Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science and Resources

Sample nomination form

Sample

Inspiring Australia – Science Engagement Program:
The 2026 Prime Minister's Prizes for Science – Science Prizes

Prime Minister's Prize for Science

Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation

Malcolm McIntosh Prize for Physical Scientist of the Year

Frank Fenner Prize for Life Scientist of the Year

Prize for New Innovators

Stage 2 – Individual Nominations

To help you prepare your online nomination this document shows the questions included in the online nomination form for this grant opportunity.

Instructions

The online form captures the information required by the department to assess and manage your nomination for services and funding.

The first page of the nomination form contains the following instructions.

Internet browsers supported by the portal

We recommend that you use the following browsers for optimum functionality:

- On Windows: The latest versions of Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge
- On Mac: The latest versions of Safari and Google Chrome

Selecting a program

On the following page you must enter your details and then select the program you are providing a nomination for.

Are you eligible to nominate? Is your nominee eligible to be nominated?

Before you start your nomination, you must answer some questions to self-assess whether you are eligible to nominate and your nominee is eligible to be nominated.

Completing your nomination

The nomination form consists of separate pages, shown in a navigation menu on the left hand side of the portal page. You can navigate between pages using the menu or the buttons at the bottom of each page.

A warning message may appear if you have not completed all of the mandatory questions or if there is an issue with information you have entered. If a question is not mandatory it will be clearly marked – Optional.

Saving your responses

Once you start your nomination, you can save your changes at any time by using the Save button.

To prevent you losing your work you should save often. The portal will time out after 30 minutes if you do not save. Typing or moving your mouse does not reset the time out.

You must use the Save and Continue button to validate the information on each page. A tick indicates a validated page.

You can modify saved responses up until you submit your nomination.

Participants

Once you start your nomination, you may invite others to assist, via the application summary page. To do this:

- select the Application summary link at the top of the page
- select the Participants button
- enter the details.

An email will be sent to the participant inviting them to access the nomination form.

Saving with multiple participants

If more than one participant is working on your nomination at the same time you cannot save simultaneously. You should coordinate your entries to prevent losing your work.

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Submitting your nomination

You must complete every page of the nomination before you can submit.

You must also read and agree to the declaration which advises you of your, and the nominees, responsibilities.

Check all your answers before you submit your nomination. After you submit, it will no longer be editable.

Getting help

If you require further assistance completing your nomination, contact us by email or web chat or on 13 28 46.

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A. Program selection

A.1. Program selection

You must select from a drop-down menu the program that you are applying for on behalf of your nominee. Remember that nominees cannot nominate themselves for a prize. If you have been provided with an Invitation code, you will be able to enter it here which will select the program for you.

Select -

- PM Prizes - Prime Minister's Prize for Science – Individual - Stage 2
- PM Prizes - Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation – Individual - Stage 2
- PM Prizes - Malcolm McIntosh Prize for Physical Scientist of the Year - Stage 2
- PM Prizes - Frank Fenner Prize for Life Scientist of the Year - Stage 2
- PM Prizes - Prize for New Innovators - Stage 2

When you have selected the program, the following text will appear.

The Prime Minister's Prizes for Science are Australia's most prestigious and highly regarded awards for outstanding achievements in scientific research, research-based innovation and excellence in science teaching.

There are five prizes for science and innovation (referred to as the Science Prizes).

Science Prizes

- Prime Minister's Prize for Science ($250,000)
- Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation ($250,000)
- Malcolm McIntosh Prize for Physical Scientist of the Year ($50,000)
- Frank Fenner Prize for Life Scientist of the Year ($50,000)
- Prize for New Innovators ($50,000).

Each prize recipient receives a medallion, lapel pin, award certificate and prize money. Where we award the prize to a team, each member will receive a medallion, lapel pin, award certificate and an equal portion of the prize money.

You should read the grant opportunity guidelines before filling out this nomination. We recommend you keep the guidelines open as you are completing your nomination so you can refer to them when providing your responses.

You may submit your nomination at any time up until 5.00pm AEST on 23 April 2026. Please take account of time zone differences when submitting your nomination.

