



Minister's Excellence in Financial Education Awards 2026 - PUBLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY - PRIMARY TEACHER OR LEADER

INFORMATION: How do these Awards work? PART ONE

WHAT ARE THESE AWARDS ABOUT?

The prestigious Minister's "Excellence in Financial Education" Awards recognise educators outstanding achievements in financial education in South Australian schools.

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

HOW MANY AWARDS ARE THERE AND WHAT ARE THE CATEGORIES?

One Award is available in each of the following three categories:

1. Public School Category

Primary Teacher or Leader

Secondary Teacher or Leader

2. Non-Government School Category

R-12 Teacher or Leader

WHAT DO SUCCESSFUL AWARDEES RECEIVE?

Award recipients receive \$8 000 to support their professional learning.

This Award funding may be used for professional learning that includes but is not restricted to, formal study at a tertiary institution; travel and observation of 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.

The Award funding is provided for expenditure during the 2027 calendar year.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA?

- You are a teacher currently working in a South Australian school relevant to the category you are applying for

- You must be intending to teach in a field that includes financial education in 2027
- Your Principal/Line Manager must be supportive of your application
- Your application is complete and adheres to the word counts
- You must be able to attend the Educators SA State World Teachers Day Award ceremony at Adelaide Oval on the evening of the 30th October 2026 to receive your Award from the Minister for Education, Training and Skills.
- You must provide consent for your name and image to be used by Educators SA, the Department for Education, CESA, or AISSA, by providing a completed relevant consent form
- You must, as required, be willing to be videoed and/or talk with media, for the purpose of marketing the Awards
- You must be willing to share your professional learning with colleagues through an event organised by Educators SA or a relevant Professional Association, so that your experiences can be of benefit in promoting financial education practices to the broader education community
- You are required to submit a short report to Educators SA outlining the outcomes of your professional learning by the end of 2027



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INFORMATION: How do these Awards work? PART TWO HOW DOES THE SELECTION PROCESS WORK?

A Panel comprised of representatives from Educators SA, the Department for Education, Non-Government education sectors, and relevant Professional Associations, will be the lucky ones to meet and consider your application. The panel will explore your:

- Eligibility
- Responses to the questions
- Supporting endorsements
- Your Professional Learning Proposal
- Curriculum Vitae

To ensure the Panel can make an informed decision, Educators SA may choose to chat with your Line Manager/Principal to provide additional information or another perspective on the information you have provided.

If they still feel like they want to dig deeper and understand your application better, you may be required to meet the panel online for a short discussion to clarify your professional learning proposal.

Recommendations from the Panel are then endorsed through Educators SA. Applicants will be contacted by the 12th October to advise you of the outcome!

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING THE APPLICATION PROCESS EASIER!

Before proceeding with this online application, have a look at the questions you will be required to answer and plan out your responses out. They can be found on the Awards Page [Click here](#)

DON'T LOSE YOUR APPLICATION - UNDERSTAND HOW SURVEY MONKEY OPERATES!

Partially completed applications can be finalised using the same device and web-browser on which they were started. **HOT TIP** - don't switch devices as your application data will not transit across! When exiting a partially completed application, please ensure you click 'next' at the bottom of the page you have been working on before exiting.

HOW MUCH TIME HAVE YOU GOT?

Applications close at 11pm on Tuesday 29th September 2026

JULY - Awards launched

Tues 28th JULY, 5-6pm - Attend the online information session

JULY/AUGUST/SEPT - Prepare your application materials

29th SEPT - Ensure you have lodged your application online by the 11pm deadline

12th OCT - Applicants notified of the results

WHO CAN YOU CHAT TO IF YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

Thinking of applying? Join us for an online Information Session

Date: Tuesday 28th July, 5-6pm

Where: Online via Zoom

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Educators SA:

Lisa-Jane O'Connor, Chief Executive

T: 08 84635875

E: ce@edsa.sa.edu.au

EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL EDUCATION AWARDS AMBASSADOR

Maureen Hegarty, Leader, Mathematics and Numeracy Policy, Curriculum and Learning, Department for Education

E: Maureen.Hegarty@sa.gov.au

HAVE A GO! GET INVOLVED...
We can't wait to read your proposals!



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Application

Applicants self-nominate for these awards

* 1. I am applying for the Public School Primary Award.

☐ Primary Teacher

☐ Primary Leader

* 2. What is your role?

* 3. I am an Australian citizen or have permanent residency in Australia

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 4. Applicant details:

Title / Preferred
pronoun

Full Name

School

Email Address

Mobile

5. Principal's contact details (complete if you are applying as an educator)

Title/ Preferred pronoun	
Full Name	
School	
Email Address	
Mobile	

6. Line manager's contact details (complete if you are applying as a Primary leader)

Title/ Preferred pronoun	
Full Name	
School	
Email Address	
Mobile	

7. Will you be at your current site in 2027?

☐ Yes

☐ No

8. If not, where will you be working in 2027?



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Supporting Statements

This section is to be completed by the applicant.

