities and the private sector.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the school to improve its offering and excel in its field.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the school, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with the business community, and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**

This award will go to the language school demonstrating the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all language schools in Ireland.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the school to improve its offering and excel in its field.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the school, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with other organisations to assist its students and further their training needs (e.g. internships), and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**
This award will go to the further education provider that has demonstrated the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all further education providers in Ireland, both within universities and the private sector.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the school to improve its offering and excel in its field.

Entry is by a five page (A4) submission. The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

• Organisation background: Please provide a brief description of the school, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

• Performance: Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, learning outcomes, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, employment statistics, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

• Partnerships and collaborations: Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with other organisations to assist its students and further their training needs (e.g. internships), and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

• Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.

This award will go to the third level institution demonstrating the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all third level institutions in Ireland.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the institution to improve its offering, exceed itself, and excel.

Entry is by a five page (A4) submission. The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

• Organisation background: Please provide a brief description of the institution, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

• Performance: Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

• Partnerships and collaborations: Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with the business community, and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

• Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.

This award will go to the Erasmus programme that has brought the highest level of enrichment and growth to its students over the past 12 months. It is open to all Erasmus programmes on offer in Ireland.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have been used to help make the programme engaging, inspiring, and successful.

Entry is by a five page (A4) submission. The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

• Organisation background: Please provide a brief description of the organisation offering the Erasmus programme, such as when it was established, the number of staff and/or students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

• Erasmus programme: Please outline the nature of the Erasmus programme. Include details of partner organisations/countries, the accreditations on offer and the manner in which course credits are transferred/recognised.

• Performance: Provide evidence of exceptional performance throughout the programme against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how your programme stand out from the rest in this competitive area.

• Partnerships and collaborations: Discuss whether any collaboration or partnerships have been established to complement the programme (e.g. internships), and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

• Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.
This award will go to the international third level institution demonstrating the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all third level institutions worldwide.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have helped the institution to improve its offering, to exceed itself, and excel.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the institution, such as when it was established, the number of staff and students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, foreign exchange opportunities, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how you stand out from the crowd in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the school has built partnerships/collaborations with the business community, and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**

This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has showcased Irish education on the world stage over the past 12 months and has encouraged students or delegates to explore broader horizons.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation.

- **Team:** Please give details of any persons involved in the international programme of your organisation. Include their positions, roles within the organisation, and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.

- **Programme:** Outline what steps your organisation has taken to promote itself abroad and to allow students/delegates to travel internationally as part of their studies. This can include any Erasmus programmes or other exchange arrangements with foreign colleges, as well as any other features (such as online presence) that you feel are relevant.

- **Structure:** Outline how your international programme operates. Do you send and receive students? Is there a system in place to determine which students will be accepted into your organisation from foreign colleges and vice versa? Do you also increase the international visibility of your organisation in other ways?

- **Challenges:** Outline any challenges that you face in your international operations. This can include dealing with student visa requirements, as well as funding, bursaries and grants, etc.

- **Strategy:** What is your strategy when it comes to your international programme? What makes it operate smoothly and efficiently? Why do you feel the programme you provide stands out?

- **Development:** Outline any future development plans for your international programme. This can include any future investments or intentions to expand the structure.

This award will go to the international collaboration project that has seen the highest level of enrichment and growth between the relevant organisations over the past 12 months. It is open to all international collaborations worldwide that have contributed to the furthering of education.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have been used to help the organisations work together effectively to create mutual contributions and improvement.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of each organisation, such as when they were established, the number of staff and/or students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance of each organisation against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how your collaboration stand out from the rest in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the collaboration has been established, and outline the benefits it has brought to each organisation involved in it.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**

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This award will go to the collaboration between a business and a third level institution that has seen the highest level of enrichment and growth between both organisations over the past 12 months. It is open to all businesses and third level institutions in Ireland, both within universities and the private sector.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have been used to help the organisations work together effectively to create mutual contributions and improvement.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of each organisation, such as when they were established, the number of staff and/or students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance of each organisation against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how your collaboration stand out from the rest in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the collaboration has been established within the business community, and outline the benefits this has brought to both sides.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**

This award recognises the best marketing and/or communications team within an Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has demonstrated the most outstanding overall performance the past 12 months.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation.