To prevent you losing your work you should save often. The portal will time out after 30 minutes if you do not save. Typing or moving your mouse does not reset the time out.

If more than one participant is working on your nomination at the same time you cannot save simultaneously. You should coordinate your entries to prevent losing your work.

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B. Eligibility

We will ask you the following questions to establish your nominee's eligibility for The 2026 Prime Minister's Prizes for Science – Science Prizes – Stage 2.

- Were you invited to participate in Stage 2 of the 2026 Prime Minister's Prizes for Science nomination process?

You must answer yes to proceed.

- Have you contacted both referees and confirmed they are willing and able to provide a referee report?

You must answer yes to proceed.

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C. Nominator address

C.1. Nominator street address

You must provide your street address.

When you start typing the address in the field you can select the correct one from the drop down list that appears. If it is not there you can enter manually.

C.2. Nominator postal address

You must provide your postal address.

When you start typing the address in the field you can select the correct one from the drop down list that appears. If it is not there you can enter manually.

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D. Nominator

You must provide your details as the nominator.

The nominator is the person authorised to act on behalf of the nominee and we send all email correspondence to this person.

If these details change, inform us as soon as possible so emails can be redirected.

Title

Given name

Family name

Post-nominals (optional)

Email address

Phone number and/or mobile number

Relationship to nominee

Position title (optional)

Organisation name

Web address

sample

E. Nominee

Nominee details

Provide details of the nominee.

E.1. Prize nominee

Title

Given name

Family name

Post-nominals (optional)

Email address

Phone number and/or mobile number

Secondary email address (optional)

Residential address

Gender

Date of birth

E.2. Nominee employment details

Name of organisation

Nominee's current position

Website address

Organisation address

E.3. Social Media

Does the nominee have a social media account(s)?

Drop down – yes, no.

If yes, add details for each platform (up to a maximum of 5 platforms).

Select social media platform

Drop down - Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, YouTube etc

Social media handle

Limited to 200 characters including spaces and special characters.

sample

F. Supporter Details

Provide details of two supporters who have agreed to contribute their informed opinions regarding the nomination.

A supporter cannot be the nominator or an independent referee for the same nomination.

For Prime Minister's Prize for Science and the Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation both supporters must work for a different organisation to the nominator and the nominee. For the other prizes, at least one supporter must be working for a different organisation to the nominator and the nominee

Only in exceptional circumstances, as defined in the guidelines' glossary, will the Program Delegate agree to a nominator request to change a supporter at Stage 2. If you require assistance, please contact us by email or web chat or on 13 28 46.

For details about supporters refer to Section 4.5 of the grant opportunity guidelines.

F.1. Supporter 1

Title

Given name

Family name

Post-nominals (optional)

Email address

Phone number and/or mobile number

Relationship to nominee

Organisation address

Organisation name

Web address

F.2. Supporter 2

Title

Given name

Family name

Post-nominals (optional)

Email address

Phone number and/or mobile number

Relationship to nominee

Organisation address

Organisation name

Web address

sample

G. Independent referee details

You must provide details of two independent referees who have agreed to provide a referee report on the template provided by the department.

The department will contact the independent referees shortly after nomination closing date, requesting written references to be submitted.

Only in exceptional circumstances, as defined in the guidelines' glossary, will the Program Delegate agree to a nominator request to change an independent referee at Stage 2. If you require assistance completing your nomination, please contact us by email or web chat or on 13 28 46.

An independent referee must not be related to the nominee or have a professional relationship that would cause a conflict of interest that could unnecessarily bias the independence of the referee.

For details about independent referees refer to Section 4.6 of the grant opportunity guidelines.

One referee must be based overseas for the Prime Minister's Prize for Science and Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation.

G.1. Independent referee 1

Title

Given name

Family name

Post-nominals (optional)

Phone number and/or mobile number

Email address

Secondary email address (optional)

Relationship to nominee

Position title (optional)

Organisation address

Organisation name

Web address

G.2. Independent referee 2

Title

Given name

Family name

Post-nominals (optional)

Phone number and/or mobile number

Email address

Secondary email address (optional)

Relationship to nominee

Position title (optional)

Organisation address

Organisation name

Web address

sample

H. Achievement

You must provide information that summarises the nominee's achievements by answering the assessment criteria detailed in the guidelines.

