

Information Kit

2026

Minister's Awards

Arts

Financial Education

Languages

Key dates

- Term 2, Week 10: Awards launched
- Tuesday 28th July, 5–6pm: Awards Zoom info session
- Tuesday 29th September, 11pm: Award applications close
- Friday 30th of October: Awards presented at SA State World Teachers' Day Awards Night

APPLY NOW



Minister's Awards

Thanks for choosing to investigate these Awards and all the opportunities they may offer to you, a colleague or your Preschool! So what are they about and how do they work?

The Minister for Education, Training and Skills, ***the Honourable Lucy Hood***, and ***Educators SA*** want to celebrate you and your success as an educator.

The prestigious 2026 Minister's Awards offer a unique opportunity for you to be acknowledged by the Minister and your peers, and to receive a financial award that allows you to increase your impact within our education community. This financial award is provided so that you can design and pursue some amazing professional learning that will help you be and become an even more outstanding educator in your learning community.

What are the Minister's Awards?

There are three different categories of Awards:

A horizontal banner with a dark blue background and a gold wavy line pattern on the right side. The text "Minister's Awards" is in gold, and "Arts" is in a larger, bold gold font.

Minister's Awards

Arts

A horizontal banner with a dark blue background and a gold geometric pattern of overlapping squares and rectangles on the right side. The text "Minister's Awards" is in gold, and "Financial Education" is in a larger, bold gold font.

Minister's Awards

Financial Education

A horizontal banner with a dark blue background and a gold circular pattern of overlapping circles on the right side. The text "Minister's Awards" is in gold, and "Language Immersion Scholarships" is in a larger, bold gold font.

Minister's Awards

**Language Immersion
Scholarships**

In each category there are opportunities for educators from all three sectors to be celebrated (Public Education, Catholic Education, Independent Sites).

What - Where - When

How can you get involved?

- Read the Award information and think about how well you, your colleague or your Preschool fits the criteria. Get excited about the possibilities it might offer you and others!
- Consider your professional learning proposal and discuss applying for the award with your Line Manager/Principal. Are they prepared to support your application?
- Submit an online application by Tuesday 29th of September, 11pm

What do I receive?

A beautiful Award to show off, and an **\$8 000 grant** for professional learning to enhance your personal/site capacity in your particular field.

When and where are the Awards presented?

As an awardee, you will attend the Educators SA State World Teachers' Day Awards evening on Friday 30th October, 2026 at Adelaide Oval where you will have the chance to celebrate with the education community and receive your Award from the Minister.

Getting started

We encourage you to:

- Read the Award information in this booklet
- Check out the videos from the Department for Education Ambassadors for each award
- Check out the videos from previous winners on the Educators SA website
- Attend the zoom information session to chat more about how the Awards operate on Tuesday 28th July, 5-6pm – [Register here!](#)
- Consider your professional learning proposal for the 2027 calendar year
- Ring the EdSA office for a chat if you have any questions!

Key Dates:

- Tuesday 28th July, 5-6pm: Zoom information session – [Register here!](#)
- Tuesday 29th of September, 11pm: Awards Applications close
- Friday 30th October: Educators SA State World Teachers' Day Awards Night at Adelaide Oval, Adelaide

Let's get to the details!

**EACH AWARD
IS WORTH
\$8,000**

Minister's Arts Awards

Public School Category

- Primary Teacher of the Arts
- Secondary Teacher of the Arts

Non-Government School Category

- Primary Teacher of the Arts
- Secondary Teacher of the Arts

Early Career Teacher (Public, Catholic or Independent)

- Teacher of the Arts in their first five years of teaching*

Preschool Arts Education Award

- This award is presented to a site, not an individual and is open to any Public Education preschool (school based, stand-alone or a Children's Centre)

Minister's Awards for Excellence in Financial Education

Public School Category

- Primary Teacher or Leader
- Secondary Teacher or Leader

Non-Government School Category

- R-12 Teacher or Leader

Minister's Language Immersion Scholarships

Public School Category

- R-12 Language Teacher
- Early Career Language Teacher in their first five years of teaching*

Non-Government School Category

- R-12 Language Teacher in a Catholic school
- R-12 Language Teacher in an Independent school
- Early Career Language Teacher (Catholic or Independent) in their first five years of teaching*

* NOTE: For Early Career Teacher Awards, the first five years of teaching can include TRT, contract and ongoing appointments.

Award Criteria

Am I eligible?

To be eligible for the Individual Awards, applicants must:

- Be a practicing teacher (or Leader) in SA in the field of the Award
- Not have previously won an Award in the same category
- Have the support of your Site Leader / Line Manager
- Be intending to teach/lead in that field and sector in 2027
- Be able to, with the support of your site, undertake the planned professional learning during the 2027 calendar year

To be eligible for the **Preschool Arts Award** your site must be a Public Education Preschool – standalone, school based or a Children's Centre, and have the support of your Education Director (or specified delegate).

How are the Awardees selected?

A panel comprised of representatives from Educators SA, the Department for Education, non-government education sectors and relevant Professional Associations will assess the applications. The panel will consider your:

- Eligibility
- Responses to the application questions
- Supporting endorsements
- Current CV (2 pages maximum)

Educators SA may also:

- Seek feedback from your Principal/Director/Line Manager for quality assurance processes
- Invite you to meet with the panel online for a short discussion to clarify aspects of your application

Recommendations from the Panel are endorsed through the Board of Educators SA and all applicants are notified of the outcome of their application in early October.

