

FAIRFIELD CITY MAYOR'S YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2025

CATEGORIES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. PURPOSE

The Fairfield City Mayor's Youth Achievement Awards aim to recognise the strengths, leadership and achievements of young people in the Fairfield Local Government Area (Fairfield City). It publicly acknowledges and recognises young people for their leadership, passion, commitment and enthusiasm in their chosen fields, communities and environments. This award is designed to bring young people to the forefront and recognise their contribution to Fairfield City.

The annual awards give recognition to young people in the following categories:

- First Nations Youth Award
- New Beginnings Award
- Leadership Award
- Volunteer Award
- Creative Arts Award
- Sports Impact Award
- Outstanding Youth Group
- Cultural Connection Award
- Phoenix Award

Award categories reflect a range of areas where young people are encouraged to strive for excellence and personal achievement. These include areas such as academics, sport, community participation, personal development and resilience and leadership. The Youth Achievement Awards aim to be as inclusive as possible, encouraging recognition of young people from diverse backgrounds including First Nations, newly arrived young people with disability and other vulnerable groups.

The Mayor's Youth Achievement Awards are celebrated at an Awards Night on Thursday 26 June 2025.

Nominations close on Thursday 12 June 2025 at 11:59pm.

2. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The following conditions must be met for a nominee to be eligible. The nominator must also ensure the nominee meets the criteria of the category they have selected to be eligible.

1. Nominees must be:
 - a. young people aged between 12 and 24 at the time of the activity
 - b. a resident of Fairfield City, or have a clear and meaningful connection to Fairfield City and be able to demonstrate their achievements are undertaken in (and have a clear and direct impact within) Fairfield City
2. Council employees may submit nominations, excluding members of
 - a. the Executive Leadership Team
 - b. Social Planning and Community Development Division
 - c. Council staff members of the Assessment Committee

Fairfield City Council has a diverse and significantly local workforce. These eligibility criteria do not seek to exclude nominations from local staff members who are not involved in the decision making or planning processes of the Youth Achievement Awards.
3. Nominations must include the name and contact details of one Referee
4. Nominations must be completed using the Mayor's Youth Achievement Awards nomination form found online. A paper version may be provided on request if there are barriers accessing the online form
5. The nomination form must be completed in full; otherwise the nomination will be ineligible
6. The nomination should directly relate to the relevant criteria of the award category being nominated for
7. An individual need only be nominated once to be considered. The number of nominations received per nominee bears no weight on the outcome
8. Winners should be available to attend the Mayor's Achievement Awards Night that will be announced at the time of nominations (inability to attend does not disqualify entry)
9. Nomination information may be used for publicity purposes
10. The decision of the *Fairfield City Mayor's Youth Achievement Awards* assessment committee is final, and no correspondence will be entered into
11. Nominations close Thursday 12 June 2025 at 11:59pm.

3. CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA

Nominations must demonstrate how their achievements and experiences meet the criteria for each category. The same person can be nominated for more than one category provided they meet the criteria, however the number of times they are nominated bears no weight on the outcome of each nomination.

Criteria for each of the eight categories include:

First Nations Youth Award

Eligibility:

- Young people who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Criteria:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people who demonstrate achievement in various areas including school, workplace or sporting participation, leadership activities and cultural advancement.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people who have demonstrated pride in Fairfield's local Aboriginal heritage and culture and respect for cultural differences in our communities.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people who have demonstrated a commitment to the Reconciliation movement and processes to improve relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider community

New Beginnings Award

Eligibility:

- Young people who have settled in Australia within the past 8 years.

Criteria:

- Newly arrived young people who have displayed strong leadership potential while settling in Australia.

Leadership Award

Eligibility:

- All young people aged 12-24 who meet the overall eligibility criteria.

Criteria:

- Young people who lead by example and inspire others to pursue their personal best, or
- Young people who have a positive influence and play a significant role in representing the voices of young people in Fairfield City.

Volunteer Award

Eligibility:

- All young people aged 12-24 who meet the overall eligibility criteria.

Criteria:

- Young people who contribute to positive change in the community through volunteering with community organisations, or
- Young people who create positive change in the community through leading social, cultural or environmental initiatives without seeking financial gain.

Creative Arts Award

Eligibility:

- All young people aged 12-24 who meet the overall eligibility criteria.

Criteria:

- Young people who demonstrate excellence in the creative arts through creative practice or arts administration, or
- Young people who create positive impact through creative arts.

Sports Impact Award

Eligibility:

- All young people aged 12-24 who meet the overall eligibility criteria.

Criteria:

- Young people who have achieved excellence in their chosen sport, or
- Young people who act as positive role models through their participation in sport, by demonstrating leadership and positive life values.

Outstanding Youth Group

Eligibility:

- Nominations must be groups (not individuals) comprised entirely or primarily of young people aged 12-24.
- Young people who act as positive role models through their participation in sport, by demonstrating leadership and positive life values.

Criteria:

- Organised youth groups who work towards positive outcomes for the community while developing the skills and capacity of its members.



Cultural Connection Award

Eligibility:

- All young people aged 12-24 who meet the overall eligibility criteria.

Criteria:

- Diasporic young people who strive to maintain their culture and heritage through either traditional or non-traditional expression.
- Young people who actively share their culture via traditional or non-traditional art, music, language, activities, food or any other cultural expression and inspire others to do so.

Phoenix Award

Eligibility:

- All young people aged 12-24 who meet the overall eligibility criteria.

Criteria:

- Young people who demonstrate resilience by overcoming significant personal challenges.
- Young people who are empowered by their experiences and resilience for their personal growth or to help and inspire others.

4. CONFIDENTIALITY

PRIVACY & PERSONAL INFORMATION PROTECTION ACT 1988

The information provided by the nominator on the Fairfield City Mayor's Youth Achievement Awards nomination form will be used by Fairfield City Council to process this nomination. The provision of this information is voluntary, however, if you do not provide the information, Council may not be able to accept your nomination. Once collected, the information can be accessed by you in accordance with Council's Privacy Management Plan, where legislation requires you give permission to third party access.

5. ENQUIRIES

Please email youth@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au or contact Fairfield City Council on 0297250222 or for more information.