If your nomination is ultimately successful, some details you provide will be published on the department's website and on GrantConnect. Published details include:

- name of the recipient
- name of their organisation
- the nominee's achievement
- prize money awarded.

H.1. Field of achievements

You must provide the division, group and field of science in this section. The selected field of science should relate to the nominee's demonstrated achievements and their impacts as detailed in the response to the assessment criteria.

To assist you in your selections you can access the full **ANZSRC list** *on the* **Australian Bureau of Statistics** *website.*

Divisions

Select the division for the nominee's field of research. This will shorten the list to assist you in selecting the correct field of research.

Group

Select the group for the nominee's field of research. This will shorten the list to assist you in selecting the correct field of research.

Field of research

Select the field of research that best aligns with the demonstrated achievements and impact of the nominee's research

H.2. Nominee's achievements

Please provide a short statement on the nominee's achievement.

Your response is limited to 120 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

H.3. Statement of science achievements and impacts

Provide a brief plain English statement summarising the nominee's science achievements and impacts.

Your response is limited to 1,500 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

H.4. Career Interruptions

Provide the date of the nominee's relevant qualification.

A nominee may have had one, or more, career interruptions (as defined in the Glossary of the grant opportunity guidelines) since completing their highest relevant qualification.

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If the highest relevant awarded tertiary qualification was awarded over 10 years ago (10 years prior to the Stage 1 closing date), provide a short statement summarising the nominee's career interruptions.

Your response is limited to 200 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

sample

I. Nominator statement

In Stage 2, the nominator must address all assessment criteria as outlined in the grant opportunity guidelines in the fields below. Use plain English when writing your responses.

The nominator will also need to attach two supporter supporters' statements with a limit of 6,000 characters including spaces and special characters, using the template provided on business.gov.au.

The Science Prizes Committee will assess eligible nominations against the assessment criteria for each prize and compare them to other eligible nominations for that prize. Nominations must score a minimum of 50 per cent against each of the assessment criteria and will be competitively ranked.

Provide a description of your relationship with the nominee.

Your response is limited to 300 characters including spaces and special characters.

Provide a description of your authority and knowledge of the field.

Your response is limited to 300 characters including spaces and special characters.

I.1. Prime Minister's Prize for Science

Assessment criterion 1

Demonstrated original and in-depth research effort (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying the originality and depth of the research effort involved in the nominated achievement.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

Assessment criterion 2

Demonstrated impact (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying the achievement's impact on its field of science and, where appropriate, more broadly.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

I.2. Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation

Assessment criterion 1

Demonstrated commercialisation of scientific knowledge (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying:

a. the key research and development efforts involved in innovatively translating scientific knowledge into a commercially available product, process or service.

b. details of the underlying research and the innovation pathway leading to successful commercialisation, including:

- the roles and contributions of those involved
- research outcomes
- capital investments and grant funding
- Intellectual Property protections granted

sample

- relevant regulatory approvals
- commercial arrangements, such as licencing.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

Assessment criterion 2

Demonstrated value and benefit to Australia (10 points)

Demonstrate this by detailing:

a. the direct and indirect economic, social and, where relevant, environmental benefits of the innovation to Australia, such as:
   - employment outcomes for Australia
   - the value of sales, tax revenues and other financial returns
   - royalty streams to the host research organisation
   - new partnerships and synergies
   - the value of its public good
   - any environmental benefits.

b. other benefits of the innovation process such as:
   - pathways for further research and development
   - PhD students involved in the research programs
   - any unexpected outcomes.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

I.3. Malcolm McIntosh Prize for Physical Scientist of the Year

Assessment criterion 1

Nature of the research achievement (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying the originality and impact of the achievement within its field of science.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

Assessment criterion 2

Benefit, or potential for benefit, to human welfare or society (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying the application of the research achievement, particularly to Australia.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

I.4. Frank Fenner Prize for Life Scientist of the Year

Assessment criterion 1

Nature of the research achievement (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying the originality and impact of the achievement within its field of science.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

sample

Assessment criterion 2

Benefit, or potential for benefit, to human welfare or society (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying the application of the research achievement, particularly to Australia.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

I.5. Prize for New Innovators

Assessment criterion 1

Nature of the innovation achievement (10 points)

Demonstrate this by identifying the key research and development and innovation efforts involved in the partial or full commercialisation or translation of the scientific research.

