



Australian Government  
National Emergency Management Agency

Australian Institute for  
Disaster Resilience



# Resilient Australia Awards 2026 FAQS

**Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience**

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## About the Resilient Australia Awards

The Resilient Australia Awards celebrate and promote initiatives that build whole of community resilience to disasters and emergencies around Australia as well as capture and share examples of resilience in action. The awards recognise collaboration and innovative thinking across a broad range of sectors and initiatives that strengthen disaster resilience with communities, institutions, and the private sector. Innovative models and approaches that create sustainable change are highly regarded.

Since being established in 2000, the awards have recognised outstanding contributions in each state and territory across multiple sectors and disciplines. The awards endorse a wide range of initiatives; with past projects centred around risk assessment and mitigation, planning and preparation, and response and recovery.

Winners from each state and territory are considered for the National Awards. Finalist projects benefit from national exposure via a range of marketing and communications channels and their presence at the National Awards Ceremony.

The Resilient Australia Awards is proudly sponsored by the Australian Government in partnership with states and territories and managed by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR).

Submissions for the 2026 awards program must relate to projects or initiatives that commenced after 1 January 2024 or demonstrate significant outcomes or enhancements since 1 January 2024.

## Resilient Australia Awards 2026: Key dates

Date	Activity
<b>Tuesday 10 March</b>	Submissions open
<b>Tuesday 2 June</b>	Submissions for jurisdictional award categories close
<b>23 June – 7 July</b>	People's Choice voting: Resilient Australia Photography Award
<b>16 June - 14 July</b>	State and territory judging period
<b>Friday 17 July</b>	Submissions for National Research for Impact Award close
<b>17 July - 30 September</b>	State and territory award ceremonies
<b>21 July - 29 September</b>	National judging period
<b>2 October - 9 October</b>	National ceremony invitations sent
<b>18 November - 2 December</b>	National Resilient Australia Awards Ceremony





## Frequently Asked Questions

### Can I enter the same project in more than one category?

No – each project may only be submitted in one award category, with the exception that an image submitted in the photography category may also support a submission in another category.

### My project achieves outcomes in more than one state or territory or is a national project. Which jurisdiction do I submit it to?

Submissions that relate to a national project or where a project encompasses activity in two or more states or territories, a 'lead' state or territory must be identified, and the project submitted in that jurisdiction.

This only applies to projects where the activities that make up the project already encompass two jurisdictions – a project is not considered multi-jurisdictional where implementation in other states and territories is hypothetical. One aim of the awards is to promote projects to encourage their future uptake and adaptation by other jurisdictions.

### I entered in a previous year; can I enter again?

If your project or photo did not receive an award (including highly commended), you may submit the same project or photo again – provided it fits the 2026 time period. Entries in the 2026 program must relate to projects commenced after 1 January 2023 or which demonstrate significant outcomes or enhancements since 1 January 2023. Applications from previous years cannot be transferred – you will need to complete the application process again in full.

### How will I know if I am successful?

A jurisdictional convenor will contact you directly if you are an award finalist.

### Can I get feedback and/or assistance my application?

Yes, please contact the AIDR Awards Coordinator via [raa@aidr.org.au](mailto:raa@aidr.org.au) to obtain feedback or assistance.

### What do I receive if I am successful?

Each jurisdiction has unique arrangements for their awards – in general, finalists are celebrated at an award ceremony and receive certificates. AIDR hosts the National Award Ceremony – national finalists receive a framed certificate; national winners also receive a trophy, all finalists at the national level will be invited to the National Awards Ceremony. Winners and finalists may enjoy coverage through local, regional, and national media. Further information will be provided to project team on an individual basis.

Where multiple project partners are involved, applicants must identify a 'lead' individual or organisation to submit the application in the appropriate category. Where multiple project





partners are identified in the submission, they will be appropriately acknowledged in communications materials related to the project.

Note, only the lead organisation will receive a copy of any certificates or trophies awarded.

### **Why are universities not able to apply in the school category?**

Universities are encouraged to submit applications to the business category as universities generally operate as a business. The Research for Impact award is also open to universities. The school category is intended for projects that directly benefit or engage a school or student group.

### **Can I submit a project or photo after the submission closing date?**

No, late submissions will not be accepted. Supporting information to accompany completed submission will not be accepted after the closing date.

### **How will I know if my application has been submitted?**

You will receive a confirmation email upon submitting your project or photo through the online platform. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please contact the AIDR Awards Coordinator.

### **Can I update my application?**

You can update or alter your submission at any stage up until submission close. After submissions close, you will not be able to make any further changes. Please refer to Key 2026 dates above.

## **Contact**

For enquiries or support regarding RAA submission, please contact the AIDR Team:

AIDR Awards Coordinator

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