- **Team:** Please give details of all team members. Include their positions and roles within the organisation, academic and professional qualification of staff members, as well as a brief career background in respect of each member.

- **Functions:** Describe the functions carried out by the team. What is their purpose within the organisation? What do their everyday tasks involve?

- **Operations:** Outline how the team carries out its tasks. What measure and practices have they put into place to ensure that the team operates efficiently and effectively? This can include communication methods, accountability, etc.

- **Challenges:** Outline any challenges faced by the team in carrying out their everyday tasks.

- **Achievements:** Please give details of what that team has achieved in the past. What makes them special and worthy of recognition? Have they shown any particular signs of excellence in their tasks?

- **Future plans:** Please give details of any future plans that the team may have. This could include any new tasks to be undertaken, measures to be implemented, or operational infrastructures to be developed.

This award will go to the third level marketing team that has demonstrated the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all third level marketing teams worldwide.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have seen the team work together as a strong unit to promote their institution.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Team background:** Please provide a brief description of the team, such as when it was established, the number of staff it includes, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the services it provides, and the relevant experience of each team member.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance against specific indicators such as innovation, developments, marketing strategies and initiatives. Please also outline how your team stands out from the rest in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the team has created partnerships/ collaborations within the business community to boost the appeal and image of its institution.

- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**
This award recognises the best library team within an Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has demonstrated the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation.
- **Team:** Please give details of all team members. Include their positions and roles within the organisation, academic and professional qualification of staff members, as well as a brief career background in respect of each member.
- **Functions:** Describe the functions carried out by the team. What is their purpose within the organisation? What do their everyday tasks involve?
- **Operations:** Outline how the team carries out its tasks. What measure and practices have they put into place to ensure that the team operates efficiently and effectively? This can include communication methods, accountability, etc.
- **Challenges:** Outline any challenges faced by the team in carrying out their everyday tasks.
- **Achievements:** Please give details of what that team has achieved in the past. What makes them special and worthy of recognition? Have they shown any particular signs of excellence in their tasks?
- **Future plans:** Please give details of any future plans that the team may have. This could include any new tasks to be undertaken, measures to be implemented, or operational infrastructures to be developed.

This award will go to the academic partnership that has seen the highest level of enrichment and growth between each partner over the past 12 months. It is open to all academic partnerships worldwide.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative, bold and creative strategies/initiatives that have been used to help the partners work together effectively to mutually contribute and improvement.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of each partner organisation, such as when they were established, the number of staff and/or students, academic and professional qualification of staff members, the courses and services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.
- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance of each partner organisation against specific indicators such as innovation, infrastructure, teaching and research standards, student experience, alumni relations and development. Please also outline how your collaboration stand out from the rest in this competitive area.
- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss how the partnership has been established and outline the benefits it has brought to both sides.
- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**

This award will go to the provider of professional services that has demonstrated the most outstanding overall performance during the past 12 months. It is open to all professional service providers in Ireland.

Judges will look for evidence of professional excellence, innovation, skill, efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of these services.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Team background:** Please provide a brief description of your organisation, such as when it was established, the number of staff it includes, the academic and professional qualification of staff members, as well as a brief career background in respect of each member.
- **Performance:** Provide evidence of professional excellence, innovation, skill, efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of these services.
- **Collaborations:** Discuss how the collaborate with clients within the Education industry to add value and contribute to its betterment.
- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.**
This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has provided its students with the best student experience over the past 12 months.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.
- **Programme:** What kind of curricula or programmes do you offer? Please detail curricula or programme development, student/delegate numbers and course accreditations and affiliations.
- **Development:** How do the courses prepare or develop the students/delegates for their future careers?
- **Social:** Outline the types of initiatives that have been taken to enrich the social lives of the students. This can include any on- or off-campus clubs, societies or associations.
- **Excellence in Education and Training:** Provide examples where an individual or the institution has gone beyond curricular requirements to facilitate students or delegates.
- **Industry Exposure:** Outline the exposure of students / delegates to the wider community. This may include listings of invited speakers, details of external research, industrial or other relevant institutions nationally and globally.