Expectations

If I'm successful, what are the expectations?

If successful you must:

- Be able to attend the Educators SA World Teachers' Day award ceremony which will be held on Friday 30th October, 2026 at Adelaide Oval. At this event you will receive your Award from the Minister for Education, Training and Skills and be celebrated by your peers.
- Consent to your name and image being used by Educators SA, the Department for Education, CESA or AISSA by completing a relevant consent form
- Be willing to be filmed and/or talk with the media for the purpose of marketing the awards as required
- Share your professional learning with colleagues in a format to be negotiated between you and Educators SA
- Carry out the planned professional learning program in the 2027 calendar year. Any revisions to your intending learning programme are to be approved by the Chief Executive of Educators SA.
- Submit a short report to Educators SA by the end of the 2027 calendar year summarising the outcomes of the professional learning and a financial acquittal.



**Still
interested?**

**Then it's time to dig deeper into
your particular Award category!
Happy exploring!**

Minister's Awards Arts

Individual Awards

PURPOSE

The awards are designed to:

- Acknowledge and celebrate the valuable contribution made by outstanding Arts Educators
- Celebrate the role of Arts Education and its place in the community
- Identify Arts Educators who are creative and innovative in guiding their children and young people to realise their potential
- Provide opportunities for outstanding teachers of The Arts to engage in quality professional learning in The Arts

THE AWARDS

The awards provide \$8 000 for each Awardee to undertake professional learning that is designed to allow them to further develop and innovate their practice and leadership in The Arts. A maximum of \$2 000 can be allocated to TRT backfill in the proposal.



Minister's Awards

Arts

Preschool Award

PURPOSE

This award is designed to:

- Acknowledge excellent practice in Arts Education in a Public Education Preschool in any one or combination of the Arts forms; dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts. This might include one or a combination of the following:
 - Integrating arts provocations in the preschool's play programme
 - Integrating one or more Artforms as a specific programme of play provocations
 - Collaborating with artists in the preschool learning environment
 - Working as a preschool team to undertake professional learning in the Arts and then putting this new learning into practice and having an impact
 - Other great Arts ideas, practices or initiatives

THE AWARD

The award provides \$8 000 to a preschool to further develop and implement its Arts programme. This could include acquiring resources, undertaking staff professional learning, hosting artists, sharing their Arts practices with other preschools, engaging their community in the Arts or other relevant professional activity that enhances their Arts programme. A maximum of \$4 000 can be allocated to TRT backfill in the proposal.



Financial Education

PURPOSE

The awards are designed to:

- Acknowledge and celebrate the important role financial literacy plays in ensuring that children and young people can thrive
- Celebrate the role of teachers and leaders who act as innovators in this aspect of learning and teaching
- Identify and recognise educational leadership and quality innovative classroom practices in financial education
- Provide opportunities for further scholarship in financial education supporting the design and delivery of effective and meaningful programs, courses, subjects and other initiatives shining a spotlight on financial education in schools

THE AWARDS

The awards provide \$8 000 to allow each Awardee to undertake professional learning that is designed to allow them to further develop and innovate on their practice and leadership in Financial Education. It may include formal study at a tertiary institution; travel and observation of identified classroom practice within Australia; teacher release to develop and trial new courses or subjects within a school; teacher release to influence collegiate practice within a network of schools.



Minister's Awards Languages

What does the scholarship involve?

This scholarship provides the awardees with the opportunity to use the \$8 000 to undertake one of two types of in-country study programmes:

- Personal in-country immersion
- Immersion programme within Australia

Applicants are asked to propose their own immersion programme that focusses on improving their language skills and proficiency, and intercultural understanding. Applicants are required to establish a detailed itinerary and budget plan to support their proposed personal in-country immersion programme as part of the materials for the panel to consider.

Immersion scholarships are only available for languages that have a curriculum or framework in the Australian Curriculum. Depending on the applicant pool, the scholarship programme will aim to cover a range of languages in each funding cycle including Asian, European and Australian languages.

Key criteria to consider

Key criteria to consider when developing your proposal for an immersion programme:

- How will it improve your language skills and proficiency and intercultural understanding?
- How will you use what you learn within your teaching practice?
- How will you use what you learn to impact on the learning and teaching of other language educators?
- What impact, short and long term, will your immersion experience have on student engagement and retention in Languages at your site?



A maximum of \$2 000 can be allocated to TRT backfill in the proposal.

It's time to get started!

So now you know more about these Awards,
are you ready to get started?

Applications can be found at these links:

APPLY NOW



**Minister's Arts
Education Awards
for Arts Educators**



**Minister's Arts
Education Awards
for preschools**



**Minister's Language
Immersion
Scholarships for
Languages
educators**



**Minister's Awards
for Excellence in
Financial Education**

Applications close Tuesday 29th of September, 11.00pm

Remember, the EdSA team are here to help!
Email us at admin@edsa.sa.edu.au or ring on 8463 5875

We can't wait to read your application and to see how you are
going to influence the future!

Educators SA, 62 Learning Communities supporting you and your site!

That one missing piece is... **YOU!**



educators
educators-sa.sa.edu.au

**Join an association for your aspect
of learning, and together unlock
your learning and leading power.**



- Inspire
- Connect
- Belong

We can't wait to welcome you!
Scan the QR code to find your community.

**Supporting the Minister's
Language Immersion Scholarships**

**Supporting the Minister's
Arts Awards**



Supporting the Minister's Financial Education Awards