Please note there is a 300 word limit in each comment box - the aim is to make this application process achievable for both you and the Panel. Thanks for complying with this limit so your application can be considered! 😊

USE OF AI - AI is an important tool that all educators use as they create materials and resources. It is important to note however, that applications created with AI tend to feel very generic to the readers on a Panel, and they are easy to spot! Use generative AI powerfully, and make sure it is your voice the panellists are hearing 😊

* 9. **HELP US LEARN MORE ABOUT YOU AS A TEACHER OR LEADER OF FINANCIAL EDUCATION:**

You could choose to share with us:

- how you have approached the leading OR learning and teaching of Financial Education
- your journey as a Financial Education teacher or leader till now
- what you are most passionate about as a Financial Education teacher or leader
- your biggest challenges as an Financial Education teacher or leader
- what you are most proud of as a Financial Education teacher or leader

(Max 300 words)

10. **YOUR IMPACT AS A TEACHER OR LEADER OF FINANCIAL EDUCATION:** How do you excite children and young people about learning in, about and/or through Financial Education? What have been the most impactful outcomes for your learners? How have you built a higher profile or participation in Financial Education in your community?

(Max 300 words)

11. **UNDERSTANDING YOU AS A PROFESSIONAL:** Professional educators are continually seeking to grow! Taking the step to apply for this Award is one way you are demonstrating your commitment to developing further, but we would love to know more! If you think about your last few years as an educator, share with us some of the steps you have taken to develop yourself professionally in the area of Financial Education

(eg: Leadership/Engagement in Professional Associations, Working towards accreditations, professional learning experiences...)

(Max 300 words)



* 12. **GROWING AS A TEACHER OR LEADER OF FINANCIAL EDUCATION- PART ONE**
If successful, what do you plan to do with your Professional learning funding of \$8 000?

Make sure you include information about:

- **WHAT**(eg: formal study at a tertiary institution, travel and observation of classroom practice within Australia, release to develop and trial new courses or subjects within a school, release to influence collegiate practice within a network of schools...)
- **WHEN** (include as much detail as possible)
- **WHERE AND WITH WHO**

NOTE: The Award Prize cannot be used to support business development or private enterprise.

(Max 300 words)



* 13. **GROWING AS A TEACHER OR LEADER OF FINANCIAL EDUCATION - PART TWO**

APPROXIMATE COSTINGS (They don't need to be exact, but it needs to be evident to the Panel that you have researched them. Could include event/course fees, transport, accommodation, per diem, TRT days)

Event fees - e.g.

Course fees,

conference fees,

observation fees

Associated costs

including

transport,

accommodation,

and per diem.

Release to develop

new courses or

subjects required

(and approved by

line

manager/Principal)

Release to

influence

collegiate practice

within a network of

schools required

(and approved by

line

manager/Principal)

Other expenses

14. **WHY AND HOW WILL THESE EXPERIENCES HELP YOU GROW AS A TEACHER OR LEADER OF FINANCIAL EDUCATION:** Why and how will the professional learning experiences you have planned, help you be and become an even better, more impactful teacher or leader of Financial Education in the future?

15. Upload your CV

Please name your file: firstname_lastname_CV

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen



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Supporting Statement

This section is to be completed by your Principal / Line Manager.

You can copy it into this online application form or upload it in Question 18. Please note, if you upload the supporting statement it must address both of the questions listed below.

USE OF AI - AI is an important tool that all educators use as they create materials and resources. It is important to note however, that Principal/Line Manager Statements created with AI tend to feel very generic to the readers on a Panel, and they are easy to spot! Use generative AI powerfully, and make sure it is your voice the panellists are hearing 😊

16. Please provide a statement about the applicant's achievements and impact as a teacher or leader of Financial Education.

17. What do you see as the most impactful aspect of the Applicant's Financial Education, leading or learning and teaching practices? What makes their practices impactful for ALL their learners?

18. Upload the Referee Statement (optional)

Please name your file: Firstname_Lastname_Referee

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen



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Declarations

*** 19. Applicant's declaration:**

By ticking yes, I confirm that I am nominating for the Minister's Excellence in Financial Education Award 2026. I understand that, if successful, I will be required to attend the State Awards Presentation Evening on Friday 30th October 2026, and undertake the professional learning activities in 2027, as per my EdSA approved professional learning plan. I also agree to share my learning with the education community in a negotiated manner and to submit a report on my professional learning experience by the advised date.

☐ Yes

20. Principal/Line Manager's Declaration

By ticking 'Yes', I confirm that my Principal/Line Manager has seen, and endorses this application.

The Panel may elect to contact your Principal as a Referee.

☐ Yes

21. Principal/Line Manager's Name and Date of Confirmation

Name

Date