



Project Management Achievement Awards (PMAA™)

Awards Guidelines



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1. Introduction

- 1.1. Established in 2000 by the Australian Institute of Project Management (AIPM™), the Project Management Achievement Awards (PMAA™) recognise, honour, and promote excellence in project leadership. These awards celebrate outstanding achievements in project and program management across various sectors.

2. Why Enter?

- 2.1. In a competitive marketplace, entering the PMAA™ allows you or your organisation to:
 - 2.1.1. **Benchmark excellence:** Compare your project management achievements and innovations with industry peers.
 - 2.1.2. **Demonstrate commitment:** Show your dedication to achieving project excellence and implementing best practices.
 - 2.1.3. **Gain recognition:** Be celebrated and acknowledged with winners receiving certificates, trophies, and promotional opportunities through AIPM's social media and newsletters.

3. Award Categories and Levels

- 3.1. **Two Levels of Recognitions:**
 - 3.1.1. **PMAA™ Finalists:** Projects are first assessed, leading to the recognition of finalists in each category.
 - 3.1.2. **PMAA™ Awards:** Finalists progress to the final stage the awards, where they are further assessed against other finalists in their category. The winners of each category will be announced at the awards ceremony.
- 3.2. **Project Categories:**
 - 3.2.1. **Government Projects:** This category recognises projects across industries such as construction, utilities, infrastructure, urban development, education, health services, engineering, and architecture. Eligible submissions involve collaboration with the relevant government agency or department and must relate to publicly funded projects managed by government bodies. Examples include initiatives in health, education, defence, and local government.
 - 3.2.2. **Community (non-Government) Projects:** This category recognises and celebrates the successful delivery of projects that have made a significant positive impact on local communities. These awards honour project teams and organisations that have addressed social, economic, or environmental challenges through innovative and sustainable solutions. They highlight projects





that have enhanced the quality of life, strengthened community cohesion, or contributed to long-term development. By showcasing these achievements, the awards emphasise the importance of project management in delivering meaningful and lasting benefits to communities, inspiring others to drive positive change through impactful projects.

- 3.2.3. **Technology and Digital Innovation:** This category recognises information and communications technology (ICT) and telecommunications projects that demonstrate excellence in the project management of digital solutions and infrastructure.

Eligible projects may involve the development, implementation, or integration of software applications, digital platforms, data systems, cybersecurity solutions, cloud technologies, or telecommunications networks. This includes projects delivering IT or telecom-related infrastructure, upgrades to enterprise systems, digital transformation initiatives, or the application of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, automation, or the Internet of Things (IoT). Submissions should showcase how project management contributed to successful outcomes, including improved capability, efficiency, connectivity, or user experience for organisations and communities.

- 3.2.4. **Research and Education:** This award recognises outstanding achievements in project management research, innovation, and education that deliver real impact for the profession and the wider community. The award celebrates contributions that advance understanding of contemporary and emerging issues in project management, or that create new methods, tools, or approaches that improve practice.

Eligible contributions include applied industry research, collaborative projects between industry and academia, innovation in methodologies or frameworks, commissioned studies, doctoral or postgraduate research, or practitioner-led research initiatives. Submissions must demonstrate impartiality, evidence-based outcomes, and a clear benefit to the advancement of project management knowledge and practice.

- 3.2.5. **Diversity and Inclusion in Projects:** These awards celebrate individuals and teams who champion diversity, equity, and inclusion within the project profession. They recognise outstanding contributions by women, migrants, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, gender-diverse individuals, and people with disabilities; and highlight initiatives that foster inclusive and empowering project environments across all sectors.

By recognising those who actively promote representation, remove barriers to participation, and create pathways to leadership for underrepresented groups, these awards shine a light on the power of inclusion in delivering successful projects. They also honour the vital role diverse professionals play in shaping a dynamic, resilient, and future-ready project management community. In doing





so, they inspire progress, celebrate difference, and encourage a profession that reflects and serves the richness of our society.

4. Key Dates

- 4.1. Applicants are strongly advised to familiarise themselves with all relevant deadlines, particularly the submission closing dates published on the AIPM™ website. Late submissions may result in disqualification from the competition. To avoid disappointment, ensure you allow adequate time for preparing and lodging your entry.

5. Submission Process

5.1. Eligibility and Fees

- 5.1.1. Entries must be submitted using the PMAA™ Application Form.
- 5.1.2. The awards are open to both AIPM™ members and non-members.
- 5.1.3. All fees are payable at the start of the submission process and are non-refundable after a certain date (see cancellation policies).
- 5.1.4. The same entry cannot be submitted in multiple award categories.
- 5.1.5. Projects can be:
 - 5.1.5.1. Of any size, complexity or dollar value
 - 5.1.5.2. Located anywhere in the world but must have an Australian affiliation.
 - 5.1.5.3. From either public or private sector.
- 5.1.6. Entries will be excluded if they:
 - 5.1.6.1. Are incomplete, such that they do not contain all the required information and images in the form.
 - 5.1.6.2. Are received after the closing date.
 - 5.1.6.3. Do not fulfil the binding clauses contained within the Terms and Conditions of entry.
 - 5.1.6.4. Are not accompanied by the required application assessment payment.
- 5.1.7. Entry fees are listed in the Application Form and are inclusive of GST.

