



ACT Safety and Quality in Health Care Awards 2026

Nomination Guidelines for the Award

Introduction

The ACT Safety and Quality in Health Care Awards 2026 recognise individuals, teams, and organisations that demonstrate excellence and leadership in patient safety and quality improvement across the ACT health system. The Awards will be presented on 17 September 2026 as part of World Patient Safety Day celebrations.

World Patient Safety Day brings together governments, health services, partners, and communities worldwide to raise awareness of patient safety and inspire action to reduce avoidable harm in health care. In 2026, the global theme focuses on safe care for noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), recognising the long-term, complex care needs of people living with chronic conditions across the lifespan. Under the slogan “Safe care for life!”, the campaign highlights the importance of delivering safe, high-quality care across the entire patient journey and at all stages of life.

Key dates

- Open: 15th June 2026
- Close: 22nd July 2026, 10:00 pm
- Award event: 17th September 2026, Canberra Health Services Auditorium, Canberra Hospital, Yamba Drive Garren, ACT

How to nominate

1. Go to the [ACT Safety and Quality in Health Care Awards 2026](#)
2. Complete the nomination form and a confirmation email will be sent to the nominator to confirm their nomination has been received.
3. Submit your nomination before 10:00 pm on Wednesday, 22 July 2026.

Note: Personal information provided about nominees and nominators will only be used for the purposes of assessing and judging of nominations in the ACT Safety and Quality in Health Care Awards.

Award Categories

There are five award categories available for nomination. A nominee may apply for multiple categories; however, a separate submission is required for each category.

In addition, there is a Minister's Award, which is not open for nomination. Recipients for this award will be identified and selected by the judging panel from across all submitted nominations.

For any of the five award categories please indicate whether your initiative involved partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and Priority population groups.

Where applicable, please describe:

- The Priority population groups involved.
- How the initiative was developed in partnership or co-designed with consumers, carers, community members, Elders, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, or relevant community representatives.
- How community voices informed decision-making.
- How culturally safe practice was embedded.
- The measurable outcomes or impact achieved.
- How the initiative improved equity, access, safety, experience or outcomes for the ACT community.

Please note : Additional assessment consideration will be given to nominations that demonstrate genuine partnership, co-design, community leadership and measurable impact for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and Priority population groups.

Assessment Criteria

All nominations will be assessed against the five criteria. Not all criteria will apply equally to every award category; however, each nomination should address the criteria most relevant to the selected category.

Application Requirements

Before applying

- Read the award categories and assessment criteria description carefully.
- Select the most appropriate award category
- Submit one form per nomination
- A separate form is required for each category submission
- Provide correct nominee(s) name, email and workplace details.
- Incomplete or incorrect details may invalidate your nomination.

What to include in your application

- Provide a description of the initiative (up to max 500 words)
- Include clear examples of improvement or change over time
- Support your response with evidence such as data, measurement, and impact
- Ensure your submission clearly addresses the selected award category criteria

Eligibility requirements

- Nominees must be working within the ACT health sector. For team nominations, the team must demonstrate a clear connection to the ACT, with either the majority of team members based in the ACT or the team delivering services that directly benefit the ACT community. Team members may include individuals based outside the ACT where their contribution is part of a collaborative model of care
- Be involved in activities that contribute to safety, quality, innovation or improvement in health care or related services
- Work within public, private, non-government, health services, primary care settings and/or not-for-profit health and community service settings
- Meet the specific eligibility criteria of the selected award category, where applicable
- Be actively working in their role or team during the eligibility period
- Not be subject to any current professional misconduct investigation, restriction, or disciplinary process at the time of nomination

Review process

- A review panel of senior allied health professionals and leaders, and consumer representatives will consider the evidence provided of for all nominations.
- The selection process is confidential and final.
- Feedback will not be provided to nominators or nominees.

Announcement of nominees and award recipients

- Recipients of the award will be announced at the ACT Safety and Quality in Health Care Awards ceremony on 17 September 2026, in recognition of World Patient Safety Day.
- Recipients of an award may be invited to speak with the media and/or other organisations about their recognition. The ACT Government reserves the right to use any media/photos/articles for promotion purposes or publications.

Contact us

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