



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
**RURAL HEALTH
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS**

26 March 2022

Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre
Bellevue Ballroom

CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA



Government of **Western Australia**
WA Country Health Service



WA Rural Health Excellence Awards

The WA Rural Health Excellence Awards, to be held on 26 March 2022 at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, recognise and acknowledge health professionals who have dedicated their careers to caring for rural communities, and celebrate the achievements of health professionals who have enhanced the range and quality of healthcare available in Western Australian rural locations.

Having access to quality healthcare is extremely important for rural communities and these awards are an opportunity to shine the spotlight on health professionals who have contributed to rural health in Western Australia (WA).

AWARD CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA

General Practitioner (GP) of the Year

This Award recognises a GP or Procedural GP who has shown professional and personal commitment to regional and rural communities, and has gone above and beyond to provide high quality services throughout rural WA.

ELIGIBILITY

- Peer or organisation nominated.
- GPs must be currently practising in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location and have been working in a rural location for longer than two years.
- Procedural GPs must be appropriately credentialed and have provided anaesthetic, obstetric or surgical services in a regional or rural hospital in the preceding year (during 2021).
- District Medical Officers and Senior Medical Officers are eligible to be nominated and must be currently practising in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location and have been working in a rural location for longer than two years.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications including length of service in rural practice.
- Outline the exceptional qualities of the nominee that demonstrate they have provided consistent high-quality services to rural communities in WA, including steps taken by the nominee to upskill or introduce innovative clinical services.
- Provide examples of the nominee's contribution to the community with specific focus on the positive impact this has had on the wellbeing of the community.

Clinical Leadership

This Award recognises a rural clinician whose leadership demonstrates the highest professional standards. This clinician, through their action and behaviour, is a role model for rural practitioners.

ELIGIBILITY

- Peer or organisation nominated.
- Open to all health professions.
- Must be currently practising in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications including length of service in rural practice.
- Provide an example of how the clinician has had significant positive impact on clinical leadership, such as in the following areas:
 - patient safety
 - patient care
 - patient satisfaction
 - improved access to primary care services.
- Outline how the clinician's leadership qualities have influenced peers to improve the wellbeing of the community.

Rural Researcher or Educator

This Award recognises that health services research, as well as education and curriculum development specific to rural health needs, has the potential to make long-lasting contributions.

ELIGIBILITY

- Peer or organisation nominated.
- Research and education must have a rural focus.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications including length of service delivering education and research to rural WA.
- Demonstrate how the nominee's actions or initiatives have improved the climate for rural research or education in WA. Include how they have led change in the rural research or education sector.
- Provide examples of the nominee's personal research or education practices that have influenced or improved rural health in WA.

Specialist of the Year (Non-GP)

This Award recognises medical specialists who have made significant contributions in providing outstanding care to their patients and the communities in which they practise.

ELIGIBILITY

- Peer or organisation nominated.
- Must be currently practising in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location.
- Must have been residing in a rural location for longer than two years.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications including length of service in rural practice.
- Demonstrate how the nominee is committed to continuity of care and leaving a legacy for other healthcare professionals.
- Explain how the nominee is a role model within the health workforce. Include examples of teamwork and how they have upgraded the skills of the local health workforce to the benefit of the community.

Metropolitan-based Bush Champion

This Award recognises a clinician who has developed a service or facilitated country/metropolitan linkages to enhance access to metropolitan-based health services for rural communities.

ELIGIBILITY

- Peer, community or organisation nominated.
- Open to all health professionals.
- Must be currently providing a service in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications including length of service to rural communities.
- Demonstrate how the nominee has developed a service or facilitated country/metropolitan linkages to enhance access to metropolitan-based health services for rural communities.
- Provide examples of how the nominee has improved outcomes in regional areas based on access to metropolitan-based health services.

Rural Nurse/Midwife of the Year

This Award recognises an exceptional rural nurse or midwife who delivers outstanding patient care, positive outcomes and exceeds the expectations of their role.

ELIGIBILITY

- Peer or organisation nominated.
- Must be currently practising as a nurse/midwife in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location.
- Must have been working in a rural location for longer than two years.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications including length of service in rural practice.
- Demonstrate how the nominee has displayed professional excellence in the area of patient care and how this has improved the outcomes for patients and their families.
- Provide examples of the nominee's contribution to the community with specific focus on how this has and will continue to make a difference to country communities.

Rural Allied Health Professional of the Year

This Award recognises an allied health professional who has shown professional and personal commitment to regional and rural communities and has gone above and beyond to provide services to the community.

ELIGIBILITY

- Supervisor, peer or organisation nominated.
- Must be currently practising in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location.
- Must have been working in a rural location for longer than two years.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications, including length of service in rural practice.
- Outline the exceptional qualities of the allied health professional that demonstrate they deserve consideration for this award.
- Provide examples of the allied health professional's contribution to the community with specific focus on the positive impact this has had on the wellbeing of the community.

ELIGIBLE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS: Aboriginal health worker/health practitioner, allied health assistant/therapy assistant, audiologist, chiropractor, dental hygienist and therapist, dentist, diabetes educator, dietitian, exercise physiologist, mental health professional, nutritionist, occupational therapist, optometrist, paramedic, pharmacist, physiotherapist, psychologist, podiatrist, radiographer, sonographer, speech pathologist.

Rising Star

This Award celebrates the future face of rural healthcare. Each year, we recognise a junior health professional who has shown a true passion for rural health and the intent to continue their career to country communities.

ELIGIBILITY

- Supervisor, peer or organisation nominated.
- Open to all health professionals.
- Must be currently practising in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location.
- Must have been working in a rural location for longer than two years, but fewer than five years.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Outline how the nominee has established their career in rural health. Include a summary of their career and qualifications including length of service in rural practice.
- Demonstrate how the nominee has had a positive impact on the medical ecosystem, such as supporting colleagues, improving patient safety or other similar initiatives to improve quality of care.
- Provide examples of how the nominee is committed to becoming involved in social and volunteer networks within the community.

Building Healthy Country Communities

This Award recognises an initiative or project involving one or more health professionals or entities that promotes or facilitates the development or improvement of rural health services.

ELIGIBILITY

- Community member, patient, peer or organisation nominated.
- Can be self-nominated.
- Open to individuals, teams, organisations and non-government organisations.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Demonstrate how the project or initiative provides health benefits to the rural community. Factors considered include:

- Coordination of services with other healthcare agencies to avoid duplication.
- Networking and collaboration with other healthcare entities to achieve common goals.
- Innovation in development and implementation of healthcare services.
- Lasting impact on rural communities.

People's Choice

This Award is an opportunity for a patient or client, or a support person to acknowledge a health professional who has provided care.

Nominees for this Award promote health, safety and wellbeing within the community and make a difference to the lives of patients or clients and their families as part of their normal working day.

ELIGIBILITY

- Community member or patient nominated.
- Must be currently practising in a rural Western Australian MMM 2-7 location.
- Must have been working in a rural location for longer than two years.
- Open to all health professionals.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Tell us your story of why this person deserves this award.

Chairmans' Award

Chosen from the winners of the 10 Excellence Awards, the Chairman's Award is presented to the person/team. Organisation deemed to have demonstrated exceptional commitment and high quality care for patients and communities in rural WA.

ELIGIBILITY

- Nominations are not required for this category.
- The Chairmans' Award winner will be selected from the winners of each category.

Contact information

Rural Health West
2022 WA Rural Health Awards

T 08 6389 4500
E awards@ruralhealthwest.com.au
W www.ruralhealthwest.com.au/awards
P PO Box 433 NEDLANDS WA 6909