Include details of the underlying research and the innovation pathway, including:

- the role of the nominee in the process
- the originality and impact of the achievement within its field of science
- any capital investments or grant funding
- any intellectual Property protections (such as patents) granted
- any other relevant regulatory approvals
- any commercial arrangements, such as licencing.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

Assessment criterion 2

Value and benefit to Australia (10 points)

Demonstrate this by detailing the potential direct and indirect economic, social and, where relevant, environmental benefits of the innovation to Australia, such as:

- capital investment and employment outcomes for Australia
- forecast financial returns
- royalty streams to the host research organisation
- new partnerships and synergies
- the value of its public good
- any environmental benefits.

Your response is limited to 4,500 characters including spaces and special characters.

sample

J. Attachments

J.1. Achievement statements

You must attach statements written by your two supporters that independently address the relevant assessment criteria outlined in the **grant opportunity guidelines**.

Each statement should be:

- on the ***template provided on business.gov.au***, observing the applicable character limit. For supporters statements up to 6,000 characters each including spaces and special cases.
- on the letterhead of the author's organisation and specify their position within the organisation
- a searchable document that has optical character recognition (OCR) or is saved as .docx.

Use of an electronic signature will allow the statement to remain an OCR searchable document.

If the supporter does not have an electronic signature available, and cannot provide an OCR searchable statement, please upload the OCR searchable statement and email a signed and scanned version of the statement to the pmprizes.admin@industry.gov.au mailbox.

J.2. Supporter Statement 1

Supporter Statement 1

Statement must be saved using the name of the nominee in the format lastname_firstname_supp1.

Files must be smaller than 25 MB, and be one of the following types: docx, rtf, pdf, xlsx, csv, jpg, jpeg, png, gif.

J.3. Supporter Statement 2

Supporter Statement 2

Statement must be saved using the name of the nominee in the format lastname_firstname_supp2.

Files must be smaller than 25 MB, and be one of the following types: docx, rtf, pdf, xlsx, csv, jpg, jpeg, png, gif.

J.4. Publications and/or Patents

You must provide links to up to four patents and/or up to four key articles or peer reviewed publications that were listed in the nominee's CV at Stage 1. If not freely available online, the patent/publication must be uploaded as an attachment.

Patent 1

If you are attaching a patent, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Patent 2

If you are attaching a patent, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Patent 3

sample

If you are attaching a patent, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Patent 4

If you are attaching a patent, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Publication 1

If you are attaching a publication, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Publication 2

If you are attaching a publication, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Publication 3

If you are attaching a publication, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Publication 4

If you are attaching a publication, please enter 'Attached' into the text box.

Publication and Patent upload

Publications

Publications must be saved using the name of the nominee in the following format: lastname_firstname_pub1, lastname_firstname_pub2, etc.

Files must be smaller than 25 MB, and be one of the following types: docx, rtf, pdf, xlsx, csv, jpg, jpeg, png, gif.

J.5. List of published articles/books

Attach a list of citations to any additional published articles and/or books not listed in the nominee's CV at Stage 1, that are directly relevant to the nomination. We do not require links or attachments to these additional citations.

Where the nominee is a joint author, the citation should note the nominee's contribution. If the nomination is for a team, at least two of the team members, including the team leader, must be joint authors of a least three of the publications.

Published articles/books

Publications must be saved using the name of the nominee in the following format: lastname_firstname_list.

Files must be smaller than 25 MB, and be one of the following types: docx, rtf, pdf, xlsx, csv, jpg, jpeg, png, gif.