This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has provided its students with the best student campus over the past 12 months.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.
- **Campus:** Please describe the campus. Outline its size and nature.
- **Facilities:** Outline the facilities that are available to students on campus. This can include sport, leisure, dining, and accommodation facilities, as well as social or educational ones.
- **Excellence:** Explain what makes your facilities stand out. What do they bring to students? How do they enrich their learning experience? Do they help them in their lives on and off campus?
- **Education and Training:** Outline how facilities available on campus have aided students in their studies. Detail any benefits gained from these facilities by students/delegates.
- **Innovations and initiatives:** Has your organisation taken any special measures or implemented initiatives to deal with certain issues arising out of every day operations? Please give details of any innovations.
- **Sustainability:** Does the campus adhere to high standards of sustainability? Is it a green campus? Please give examples of this.

This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has developed and put into practice the most effective and efficient career impact strategy that has been ongoing in the past 12 months.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.
- **Programme:** What courses or programmes are on offer? Please detail curriculum development, student/delegate numbers and course accreditations and affiliations.
- **Development:** How do the courses prepare or develop the students/delegates for their future careers?
- **Strategy:** What measures have been put into place to promote the future careers of students or delegates? This can include training, mentoring, or internship programmes, career fairs, seminars, talks, etc.
- **Industry exposure:** Outline the exposure of students / delegates to the wider community. This may include listings of invited speakers, details of external research, industrial or other relevant institutions nationally and globally.
- **Please provide details on dissemination of studies to the broader community. This may include publications, workshops, student awards or details of any competitions entered and prizes attained.**
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| **Best Online Learning Experience** | This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has developed and integrated the best online learning experience for its students that has been ongoing in the past 12 months. | **Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below: | • Background: Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.  
• Programme: What courses or programmes are on offer? Please detail curriculum development, student/delegate numbers and course accreditations and affiliations.  
• Method: Please describe the functioning of your online tuition. How are the courses delivered? Are there physical classes as well as online tuition? What software is used in delivering the programmes? Are the classes live or pre-recorded?  
• Development: How do the courses prepare or develop the students/delegates for their future careers?  
• Innovation: What innovative tools are being used by your organisation to improve the learning experience and make the process more efficient and effective? What sets you apart from the rest?  
• Strategy: What measures have been put into place to promote the future careers of students or delegates? This can include training, mentoring, or internship programmes, career fairs, seminars, talks, etc.  
• Industry exposure: Outline the exposure of students / delegates to the wider community. This may include listings of invited speakers, details of external research, industrial or other relevant institutions nationally and globally.  
• Please provide details on dissemination of studies to the broader community. This may include publications, workshops, student awards or details of any competitions entered and prizes attained. |
| **Best Education Outreach Award** | This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has developed and put into the place the education outreach programme that has been ongoing in the past 12 months. | **Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below: | • Background: Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.  
• Outreach: What outreach programmes or initiatives did you put in place within the organisation? Outline the size, nature, goals and successes of the programme to date.  
• Method: Please describe how your programme functions. What has made it a success and why do you feel it deserves recognition?  
• Development: Outline any future development plans for the student engagement and communications structure. This can include any future investments or intentions to expand the structure.  
• Strategy: What is your student engagement and communications strategy? What makes it operate smoothly and efficiently? Why do you feel the service you provide stands out? |
| **Student Engagement & Communications Award** | This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has developed and put into practice the most efficient and successful student engagement and communications structure that has been ongoing in the past 12 months. | **Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below: | • Background: Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.  
• Team: Please give details of any persons involved in any engagement or communications teams. Include their positions, roles within the organisation, and academic and professional qualification of staff members.  
• Structure: Outline how your student engagement and communications structure operates. Is there a walk-in service? Are there online facilities?  
• Development: Outline any future development plans for the student engagement and communications structure. This can include any future investments or intentions to expand the structure.  
• Strategy: What is your student engagement and communications strategy? What makes it operate smoothly and efficiently? Why do you feel the service you provide stands out? |
This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has provided its students with the business collaboration during their studies over the past 12 months.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.
- **Programme:** What kind of curriculum or programme links into your business collaboration initiative? Please detail curricula or programme development, student/delegate numbers and course accreditations and affiliations.
- **Development:** How do the courses prepare or develop the students/delegates for their future careers?
- **Value:** Describe how the business collaboration works and what value is added to your student or delegates' learning experiences.
- **Excellence in Education and Training:** Provide examples of how the business collaboration allows students to move beyond the scope of their normal curriculum and enriches their career prospects in broader ways.
- **Industry Exposure:** Outline how your programme has enabled the exposure of students/delegates to the wider community. This may include listings of invited speakers, details of external research, industrial or other relevant institutions nationally and globally.