5.2. Submission Format





- 5.2.1. Submissions must address the project's alignment with the specific award selection criteria (originality, innovation, quality, strategic alignment, implementation, and collaboration).
- 5.2.2. Projects should be presented in a clear, concise written form, adhering strictly to the specified word and page limits. Entries exceeding the specified word limit in the Application Form will not be considered.
- 5.2.3. Include supporting materials such as high-resolution images (JPEG/PNG format) and company logos (EPS/JPEG), with resolution specifications of 300–600 dpi.

5.3. **Submission Content**

- 5.3.1. Ensure that all required fields are completed, and that permission from clients/sponsors is granted to use project-related materials.
- 5.3.2. No external hyperlinks, videos, or unrelated materials are to be included.
- 5.3.3. All submission fees must be cleared before the submission can be assessed.

5.4. **Supporting Materials**

- 5.4.1. Supporting materials such as letters of support and client feedback may be included to strengthen the entry and must be relevant and clearly referenced. The type of supporting materials required will depend on the nature and context of the project.
- 5.4.2. Up to 5 high-resolution images of the project may be uploaded, with appropriate format specifications.
- 5.4.3. The AIPM™ reserves the right to use images and logos for marketing and promotional purposes.

6. **Judging Criteria**

- 6.1. Judging for the PMAA™ is rigorous, and the process is conducted with the utmost integrity. Panels of anonymous judges are formed from industry leaders across different sectors, and they operate independently of the submissions.
- 6.2. Judges will evaluate submissions based on the following Award Selection Criteria:
 - 6.2.1. **Originality & Innovation:** How visionary or innovative the project was in addressing a specific issue.
 - 6.2.2. **Quality:** Demonstrating excellence and high standards in the project's outcomes.





- 6.2.3. **Strategic Alignment:** How the project aligned with relevant regional, state, or national objectives.
- 6.2.4. **Implementation & Transferability:** The project's success in implementation and its potential to be applied elsewhere.
- 6.2.5. **Collaboration:** Engagement techniques and methods used for the project.
- 6.3. Judges' decisions are final, and no correspondence will be entered into regarding outcomes.

7. Awards and Recognition

7.1. PMAA™ Finalists

- 7.1.1. Finalists receive certificates electronically via the provided email addresses.
- 7.1.2. Finalists will be announced via the AIPM's social media and email channels and will receive a customised social media image to promote their success.

7.2. PMAA™ Winners

- 7.2.1. Winners receive certificates, trophies, and extensive promotional opportunities through the AIPM™ channels.
- 7.2.2. Winners might be invited to present their projects at future PMAA™ events.

8. Cancellation and Refund Policy

- 8.1. Submission fees are refundable (less an administration fee of \$250) if the request is made in writing at least seven (7) business days prior to the submission closing date.
- 8.2. No refunds will be provided for cancellations received after this deadline.

9. Terms and Conditions

- 9.1. All submission materials must be submitted electronically. No hard copy submissions will be accepted.
- 9.2. Entries must be submitted by the deadline, as requests for extensions may not be considered.
- 9.3. The same entry cannot be submitted in multiple award categories.
- 9.4. Projects cannot be re-entered in the same category where they have previously received an award unless significant changes have been made.





- 9.5. The judges reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to reallocate an entry to a different award category if they deem it more appropriate, regardless of the category originally entered by the applicant.
- 9.6. All costs related to preparing the submission and attending award ceremonies are the responsibility of the applicant.
- 9.7. Consent must have been granted by the client/ sponsor to use the project and its images/logos.
- 9.8. All photos and logos may be used by the AIPM™ in preparation of any marketing collateral relating to the PMAA™.
- 9.9. The applicant grants the AIPM™ a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty free, worldwide, non-exclusive, licence to use, modify, communicate, reproduce, publish and adapt the submission materials both electronically and in material form.
- 9.10. The applicant warrants it holds sufficient rights in the submission materials to provide the licence granted above and that AIPM's use of the materials will not infringe any third party's intellectual property rights or moral rights.
- 9.11. The applicant agrees to indemnify the AIPM™ against and in respect of all losses, damages and costs (including legal costs and disbursements on a solicitor-nominee or indemnity basis, whichever is higher), expenses, actions or claims (including third party claims) directly or indirectly incurred or suffered by the AIPM™ as a result of a breach or repudiation of these Terms and Conditions including a breach of a warranty, the applicant's act, omission or negligence, or the infringement of any third party's intellectual property rights.
- 9.12. Applicants who have been misleading in their submissions or whose activities are not compliant with current relevant legislation may be withdrawn from the judging process or have Awards revoked.
- 9.13. Contact with members of the Judging Panel to discuss an award nomination is strictly prohibited.
- 9.14. Entries become the property of the AIPM™ and will not be returned.
- 9.15. The AIPM™ reserves the right to amend the Terms and Conditions at its sole discretion and without prior notice.
- 9.16. By submitting your entry, you agree that you have read, understood and accept these conditions.

10. Contact Information

- 10.1. For additional information or assistance, contact the AIPM PMAA™ team at:
PMAA@aipm.com.au



READY TO PROCEED?

For further information or to discuss any aspect of the PMAA™, please contact us via the following details:

AIPM PMAA™ Team

E: PMAA@aipm.com.au



Gain recognition for your outstanding achievements in Project Management from the **leading project management association in Australia.**