



**STRONG SPIRIT
STRONG MIND**

STRONG SPIRIT STRONG MIND AWARDS 2026 NOMINATION PACKAGE

The purpose of the *Strong Spirit Strong Mind Aboriginal Alcohol and other Drug Awards* is to acknowledge and recognise the outstanding contributions made by organisations and individuals in the alcohol and other drug sector.

The categories of the awards are to identify individuals, projects and organisations that have made a significant improvement in the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people affected by alcohol and other drugs.

There are five (5) *Strong Spirit Strong Mind Award* categories:

- WA Aboriginal alcohol and other drug worker of the year (2)
- Innovative and culturally responsive Aboriginal alcohol and other drug program
- Partnership award
- Organisation recognition award
- Outstanding student award (2)

ENQUIRIES AND RETURN NOMINATION FORMS TO:

WANADA

Email: events@wanada.org.au

Phone: (08) 6289 0750



Closing date for nominations is

5pm Friday 17 July 2026.

Late nomination submissions cannot be accepted.

AWARDS INFORMATION

ENTRY GUIDELINES

1. Nominations are restricted to those that work and live in Western Australia.
2. Self-nominations are acceptable for individual award categories.
3. Organisations cannot self-nominate for *“Innovative and culturally responsive AOD program”* and/or *“Organisation recognition award”*. However, organisations may self-nominate for *“Partnership award”* provided each partner submits a nomination form.
4. One winner will be selected from each category. Awards will not necessarily be given in all categories.
5. Separate nomination forms are required for each category.
6. Depending on the quality and quantity of nominations, a short-listing process may be undertaken for specific categories.
7. Judges will determine if it is necessary to contact nominee or nominator for additional information at time of assessment.
8. The closing date for nominations is **5pm Friday 17 July 2026**. Late nominations cannot be considered.
9. Preference is for typed or electronic nominations using the included forms, however handwritten nominations will be accepted provided they are easy to read. For written nominations, attach extra paper if needed.
10. All nominees will be advised of their nomination via email. All nominations will be confirmed via return email

AWARD CEREMONY

Award winners will be announced during the Aboriginal Alcohol and other Drug Workers Forum 2026: Community First, on 29–30 October 2026 at Pan Pacific Perth.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All nominees will receive a Certificate of Acknowledgement.

HOW WILL THE NOMINATIONS BE ASSESSED?

Nominations will be judged by a panel determined by the Aboriginal Forum reference group.

COMMUNITY FIRST



**LISTENING YARNING
WORKING OUR WAYS**

AWARD/S NOMINATION CRITERIA

The judges will assess the nomination/s against the following criteria:

WA ABORIGINAL ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG WORKER OF THE YEAR

- Personal and professional achievements
- Participation, involvement and achievement within the Aboriginal Community in the alcohol and other drugs sector
- Program involvement “over and above their role” in supporting Aboriginal health and well being

INNOVATIVE AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE ABORIGINAL ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS PROGRAM

- Development of the program in consultation with Aboriginal Community members and Aboriginal staff
- Successful Aboriginal service provision implementation including support of Aboriginal workers
- Positive impact and outcome of the program or service to the Aboriginal Community

PARTNERSHIP AWARD

- Details of the partnership (why and how it was formed)
- Successes / achievements as a result of the partnership (outcomes of the partnership for the Aboriginal Community)
- Future directions of the partnership

ORGANISATION RECOGNITION AWARD

- Recognition for Aboriginal service provision at the organisation, including any future planned direction
- Recognition for support of Aboriginal workers at the organisation

OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD

- Outstanding achievement as a student studying in an alcohol and other drug related area, or student placement within the sector
- Study or research involvement focused on Aboriginal health and wellbeing

STRONG SPIRIT STRONG MIND AWARDS NOMINATOR FORM

NOMINATOR (person making the nomination)

NAME

POSITION

ORGANISATION

PHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL

DATE

AS THE NOMINATOR YOU MUST:

- a) Provide as much information as possible with examples about the nominee's contribution to the Alcohol and other Drug sector
- b) Provide supportive attachments if available such as media clippings, pictures, letters of commendation, publications, reports etc.
- c) Ensure nominations and all necessary information are received at WANADA by **5pm Friday 17 July 2026**.

CATEGORY / CATEGORIES YOU WISH TO NOMINATE FOR (PLEASE TICK)

- WA Aboriginal alcohol and other drug worker of the year (Complete page 5)
- Innovative and culturally responsive AOD program (Complete page 6)
- Partnership award (Complete page 7)
- Organisation recognition award (Complete page 8)
- Outstanding student award (Complete page 9)

BEFORE SUBMITTING, PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE INCLUDED:

- Completed Nominator Form (Page 4)
- Completed Nomination Form(s) (Page 5, 6, 7, 8 and/or 9)
- Supporting statement and/or documents

WA ABORIGINAL ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG WORKER OF THE YEAR – NOMINATION FORM

The Strong Spirit Strong Mind WA Alcohol and other Drug Worker of the Year Award provides an opportunity for alcohol and other drug workers to be recognised for their excellent contribution to the alcohol and other drug sector within their Community and organisation.

