

KCA Awards 2021 Nomination Guidelines

Knowledge Commercialisation Australasia (KCA) is the non-profit, peak body leading best practice in industry engagement, technology transfer and entrepreneurship for research organisations since 1978. KCA is a founding member of the global Alliance of Technology Transfer Professionals.

Our sector is changing rapidly and profoundly. To help our members rise to this challenge, KCA provides influential advocacy, accredited training, world-leading resources and outstanding opportunities for recognition and networking.

Above all, KCA is a strong community of collaborators, advisors and mentors, led by the passionate, dedicated professionals on our Board. Whatever your level of experience, you can join KCA and get involved in promoting professionalism and building capacity in our sector.

In recognition of the outstanding efforts of our member organisations we have put in place awards to recognise exemplary outcomes. This year KCA has expanded the number of Award categories.

The 2021 KCA Awards categories are;

KCA Award for Best Industry Collaboration,

KCA Award for Best Licensing Deal,

KCA Award for Best Spin-out and,

KCA Award for Best Knowledge Exchange Initiative

Award Description

KCA Award for Best Industry Collaboration

The KCA Award for Best Industry Collaboration celebrates the achievements of members, and highlights “top tier work” in Australasian research commercialisation. The successful nominee will have demonstrated their contribution of the creation of a significant research collaboration with Industry Partner(s)

We invite members to put forth any activity that has realised success in the last 18 months.

Three finalists will be selected overall from the nominations received, and those three finalists will pitch their nomination at the KCA Digital Event on Friday 10 September 2021. The winner, as deemed by a panel of judges, and the people’s choice award winner, will also be announced at the KCA Annual Conference.

The Awards are open to all KCA members and their respective project partners. The UIC can span all facets of research commercialisation, industry engagement and entrepreneurship. The Award recognises ‘top tier work’ in the profession, so please be encouraged to put forth projects which demonstrate application of the [KCA competency framework](#), originality, creative business insight, and/or deliver significant societal impact.

KCA Award for Best Licensing Deal.

The KCA Award for Best Licensing Deal celebrates the achievements of members, and highlights “top tier work” in Australasian research commercialisation. We invite members to put forth any licensing activity that has generated financial, societal, or other discernible impact in last three years.

Three finalists will be selected overall from the nominations received and the winner as deemed by a panel of judges will be announced at the KCA Annual Conference on Friday 10 September 2021.

The Awards are open to all KCA members and their respective project partners. This Award is targeted to a significant licensing outcome with measurable benefit to the Australasian community. The Award recognises ‘top tier work’ in the profession, so please be encouraged to put forth projects which demonstrate application of the [KCA competency framework](#), originality, creative business insight, and/or deliver significant societal impact.

KCA Award for Best Spin-out.

The KCA Award for Best Spin-out celebrates the achievements of members, and highlights “top tier work” in Australasian research commercialisation. We invite members to put forth any Spin-out that has generated financial, societal, or other discernible impact in the last three years.

Three finalists will be selected overall from the nominations received and the winner as deemed by a panel of judges will be announced at the KCA Annual Conference on Friday 10 September 2021.

The Awards are open to all KCA members and their respective project partners. Projects can span all facets of establishing a Spin-out. This Award is targeted to a significant outcome with measurable potential benefit to the Australasian community. The Award recognises ‘top tier work’ in the profession, so please be encouraged to put forth projects which demonstrate application of the [KCA competency framework](#), originality, creative business insight, and/or deliver significant societal impact.

KCA Award for Best Knowledge Exchange Initiative

The KCA Award for Knowledge Exchange Initiative celebrates the achievements of members, and highlights “top tier work” in Australasian research commercialisation. We invite members to put forth any Knowledge Exchange Initiatives which may involve anyone of the following activities; consulting, infrastructure projects, training, novel programs, community projects, precincts, establishment of CRC’s or catapult activities that has realised success as a result of efforts spanning at least eighteen months.

Three finalists will be selected overall from the nominations received and the winner as deemed by a panel of judges will be announced at the KCA Annual Conference on Friday 10 September 2021.

The Awards are open to all KCA members and their respective project partners. This Award is targeted to a significant outcome with measurable benefit to the Australasian community. The Award recognises ‘top tier work’ in the profession, so please be encouraged to put forth projects which demonstrate application of the [KCA competency framework](#), originality, creative business insight, and/or deliver significant societal impact.

