**ACEA Training and Education Champion of the Year**

**Purpose**

To recognise exceptional educators, trainers, administrators or co-ordinators in prisons, community corrections and youth justice settings in Australasia. These individuals will exemplify outstanding professional knowledge, skills and practice.

**Categories**

* Corrections Training and Education Champion of the Year: The Bob Semmens Award

In 1992, following discussions between correctional education specialists across the globe, Bob Semmens was instrumental in founding the organisations which later became ACEA. This award recognizes exceptional training and education champions in prison and community corrections settings.

* Youth Justice Training and Education Champion of the Year: The Ray Chavez Award

Ray Chavez was a long serving President of ACEA between 2013 and 2019. During his presidency, Ray facilitated greater recognition and more active engagement of youth justice educators in the association. This award recognizes exceptional training and education champions in the youth justice space.

**Eligibility**

To be eligible, applicants must be:

* A current trainer, educator, administrator or coordinator in prisons, community corrections or youth justice settings; ***or*** in employment, regular contracting, or regular volunteering with a school, registered training organization, education provider or post-secondary education provider operating within a secure justice setting.
* Involved in the delivery of education and/or training in a secure adult or youth justice setting within the 12 months prior to nomination.
* Involved with the provision of education and/or training which has led to recognized outcomes, qualifications or statements of attainment which align with the Australian Qualifications Training Framework and/or Australian Curriculum or their equivalents in other jurisdictions.
* A financial member of ACEA.

**The Submission**

The submission should be no more than 500 words and may include the following:

1. Evidence of a well-developed **education philosophy**, which could include:

* The principles and beliefs that underpin their development and delivery of education programs and engagement with learners in secure justice settings.
* How and why that education philosophy promotes and facilitates positive engagement and outcomes for their students.

1. Evidence ofhigh standards of **professional knowledge and understanding**, which could include:

* Extensive knowledge and understanding of the standards, curriculum, content and strategies associated with the educational programs delivered in secure justice settings.
* Extensive knowledge and understanding of the barriers and support that exist in relation to developing and delivery education generally, and their educational program specifically, to learners with diverse life experiences and learning needs within secure justice settings.
* A discussion of how professional knowledge and understanding has resulted in enhanced educational programming and/or delivery to incarcerated learners.

1. Evidence ofhigh standards of **professional practice**, which could include:

* Evidence of the capacity to develop programs and/or resources which are appropriate for delivery and include innovative approaches to address the challenges of providing education to learners.
* Evidence of the capacity to develop programs and/or resources which reflect and are responsive to the complex life experiences and learning needs of learners.
* How their professional practice has resulted in enhanced educational and/or vocational outcomes for students in the short and long term.

1. Evidence ofhigh standards of **professional engagement**, which could include:

* Evidence of a willingness and capacity to engage and work collaboratively with a wide range of individuals and organisations from diverse disciplines and sectors, who provide concurrent services to their learners.
* Evidence of the willingness and capacity to engage and engage with learners with diverse life experiences and learning needs during development and delivery of learning experiences.
* How professional engagement with peers and students has resulted in enhanced educational programming and/or delivery, as well as enhanced educational and/or vocational outcomes for learners.

1. Evidence ofhigh standards of **professional development**, which could include:

* A pattern of continual engagement in professional development in order to enhance knowledge and skills specifically relating to the delivery of appropriate and relevant education to learners with diverse life experiences and learning needs.
* A capacity to adapt education design and provision in relation to short-term and long-term changes in justice and/or education policies, procedures and priorities, as well as changes in learner cohorts.
* Continual engagement in professional development that has resulted in the maintenance or improvement of educational programming and/or delivery within the secure justice setting, as well as educational and/or vocational outcomes for learners over an extended period of time.

**Process**

1. Call for nominees

* Each State/Territory/Jurisdictional Representative will distribute ACEA Training and Education Champion of the Year information to members and stakeholders within their jurisdiction.
* The Youth Justice Representative will distribute ACEA Youth Justice Training and Education Champion of the Year information to members and stakeholders of the Youth Justice Network.

1. Nominations close (31 August).

Only nominations including the following information will be considered valid:

* Relevant nomination with ALL sections included.
* Colour portrait photograph.

1. Selection of state/territory/jurisdictional finalists (September 15).

* Each state/territory/jurisdictional representative (with the assistance of an ACEA Executive Committee member) will select **one** **nominee from their jurisdiction** as a finalist to be considered by the ACEA Training and Education Champion of the Year selection panel.
* The Youth Justice Representative (with the assistance of the ACEA Executive Committee) will select **one nominee from each jurisdiction** as finalists to be considered by the ACEA Youth Justice Training and Education Champion of the Year selection panel.

1. Announcement and referral of state/territory/jurisdictional finalists to Selection Panels (via the Secretary) on1 October.

* Each state/territory/jurisdictional representative and the youth justice representative will forward relevant information and documents to the Secretary.
* The Secretary will provide lists of finalists and relevant documentation to the chair of each selection panel and inform each state/territory/jurisdictional finalist in each award category of their progression to the next stage.
* The Information and Communication Officer will report the names of each state/territory/jurisdictional finalist in each award category on the ACEA website and ensure reporting in the next scheduled Learning Chronicle and Youth Bulletin.

1. Selection panels formed and convened

* The ACEA Training and Education Champion of the Year selection panel will:
* Be convened and chaired by the President.
* Consist of the Executive Committee members and two Advisory Council members, nominated and invited to participate by the President.
* The ACEA Youth Justice Training and Education Champion of the Year Selection Panel will:
* Be convened and chaired by the Vice-President.
* Consist of the ACEA Executive Committee.

1. Review of nominees and selection of award winners (15 October).

* Each selection panel will hold an initial meeting to discuss and clarify relevant selection criteria and decision processes (such as criteria weighting; decision making consensus or majority voting).
* Members of each selection panel will have an opportunity to individually review and consider each nomination and organize finalists in their preference order based on relevant selection criteria and decision processes.
* Each selection panel will hold a final meeting to discuss individual preferences and come to an agreement regarding the recipient for the relevant category.
* Each selection panel chair will notify the Secretary of the panel decision and forward relevant documentation.

1. Announcement of award recipients (30 October).

* The Secretary will notify all finalists of the decisions of the selection panel for each award category and commence planning for award presentation with each category winner.

1. Presentation of awards (November)

* Awards for each category will be presented:
* During the ACEA Biennial conference; or
* During an official ACEA forum/event, on off conference years.
* The Information and Communication Officer will report the names of each award recipient in each category on the ACEA website and ensure reporting in the next scheduled Learning Chronicle and Youth Bulletin.

**Award**

The award recipient in each category will receive:

* A trophy.
* A certificate and formal record of their exceptional professional knowledge, skills and practice in providing learning opportunities to individuals detained within secure adult or youth justice settings.
* A commemorative gift produced by students of a corrections education or youth justice education program.
* Free registration for the next ACEA Biennial Conference.
* Verbal recognition during the award presentation ceremony.
* Written recognition on the ACEA website and through the Learning Chronicles or Youth Bulletin.

Finalists in each category of award will receive:

* A framed certificate.
* Verbal recognition during the award presentation ceremony.
* Written recognition on the ACEA website and through the Learning Chronicles or Youth Bulletin.