This award recognises the Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation that has made the best use of educational technology or that has implemented the best ICT initiative over the past 12 months.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Background:** Please outline the size and nature of your organisation and the academic and professional qualification of staff members.
- **Programme:** What kind of curriculum or programme was educational technology or an ICT initiative used in? Please detail curricula or programme development, student/delegate numbers and course accreditations and affiliations.
- **Structure:** How do the courses prepare or develop the students/delegates for their future careers? In what way does the technology or ICT initiative improve the course and aid students in their studies?
- **Value:** Describe how the technology or ICT initiative adds value to the learning experience of students/delegates. Is this a feature that is unique to your organisation?
- **Excellence in Education and Training:** Provide examples of how the technology or ICT initiative allows students to move beyond the scope of their normal curriculum and enriches their educational experience.

This award will go to the research project that has achieved the highest level of progress and delivered significant performance outcomes over the past 12 months. It is open to all research groups and institutions.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative and creative strategies/initiatives that have been used to help the research community make significant progress and successfully deliver project outcomes. This is relevant to all time scales during the project duration. It may be at the conclusion of the research project, or at a specific time period or milestone during the journey of the overall research project duration.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the organisation, such as when it was established, the number of staff, academic and professional qualification of staff members, history of research project completions and in work-in-progress, services provided, and the relevant industry experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.
- **Project description and scale:** Detailed description, project objectives and desired outcomes, funding arrangements, project partners, project timescale (state start, finish date), significant milestones and targets for completion.
- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance on project completion or the attainment of specific milestones against indicators such as innovation, quantitative or qualitative measures and others. Please also outline how your identified research project performance would stand out from the rest of the entries in this competitive area.
- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss partnership and collaborative arrangements that were possibly established and developed during the course of the project. Outline the benefits it has brought to all parties.
- **Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.
This award will go to the campus within an Irish-based third level institution or technical training college that has demonstrated a strong commitment to making a positive environmental impact and contributing to a sustainable future.

You must explain what you have achieved so far and what you hope to achieve in the future. We need evidence of an overall strategy that sets out your targets, your ability to achieve targets on time, how you plan to achieve them and hard statistics demonstrating year-on-year comparisons.

Entry is by a five A4 page submission. The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Initiative outline:** Describe the sustainability efforts in place on your campus. Do you have a Green Committee and/or undertaken an environmental review? Do you have any accreditation, benchmarking or external validation?

- **Commitments:** Describe the commitments (internal or public) and leadership your organisation, particularly top management, has shown in driving the sustainability agenda. Please provide details of any Green Action Plan you have in place and its goals.

- **Processes:** Describe the sustainable processes you have developed in your organisation over the past 12 months to move closer to your sustainability goal.

- **Training:** Describe the training completed to up-skill you and your colleagues to deliver on your stated goals.

- **Outcomes & results:** What have been the practical benefits of your green initiatives? Show measurable outcomes, with comparisons to previous years where possible.

