

# RURAL EDUCATION AWARD

2020



*"An initiative of the Country Education Partnership"*

## BACKGROUND

The Country Education Partnership established the Rural Education Awards to showcase the outstanding achievements and practices of education leaders, and educators, in Victorian Rural and Remote Learning Communities across all education sectors.

The award has operated for a number of years recognizing outstanding rural education leadership with kind support from people such as Mr Baillieu Myer AO.

Each year the Country Education Partnership invites education communities to nominate educators, education leaders, or education partnerships to nominate for the Annual Award.

### AWARD AIM:

***To acknowledge the outstanding, and exemplary achievement and contribution of education leaders, educators and education organizations in supporting, providing and enhancing the provision of learning within rural and remote communities.***

The Award recognises the reputation of Victorian Rural Education Communities and Partnerships as “Centres of Excellence”.

It also acknowledges the endeavours that build a collective knowledge and recognises innovation that will enhance rural and remote education.

### 2020 RURAL EDUCATION AWARD FOCUS:

The 2020 Rural Education Award will acknowledge the Inspirational and Innovative Educators, Education Leaders and Education Organizations who work collaborative to provide learning within our rural and remote communities.

The Country Education Partnership invites rural learning communities (whether that be early years services, schools, or adult learning organizations) to nominate educators, education leaders, education teams, or clusters who have made a difference in rural and remote children’s and young peoples lives.

An amount of \$ 6,000.00 will be provided to the successful nominee to be utilized in further developing the initiative.



### Overall Criteria:

The criteria developed for the 2020 Rural Education Award will reflect the overall objectives of the Country Education Partnership:

- ◆ Utilizing collaborative approaches that foster inclusiveness, participation, sharing and responsiveness to students and staff learning needs and desires;
- ◆ Enhances the capacity of rural and remote communities in delivering a high quality and responsive education;
- ◆ Innovative approaches, that is underpinned by continual rethink and evaluation of current practices, and as a result has utilized “new thinking” and practices;
- ◆ Utilizes an evidence based approach, and has data that indicates outcomes and impacts that have enhanced learning opportunities and education outcomes.

The definition of rural for the purpose of the Rural Education Award includes those communities that are located:

- ◆ at least one and half hours car travel from Melbourne CBD
- ◆ at least 15 minutes from a regional population of at least 10,000 people
- ◆ within a community population of less than 5,000 people.



**APPLICATION PROCESS:**

*Full Application due by 30th September using the Application Form.*

- ◆ As part of the application nominees should describe how they have addressed the Overall Criteria listed above.
- ◆ All applications will be acknowledged, via email, shortly after receipt. Late applications will not be considered.
- ◆ Eligible applicants are advised to complete the award application form and address all the selection criteria detailed.
- ◆ The selection panel will shortlist eligible candidates.
- ◆ Short listed candidates may be required to attend an interview.
- ◆ The selection panel will include representatives in the field of education, who will use the criteria to identify rural education communities that demonstrate excellence.

**ENDORSEMENT**

The application must be endorsed by the governing body (eg school council), a senior management person ( eg Principal or Manager), or chair of a cluster organisation.

**REFEREE**

In support of your application, you must provide the contact details of two referees.

If you are short listed, your referees will be contacted. As a general guide, referees may focus on your achievements to date and why you are an outstanding candidate.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

Given the significance, value and prestige of this Award there is a rigorous selection process.

The achievements of recipients will be celebrated at a state level, and in some cases at national and international level.



**RURAL EDUCATION AWARD TIMELINE:**

Rural Education Award Nominations open.	May 2020
Eligible applicants are invited to submit a detailed application in line with the Award requirements using the relevant application template available at the CEP website – <a href="http://www.cep.org.au">www.cep.org.au</a> .	Applications due to Country Education Partnership by 30th September 2020.
Finalists are identified – a maximum of 3. A Working Group will be established to assess the applications, and those who provide support for the award will be included within this discussion.	Finalists will be notified during October 2020
Awards announced at Country Education Partnership Meeting in November.	November 2020

## COUNTRY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

### MISSION AND PURPOSE

Collaboratively use its resources in rural education and communities to challenge and support them in there:

- planning and delivery of high quality learning and
- the provision of opportunities for all students.

### SHARED VALUES

- **Collaboration**

Collaboration that fosters inclusiveness, participation, sharing and a responsiveness to members

- **Leadership**

A leadership that is proactive, professional and consultative

- **Achievement**

A focus on development, challenge, excellence and celebration

### CORE FUNCTIONS

- **Leadership, Advocacy and Communication**

- ◇ Supporting the development and provision of high quality learning for rural communities
- ◇ Supporting the development of a high quality rural education workforce
- ◇ Providing leadership in rural education, professional learning and research
- ◇ Developing strategic links with key organizations and representatives
- ◇ Leading the CEP statewide, nationally and internationally
- ◇ Promoting, advocating and communicating information and action about CEP and rural education

- **Learning Provision**

- ◇ Facilitating quality learning for all students in rural communities
- ◇ Supporting provision of 0-18 years and beyond learning
- ◇ Supporting a "place based" whole of community approach to development and provision of learning
- ◇ Enhancing provision through clustering

- **Creative and Innovative Partnerships**

- ◇ The formation of partnerships that will fulfill the CEP mission
- ◇ Focus on developing innovative responses to rural education challenges and opportunities
- ◇ Developing different solutions to existing and new challenges and opportunities.