If you know of an outstanding person in your Community who deserves to be recognised for their contribution, please complete this nomination form.

The nominee must:

- a) Be an Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander person
- b) Work in the alcohol and other drugs sector
- c) Be available to attend the award presentation ceremony and/or nominate a person to attend on their behalf.

NOMINEE (person who is being nominated)

NAME

POSITION

ORGANISATION

BRANCH (if appropriate)

PHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL



Please provide a supporting statement (**no more than 200 words**) for each of the following criteria.

- 1. Provide details of individual's personal and professional achievements.**
- 2. Demonstrated participation, involvement and achievement within the Aboriginal Community in the alcohol and other drugs sector.**
- 3. Demonstrated program involvement "over and above their role" in supporting Aboriginal health and wellbeing.**

INNOVATIVE AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE ABORIGINAL ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG PROGRAM – NOMINATION FORM

The *Strong Spirit Strong Mind* Innovative and Culturally Responsive Aboriginal and other Drug Program Award provides an opportunity for an alcohol and other drug worker or an organisation to be recognised for their excellent contribution to the alcohol and other drug sector via delivery of an innovative and culturally responsive program within the Aboriginal Community.

If you know of an outstanding program in your Community that deserves to be recognised, please complete this nomination form.

The nominated program must:

- a) Be a culturally responsive program delivered by a worker or an agency within the alcohol and other drugs field.
- b) Have a representative available to attend the presentation award.
- c) Be from a different organisation than the nominator.

NOMINEE (program being nominated)

PROGRAM

ORGANISATION/S

BRANCH (if appropriate)

CONTACT PERSON

PHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL



Please provide a supporting statement (**no more than 200 words**) for each of the following criteria.

- 1. Demonstrated development of a culturally responsive program in consultation with the Aboriginal Community members and Aboriginal staff.**
- 2. Demonstrated successful Aboriginal service provision implementation including support of Aboriginal workers.**
- 3. Positive impact and outcomes of the program or service to the Aboriginal Community.**

PARTNERSHIP AWARD – NOMINATION FORM

The *Strong Spirit Strong Mind* Partnership Award provides an opportunity for alcohol and other drug agencies to be recognised for their excellent partnership that contributes positively to addressing alcohol and other drug issues within the Community.

If you know of an outstanding partnership in your Community that deserves to be recognised for its contribution, please complete this nomination form.

The nominated partnership must:

- a) Be a partnership addressing alcohol and other drugs within the Aboriginal Community.
- b) Have a representative/s available from the partnership to attend the award presentation.
- c) Have each partner submit a nomination form. Only one partner is required to provide supporting documents.

NOMINEE (Organisations being nominated)

PROGRAM

ORGANISATIONS

BRANCHES (if appropriate)

CONTACT PERSON

PHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL



Please provide a supporting statement (**no more than 200 words**) for each of the following criteria.

- 1. Details of partnership/s (why and how it was formed)**
- 2. Demonstrated successes / achievements as a result of partnership (outcomes of the partnership for the Aboriginal Community)**
- 3. Future directions of the partnership**

ORGANISATION RECOGNITION AWARD – NOMINATION FORM

The *Strong Spirit Strong Mind* Organisation Recognition Award provides an opportunity for Aboriginal alcohol and other drug agencies to be recognised for their excellent contribution to the prevention of harm from alcohol and other drug use within the Aboriginal Community.

If you know of an outstanding agency in your Community that deserves to be recognised for their contribution, please complete this nomination form.

The nominee must:

- a) Be an organisation within the alcohol and other drug sector
- b) Have a representative/s from the organisation available to attend the presentation of the award at the forum.
- c) Be from a different organisation than the nominator.

NOMINEE (Organisation being nominated)

ORGANISATION

BRANCH (if appropriate)

CONTACT PERSON

PHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL



Please provide a supporting statement (**no more than 200 words**) for each of the following criteria.

- 1. Recognition for Aboriginal service provision in the organisation, including any future planned directions**
- 2. Recognition for support of Aboriginal workers in the organisation**

OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD – NOMINATION FORM

The *Strong Spirit Strong Mind* Outstanding Student Award provides an opportunity for Aboriginal students studying in an alcohol or other drug related area or having undertaken a student placement at an alcohol and other drug service to be recognised for their excellent contribution to the alcohol and other drug sector.

If you know of an outstanding student who deserves to be recognised for their contribution, please complete this nomination form.

The nominee must:

- a) Be an Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander person
- b) Study in an alcohol or other drug related area or have undertaken a student placement at an alcohol and other drug service.
- c) Be available to attend the award presentation ceremony and/or nominate a person to attend on their behalf.

NOMINEE (person who is being nominated)

NAME

COURSE

INSTITUTION

ORGANISATION (placement)

BRANCH (if appropriate)

PHONE

MOBILE

EMAIL



Please provide a supporting statement (**no more than 200 words**) for each of the following criteria.

- 1. Demonstrated outstanding achievement as a student studying in an alcohol and other drug related area, or student placement within the sector**
- 2. Demonstrated study or research involvement focused on Aboriginal health and wellbeing.**