

**THE PRIME MINISTER’S** **SCIENCE TEACHER PRIZE**

**ABOUT THE PRIZE**

* This Prize will be awarded to a permanently appointed **registered teacher** who is teaching science1 to school-age children (in a primary, intermediate or a secondary New Zealand registered school) and who has been in the same role at the same school for at least 12 months prior to their nomination.
* The Prime Minister’s Science Teacher Prize is worth $150,000. The recipient will receive $50,000 with no expectations and the recipient’s school will receive $100,000 to use for the development of science1.
* **Nominations close at 5pm (NZST), Friday 9 October 2020.**

**1 Taken to include teaching relevant to any of the science, technology, mathematics, pūtaiao, hangarau or pāngarau learning areas of the New Zealand curriculum.**

**ELIGIBILITY**

* This Prize will be awarded to a permanently appointed registered teacher who has been teaching science1 to school-age children (in a primary, intermediate or a secondary New Zealand registered school) and who has been in the same role at the same school for at least 12 months prior to their nomination.
* Nominees must be either a New Zealand citizen or a New Zealand permanent resident.
* The teacher (nominee) must have had five years of science1teaching experience in New Zealand.
* In the case of secondary school teachers, the majority of their teaching time must have been devoted to teaching science1 subjects.
* The recipient of the Prize is expected to remain in the teaching profession for at least the year following the presentation of the Prize.
* Re-application by nominees from previous years is encouraged, as long as the eligibility criteria continue to be met and that substantial new evidence has been provided. However past winners of the Prize will not be eligible to enter a second time.

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**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Adjudication will be based on evidence of significant achievements in science1 education within five years of the date of nomination.

Nominees should present an application that addresses the following criteria (with cross references to an attached evidence portfolio that is a maximum of ten pages)

* Pedagogical approach for science1 teaching used by the nominee
* A range of evidence that the nominee’s actions have led to improved outcomes in science1 for the students they teach.
* Contribution of the nominee to the awareness and appreciation of science1 in the national and local science education community
* Influence on the school delivery of, and engagement with science1; this could include support for colleagues, participating with scientists and creating opportunities for community involvement.

Each application will be assessed in the **context** in which the nominee is teaching (relative to the opportunities reasonably available to a primary, intermediate or secondary teacher).

Assessment will include consideration of referees’ and nominees statements.  A nominee may be requested to attend an interview.

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**entry process**

All nominations must be completed and received by **5pm (NZST), Friday 9 October 2020.**

* The teacher (nominee) will need to be nominated by a person (nominator) who is knowledgeable about the nominee’s work and able to comment on all of the criteria.
* In addition, a confidential statement regarding the nominee is required from the nominee’s current principal. (Therefore the Principal will **not** be able to be a nominator).
* The nominator will be required to complete an on-line form which addresses the selection criteria.
* The nominee and the Principal will need to download their forms and submit.  Nominees will be asked to answer questions and complete the authorisation form endorsing their nomination, and agreeing that any information provided in the nomination may be used in publicity for the Prize.
* Finally, the nominee will attach a two page standard New Zealand CV and an Evidence Portfolio (maximum of ten pages)

Please note that information provided in the nomination may be subject to the Official Information Act.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

* The Secretariat gives no undertaking to keep confidential any information that is provided in the nomination form unless this is identified as information that should be treated as such. It may, for example, be used to prepare promotional material for the Prize in future years.

**selection paneL**

* The Prime Minister’s decision to present the Prize will have regard to the advice of the selection panel. The selection panel will be comprised of experienced education professionals.
* It is recognised that occasionally members of the selection panel will know nominees, or have other conflicts of interest. They will be expected to declare all conflicts of interest when these situations arise. In the case of knowing an applicant, the Chair of the selection panel will rule if this is significant enough for a panellist to be stood down from the committee for that applicant. (In the case of the Chair having a conflict of interest the decision will be made by another member of the panel who has been identified in this role at the beginning of the process). If there is a conflict of interest the panellist will stand down for that application.
* The selection panel will not enter into any correspondence concerning its deliberations. All inquiries should be directed to the secretariat. The secretariat will not disclose information on matters such as ranking, or names of nominees.
* The panel will make its decision based on the ‘written’ information ‘within’ the online forms only from the nominator, nominee and Principal. This will include the evidence portfolio.
* A nominee may be asked to attend an interview.

### **SECRETARIAT**

The secretariat for The Prime Minister’s Science Prizes is Royal Society Te Apārangi

Secretariat
The Prime Minister’s Science Prizes
C/- Royal Society Te Apārangi
PO Box 598, Wellington
**Phone**: (04) 470 5762

**expectations**

* $50,000 of the Prize money is to go to the recipient with no expectations.
* The Prize recipient’s school is expected to use the $100,000 to support science education and an indicative plan needs to be included in the Principal’s statement.
* The Prize recipient will be expected to be involved in promotional opportunities appropriate to receiving The Prime Minister’s Science Teacher Prize.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

* The winner is expected to make themselves available for half a day in December/January to meet with the Prime Minister’s Science Prize media liaison personnel in preparation of media material and photos.
* The winner will be announced in February/March  (date to be confirmed)
* The winner will be expected to make themselves available for that announcement in in Wellington.

**checklist**

* The nominee is a permanently appointed registered teacher who has been teaching science1 to school-age children (in a primary, intermediate or secondary New Zealand registered school) and who has been in the same role for at least 12 months prior to their nomination.
* The nominee is either a New Zealand citizen or a New Zealand permanent resident and must send a copy of their passport.
* Nominees must have had five years teaching in New Zealand.
* In the case of secondary school teachers, the majority of the nominee’s teaching time has been devoted to teaching science1 subjects.

The following forms must be sent:

* Nominator form
* Nominee Declaration of Assurance form.
* Nominee’s two page CV (maximum)
* Nominee’s Evidence Portfolio  (up to ten pages)  This must be sent as a PDF
* Nominee form
* Principal’s form.
* The Principal together with the Prize recipient needs to complete the ‘plan form’ on how the $100,000 will be used.
* All forms must be submitted online by **5pm, Friday 9 October to****pmscienceprizes@royalsociety.org.nz**

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