- Please include any other statements or facts that support your entry.

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This award recognises the best estates and/or FM team within an Irish-based third level institution, technical training college or organisation.

**Entry is by a five A4 page submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information, backed up by facts, that pays particular attention to the criteria listed below:

- **Team:** Please give details of all team members. Include their positions and roles within the organisation, as well as a brief career background in respect of each member.

- **Functions:** Describe the functions carried out by the team. What is their purpose within the organisation? What do their everyday tasks involve?

- **Operations:** Outline how the team carries out its tasks. What measure and practices have they put into place to ensure that the team operates efficiently and effectively? This can include communication methods, accountability, etc.

- **Challenges:** Outline any challenges faced by the team in carrying out their everyday tasks.

- **Achievements:** Please give details of what that team has achieved in the past. What makes them special and worthy of recognition? Have they shown any particular signs of excellence in their tasks?

- **Future plans:** Please give details of any future plans that the team may have. This could include any new tasks to be undertaken, measures to be implemented, or operational infrastructures to be developed.

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This award will go to the organisation in Ireland that has been offering a best-in-class graduate training and development programme over the past 12 months.

This is open to graduate schemes operated by employers in all sectors in Ireland, including, but not limited to, retail, FMCG, pharma, legal, accountancy, financial, engineering, IT or property sectors.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Demonstrate how the graduate training programme was developed and outline its objectives.**

- **Provide an overview of how the programme has been implemented over the past 12 months, giving specific examples.**

- **Demonstrate the real business benefits of the programme and ROI, providing positive feedback (i.e internal or external stakeholders) where appropriate.**

- **Demonstrate how the programme benefits the graduate, providing positive feedback (via internal surveys or testimonials) where appropriate.**

- **Provide evidence of how you monitor and measure its success against the stated objectives.**

- **Excellence in Training & Development:** Provide examples where your organisation has gone beyond curricular requirements to facilitate the graduates, including the number of hours per week devoted to training.
This award will go to the international research project that has achieved the highest level of progress and delivered significant performance outcomes over the past 12 months. It is open to all research groups and institutions.

Judges will look for evidence of innovative and creative strategies/initiatives that have been used to help the research community make significant progress and successfully deliver project outcomes. This is relevant to all time scales during the project duration. It may be at the conclusion of the research project, or at any specific time period or milestone during the journey of the overall research project duration.

**Entry is by a five page (A4) submission.** The judges will be looking for clear information backed up by facts, which places particular emphasis on the criteria listed below:

- **Organisation background:** Please provide a brief description of the organisation, such as when it was established, the number of staff, academic and professional qualification of staff members, history of research project completions and in work-in-progress, services provided, and the relevant industry/academic experience, achievements and accreditations on offer.

- **Project description and scale:** Detailed description, project objectives and desired outcomes, funding arrangements, project partners, project timescale (state start, finish date), significant milestones and targets for completion.

- **Performance:** Provide evidence of exceptional performance on project completion or the attainment of specific milestones against indicators such as innovation, quantitative or qualitative measures and others. Please also outline how your identified research project performance would stand out from the rest of the entries in this competitive area.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** Discuss partnership and collaborative arrangements that were established and developed during the course of the project. Outline the unique benefits it has brought to all parties.

- Please include any other statements or facts that you believe will support your entry.
The Awards Night

The Education Awards will take place in the Ballsbridge Hotel, Dublin, on Thursday, February 20th.

The Education Awards is a black tie gala evening where the cream of Ireland’s education community will be recognised and celebrated in front of an audience made up of hundreds of senior executives.

The evening will begin with a drinks reception.

A 3 course meal will then be served in the ballroom.

Once dinner has concluded, we get on to the main event and announce the winners in the Awards Ceremony.

When all winners have been crowned, we finish off the night with entertainment and networking.

Opportunities

Business River is the network solutions arm of Event Strategies. We own a large suite of large, medium and small scale events across many industries.

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There are limited sponsorship opportunities available for this event.

To enquire further please contact

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