J.6. Evidence of Australian citizenship or permanent residency

Provide evidence of the nominee's Australian citizenship or permanent residency.

sample

The evidence must be provided in the format lastname_firstname_cpr.

Is your document certified?

This attachment must be certified. For further information refer to business.gov.au and the Glossary in the grant opportunity guidelines for a definition and list of authorised certifiers

☐ yes ☐ no

J.7. Nominee's relevant qualification

Upload a copy of the nominee's relevant qualification that shows the date of completion (Frank Fenner, Malcolm McIntosh and Prize for New Innovators only)

This document must be provided using the name of the nominee in the following format: lastname_firstname_testamur.

☐ yes ☐ no

J.8. Nominee declaration

Upload the signed nominee declaration using the template provided on business.gov.au.

Nominee declaration

This declaration must be provided using the name of the nominee in the following format: lastname_firstname_declaration.

sample

K. Nomination finalisation

You must answer the following questions and add any supporting documentation required.

K.1. Conflict of interest

Do you have any perceived or existing conflicts of interest to declare?

Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for further information on your conflict of interest responsibilities.

If yes, describe the perceived or existing conflicts of interest.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

If yes, describe how you anticipate managing this conflict.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

K.2. Program feedback

Your responses help us improve the design and delivery of programs. They will not affect the assessment or outcome of this application.

How did you hear about the grant opportunity?

You must select from a drop-down menu.

Did you read the grant opportunity guidelines?

You must select from a drop-down menu.

How useful were the guidelines in completing your application?

We welcome any additional feedback on the guidelines.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

How satisfied were you with the process of applying for this grant?

You must select from a drop-down menu.

We welcome any additional feedback on the application process

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

sample

L. Declaration

To submit your nomination, you will be required to agree to the following declaration.

L.1. Privacy and confidentiality provisions

I acknowledge that this is an Australian Government program and that the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (the department) will use the information I provide in accordance with the following:

- Australian Government Data and Digital Strategy
- Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines
- grant opportunity guidelines
- applicable Australian laws.

Accordingly, I understand that the department may collect, use and share my personal information provided in this nomination within this department and other government agencies:

a. for purposes directly related to administering the program, including governance, research and the distribution of funds to successful nominees
b. to facilitate research, assessment, monitoring and analysis of other programs and activities
c. for the purposes of due diligence, preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with suspected fraud in nominations and related processes

unless otherwise prohibited by law.

I understand that information that is deemed 'confidential' in accordance with the grant opportunity guidelines may also be shared for a relevant Commonwealth purpose.

The department will publish information on individual prizes in the public domain, including on the department's website, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

L.2. Nominator declaration

I declare, as the nominator or on behalf of the nominator, that I have read and understood the grant opportunity guidelines, including the privacy, confidentiality and disclosure provisions.

I declare, as the nominator or on behalf of the nominator, that to the best of my knowledge, the person I am nominating has not taken any actions that will bring the Prizes, the department or the Australian Government into disrepute.

I declare that the information contained in this nomination together with any statement provided is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate, complete and not misleading and that I understand that giving of false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

I acknowledge that I may be requested to provide further clarification or documentation to verify the information supplied in this form and that the department may, during the nomination process, consult with other government agencies, including state and territory government agencies, about the nominator's claims and may also engage external technical or financial advisors to advise on information provided in the nomination.

I agree to participate in the periodic evaluation of the services undertaken by the department.

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I approve the information in this nomination being communicated to the department in electronic form.

I acknowledge that if the department is satisfied that any statement made in a nomination is incorrect, incomplete, false or misleading the department may, at its absolute discretion, take appropriate action. I note such action may include excluding a nomination from further consideration; withdrawing an offer of funding; using the information contained in the nomination for a fraud investigation that would be consistent with the Australian Government's Investigations Standards and Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework and/or for a grant under management, terminating a grant agreement between the Commonwealth and the grantee including recovering funds already paid.

I declare that I am authorised to submit this form on behalf of the nominee and acknowledge that this is the equivalent of signing this nomination.

sample