



ACT Careers Association Innovation in Career Development Award

The ACT Careers Association – *Innovation in Career Development Award* recognises ACTCA Career Development Practitioner innovation, meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing world in our dynamic and connected community.

In career development, innovation may involve new theories, methods, services, practices, techniques, tools or organisational structures to produce significant and positive change in career development.



ACT Careers Association
Innovation in Career Development Award
INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS

The Award

The ACT Careers Association – *Innovation in Career Development Award* recognises ACTCA Career Development Practitioner innovation, that meets the challenges of a rapidly changing world, in our dynamic and connected community. An innovation may involve new theories, methods, services, practices, techniques, tools or organisational structures to produce significant and positive change in career development.

Innovation categories

Nominations must address at least one innovation category, or can address a number of categories. Categories are:

1. Initiating career development services
2. Improving a career development service for a selected demographic
3. Professionalising the team
4. Embedding cross-sectorial career development collaboration

Career development innovation categories have been sourced from a research article written by Janna Kettunen (2020), Finnish Institute for Educational Research, University of Jyväskylä, Finland. More information about the innovation categories is on Table 1. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10775-021-09509-9>

Nominees and nominators are advised to also utilise the Professional Standards for Australian Career Development Practitioners when writing the nomination.

Nominations

- Nominations for the ACT Careers Association Innovation in Career Development Award must be completed on the nomination form.
- Nomination forms must be submitted to the ACT Careers Association via email before close of business on the last Friday in September.
- Nomination forms must be submitted to the ACTCA Secretary via email actcareersassoc@gmail.com. The ACTCA will acknowledge receipt of a nomination form by emailing both the nominee (candidate) and nominator.
- The nomination form is also available on the ACTCA website www.actcareersassoc.org.au and on request.
- A nomination can be received for a single career development practitioner, two or more career development practitioners involved in the same innovation, or a career development practitioner working with colleagues who do not hold career qualifications.
- Only one nomination may be submitted per nominee.
- Only one nomination may be submitted for a career development innovation.
- Nominations must address at least one category and at least six aspects of career innovation. Table 1.
- Nominations should use innovative career development services or projects from the last 24 months.

Eligibility

- Nominees must be current ACT Careers Association (ACTCA) Professional or Associate members.
- Nominees must be financial members of the ACT Careers Association.
- Nominations must be submitted by an ACTCA member or colleague/manager working with the career practitioner leading the innovation.
- Nominees must be practicing and delivering innovation in an ACT or Capital region workplace.
- The nominee may work independently, with other career development practitioners, or lead a team.
- The nominee must lead the innovation to be eligible for an award.

Nomination Form

All 7 sections of the nomination form must be completed.

- Section 1. One or more **innovation categories** must be identified on the nomination form.
- Section 2. The innovation must have a **name or title**.
- Section 3. Lead career development practitioner and nominee's **contact details**.
- Section 4. The **statement addressing** aspects of innovation. At least **6 of the 10 aspects** should be addressed.
- Section 5. **Summary**
- Section 6. **Nominator's details**
- Section 7. Nomination form is **signed and dated**.

Completing and submitting the form

- Step 1. Download the nomination form.
- Step 2. Complete all sections of the form either electronically or manually.
- Step 3. Sign the form electronically or manually. Both signatures are required.
- Step 4. Save the form using the nominee's name, and the name of the award.
- Step 5. Submit the completed form to the ACTCA committee before the due date.

Award Panel

The winner/s of the award will be decided by a panel of at least three and no more than five independent panel members. The ACTCA president will convene the panel. Panel members will assess each nomination on the responses provided in Section 4 of the nomination form. The panel may deem that more than one nomination may receive an award.

Presentation

The winner/s of the award will be presented with a framed award certificate at the ACTCA End-of-Year Dinner and Awards Presentation.

Award recipient/s

The winning recipient/s of the award will be asked to write a short article about their award-winning innovation for an edition of the ACTCA newsletter.

Table 1. Categories and aspects of career development innovation

Innovation Categories				
Aspects	1. Initiating services	2. Career development innovation for a selected demographic	3. Professionalising the careers sector / team	4. Utilising cross-sectorial synergies
Career development focus	Setting up currently non-existent career service	Shifting from universal services to selected programs	Adding professionalism to an already established service delivery	Emphasis on quality in service provision
Purpose	New, useful, creative, and / or holistic career development innovation may involve new theories, methods, services, practices, techniques, tools or organisational structures to produce significant change in career development service delivery. For example, it may promote the value of career development, improve effectiveness, and/or use resources more efficiently.			
Stage	Initiated	Established / Embedded	Established	Embedded
Use of ICT	Raising awareness and promotion	Selected intervention	Effectiveness	Efficiency
Use of professional development	Acknowledging a need	Targeted	Short courses, mentoring, career development qualifications	Sustained
	Face-to-face workshop / Blended delivery / Online / Mentoring /			
Research	Evidence based / The Blueprint / Local data / Empirical evidence / Research			
Outcomes	Short term impact	Qualitative / Quantitative	Productivity / Capability	Impact
Career education	Piloted / Timetabled / Elective / Integrated / Cross curriculum			
Evaluation	Proposed	Qualitative / Quantitative data	Feedback	Stakeholder feedback
Change	Significant and positive change in career development.			



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NOMINATION FORM

Section 1. Of the four innovation categories listed below, select at least one category which best describes the nominated career innovation. Nomination can address more than one category.

Categories are:

- Initiating career development services
- Improving a career development service for a selected demographic
- Professionalising the team
- Embedding cross-sectorial career development collaboration

Section 2. – Name or title of the career development innovation

Section 3. – Nominee’s contact details. An ACTCA professional or associate member is required to lead the innovation, and be the primary contact.

3.1 Name of the lead career development practitioner

3.2 Career practitioner’s workplace (where the innovation was delivered) and workplace role

3.3 Contact details – email and phone number

3.4 Additional members of the team delivering the career development innovation

Section 4. Provide statements addressing at least 6 or the 10 aspects using the text boxes below to support the nomination. Statement must address aspects of innovation identified on Table 1. All 10 aspects may be addressed. Use evidence of innovation from the last 24 months.

4.1 Explain the focus of the career development innovation. (Limit of 300 words)

4.2 Explain the purpose of the career development innovation. (Limit of 300 words)

4.3 Describe the stage and planning behind the career development innovation. (Limit of 300 words)

4.4 Explain how the use of ICT has been innovative. (Limit of 300 words)

4.5 Describe how professional development has been incorporated into the career development innovation. (Limit of 300 words)

4.6 Outline any frameworks, research and evidence that informed the innovations development. (Limit of 300 words)

4.7 Describe the outcomes or expected outcomes of the career development innovation.

(Limit of 300 words)

4.8 Describe how student/client career development has improved as a result of the innovation.

(Limit of 300 words)

4.9 Explain how an evaluation process has been incorporated into the innovation's design? (Limit of 300 words)

4.10 Describe any significant and positive changes that have resulted due to the innovation. (Limit of 300 words)

Section 5. – Write a short summary of the innovation. This will be used in a future edition of the ACTCA’s newsletter. (Limit of 200 words)

Section 6. - Nominator’s details

6.1 Nominator’s name

6.2 Nominator’s contact details – email and phone number

6.3 Work role

Section 7. Signatures

7.1 Nominee’s (lead Career Development Practitioner’s) signature

Date

7.2 Nominator’s signature

Date