Eligibility to Enter

- Nominees must have one party who is a member of KCA
- Finalists and Award winners will be the activity from the KCA member organisation, not individuals
- A representative from (or for) each finalist team must be available to present at the KCA Annual Conference on 10 September 2021
- Eligible organisations may register more than one activity

Nominations

Note the following:

- Nominations must be submitted by one party (nominator), on behalf of another party (nominee/s).
- Note: nominator and nominee may be called upon by the Selection Panel to provide evidence of claims made within submitted documentation.
- Incomplete Nominations will **NOT** be considered.
- Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted
- The nomination process is not confidential to the nominee and the nominator may seek assistance from the nominee for the application.

All decisions taken by KCA shall be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Assessment Criteria

Each of the Award categories have the same assessment criteria even though they each cover different aspects of Research Commercialisation. In assessing the nominees, the following Criterion will be taken into account for each award. The Nominator should specifically address these criteria towards the Award Category being applied for and provide specific examples and data as necessary.

Whilst quantitative data is an essential element to be provided to assist in the assessment of nominees, qualitative data is also critical in balancing out any application.

Why is this activity deserving of “top tier work” in Australasian tech/knowledge transfer status? OR Why is this a great example of tech/knowledge transfer activity in Australasia?

The nominee/s should demonstrate that they

1. Have made an identifiably significant contribution to the translation of research by the application of skills in IP identification and commercial negotiation and
2. Have demonstrated a good working relationship with the key researchers and
3. Have generated a tangible outcome for the application and advancement of research into the community.

The nominations will be assessed by a panel of persons experienced in technology transfer and be overseen by KCA Director Dr Tim Boyle.

NOMINATION CLOSING DATE: 5:00 PM AEST SUNDAY 1 August 2021.

Nominations must be made using the **KCA ONLINE NOMINATION PORTAL** which can be found on the KCA Awards webpage: <https://techtransfer.org.au/kca-awards/>

The on-line Nomination Portal provides prompts and guidance:

- You can answer your questions in any order and all answers need to be completed to ensure your nomination is considered valid.
- The section you are filling in will be clearly highlighted and a tick will appear when the section is completed successfully.
- You will know how much of the entry has been completed, indicated on the summary page.
- Each page will save when you click the ‘NEXT’, ‘PREVIOUS’ or ‘SAVE & RETURN’ buttons at the bottom of the entry page but will not save if you leave the page mid progress without clicking ‘SAVE & RETURN’.

Quick check:

Has the nominator sent out a courtesy note to your project team and manager advising them of this nomination? Just something to consider, but should you reach the finals, or indeed be deemed the winner, it may be best that your project team knows they have been nominated so that they can get involved in the process should they wish.

Supporting Documentation

Note: A maximum of 5 supporting documents (including a CV document) are permitted per nomination

Nominator can upload into the Nomination Portal supporting quantitative documents such as:

- Quantitative documentation.
- Referee Reports
- nominee's CV (no more than two pages)
- patents
- any acknowledgement of inventorship, such as patent authoring
- Financial: Details of sales, financial details of licenses, financial impact as a result of uptake of the technology
- Jobs: Jobs created, transformed (upskilled) or secured (avoided job loss), with preference to Australasian jobs
- Productivity: productivity improvement, evidence of added value to product or process
- Competitiveness: improved position in global supply chain, evidence of impact on the market
- Sustainability: Evidence that the impact is sustainable and transformative.
- Social Impact: evidence of impact in the areas of health, safety, environment, compliance and community impact; improvement for an identified subset of the community; or a previously unmet need.

Nominators are also encouraged to upload into the Nomination Portal any supporting documentation relevant to the application for the **specific KCA Award Category**.

Key Dates

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| Launch | Monday 21 June 2021 |
| Nominations Deadline | Sunday 1 August 2021 |
| Finalists Announced | Friday 13 August 2021 |
| Presentation by Finalists for KCA Award for Best University Industry Collaboration at KCA Annual Conference | Friday 10 September 2021 |
| Winners Announced at KCA Annual Conference | Friday 10 September 2021 |

Presentation of Awards

The presentation of KCA Awards will take place at the KCA Annual Conference on Friday 10 September 2021.

Should a team nomination win a KCA Award the person the nominator has identified as the “team leader” will be the designated spokesperson at the presentation function.

Obligations of Awardees

Short listed awardees will be expected to:

- attend the 2021 KCA Annual Conference Gala Dinner.
- Allow the publication of their success in KCA website and literature

Confidentiality & Privacy

Confidentiality of information exchanges will be strictly observed.

In accordance with the Privacy Act, KCA protects the privacy and security of information provided by you. By completing this form, you agree to the use of your personal information by KCA for purposes related to the KCA Awards program; that KCA may contact you about our products and services; and that KCA may use this information for internal purposes.

If you do not wish to receive further information, please email admin@techtransfer.org.au