

RMIT Engineering Alumni Awards 2026 - Guidelines

AIM

To recognise and celebrate outstanding alumni from the School of Engineering who demonstrate excellence in professional achievement, leadership, innovation, community contribution, and alignment with RMIT's values.

OBJECTIVES

The Alumni Awards 2026 aim to:

1. **Celebrate Impact** – Recognise alumni who are delivering meaningful impact in engineering, industry, research, entrepreneurship, or society.
2. **Advance School and STEM College Strategy** – Highlight contributions aligned with Strategic Priorities, including:
 - Industry engagement and translational impact
 - Sustainability and climate action
 - Social justice and inclusion
 - Digital innovation and emerging technologies
 - Global engagement and partnerships
3. **Strengthen Alumni Engagement** – Foster stronger connections between alumni, students, staff and industry.
4. **Inspire Future Engineers** – Provide visible role models for current students and early career graduates.
5. **Promote Diversity and Inclusion** – Reflect RMIT's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusive excellence.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Awards are structured across three career stages to recognise excellence at different points in professional development. Up to one recipient per category will be awarded.

EARLY CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD	
Eligibility:	Graduates within 10 years of completing their most recent RMIT engineering qualification.
Purpose:	To recognise emerging leaders demonstrating outstanding professional achievement, innovation, or societal contribution early in their careers.
Indicative Qualities:	• Rapid career progression • Entrepreneurial achievement or start-up leadership • Technical excellence and innovation • Demonstrated commitment to sustainability or social impact • Active engagement with RMIT or mentoring of students

MID-CAREER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Eligibility:

RMIT graduates 10–25 years post-graduation.

Purpose:

To recognise alumni who have demonstrated sustained professional excellence, leadership, and measurable impact within engineering or related sectors.

Indicative Qualities:

- Leadership roles in industry, government, academia, or NGOs
- Delivery of significant engineering projects or innovations
- Influence on policy, standards, or professional practice
- Contributions to workforce development or mentoring
- Advancing diversity, inclusion, or sustainability within their field

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Eligibility:

RMIT graduates 25+ years post-graduation (or with substantial lifetime achievement regardless of timeframe).

Purpose:

To recognise exceptional lifetime achievement and sustained contribution to engineering, industry, research, public life, or community.

Indicative Qualities:

- National or international recognition
- Transformational leadership
- Significant societal, environmental or economic impact
- Contribution to global engineering advancement
- Enduring support of RMIT and the broader engineering profession

SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations will be assessed against the following core criteria and where possible will include metrics (eg, scale of projects, scope of leadership, impact outcomes), publications, awards and other published evidence:

Professional Excellence

- Demonstrated distinction in engineering practice, research, innovation or enterprise
- Evidence of impact (technical, economic, social, environmental)

Leadership and Influence

- Leadership roles and influence within organisations or sectors
- Contribution to advancing engineering practice or knowledge

Alignment with RMIT Values

Evidence of alignment with RMIT's ethos, including:

- Industry-connected impact
- Sustainability and responsible innovation
- Inclusion, diversity and equity
- Community engagement and social responsibility
- Global outlook

Engagement with RMIT (Desirable but Not Mandatory)

- Mentoring students
- Industry partnerships
- Guest lecturing or advisory roles
- Collaborative research

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations for the RMIT Engineering Alumni Awards are accepted by self-nomination only. Alumni who wish to be considered must submit their own application via the official nomination form.

Third-party nominations are not accepted. However, nominees are required to provide referees as part of their submission to support and validate their application. Nominees must seek permission from their referees prior to submitting their nomination.

To be eligible, nominees must hold a qualification from the RMIT School of Engineering and meet the criteria for the relevant award category. Current RMIT staff are not eligible unless their nomination relates solely to achievements external to their employment with the University. External achievements may be in prior roles, industry contributions, board representation, engineering society leadership.

Late nominations will not be accepted.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A complete nomination must include:

1. Completed nomination form
2. One combined document containing:
 - Curriculum Vitae (max 5 pages) and
 - Personal statement (max 1,000 words) addressing:
 - o Key achievements
 - o Impact
 - o Alignment with award criteria
3. Two referees

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

1. **Eligibility Screening** – Conducted by School administration
2. **Assessment Panel Review** – Panel comprising:
 - o Dean or nominee (Chair)
 - o Senior School of Engineering representatives
3. **Scoring Framework** – Standardised scoring rubric aligned to criteria.

OUTCOMES

The Panel decision is final. Shortlisted nominees will be contacted with further details prior to the School of Engineering Alumni Networking and Alumni Awards event.