



**Nomination
guide**



2021 Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation

Closing dates:
Nominations - 19 July 2021
Referee Reports - 26 July 2021

proudly
delivered
by



Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation

Nomination guide



Introduction

As the world emerges from a pandemic, the vital importance of scientific discovery to society has been highlighted. In 2021, the Victorian Government is celebrating leadership, determination and creativity through the Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation - recognising the many ways in which research and development of international significance are conducted in Victoria.

The Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation in 2021 is worth \$50,000 per prize and will be awarded to an outstanding Victorian Scientist, Innovator, Entrepreneur or Researcher in the Life and Physical Sciences.

These prestigious prizes are for a scientific discovery or technological innovation, or a series of such achievements which significantly advances knowledge. The clear potential to produce a commercial outcome or other substantial benefit to the community will be highly regarded.

Eligibility and nomination process

Candidates for the Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation in 2021 must be nominated by an individual or a professional association. Self-nominations will be excluded.

The field of endeavour may be in:

- research (pure or applied); or
- development (for example, implementation of research outcomes in an industrial setting).

Nominees should be active in research.

veski will deliver two Victoria Prizes for Science & Innovation in 2021 on behalf of the Victorian Government comprising:

- one prize for Life Sciences
- one prize for Physical Sciences.

Life Sciences

The Life Sciences category comprises the fields of science that involve the scientific study of living organisms and their life processes and ecosystems, covering fields such as biology, medicine or anthropology.

Physical Sciences

The Physical Sciences category encompasses the branches of science that study non-living systems, including but not limited to fields such as physics, chemistry, earth sciences, engineering, ICT, mathematics and statistics, or astronomy.

Joint-nomination

The Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation is typically awarded to an individual.

It is recognised, however, that outstanding achievement is often the result of long-term collaboration between individuals making equivalent and complementary contributions. The Prize, therefore, may be awarded to a maximum of two individuals in each category, if the outstanding achievement can be clearly shown to be the outcome of a long-term collaboration.

The total value of each Prize will remain at \$50,000 and will be evenly apportioned between joint recipients.

Eligibility

Eligibility for the Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation is limited to Australian citizens or permanent residents who:

- have been resident in Victoria for at least the three years prior to the closing date of the call for nominations (19 July 2021); and
- have performed the major part of the work being acclaimed within Victoria.

Recipients of other professional, state, national or international awards are eligible for the Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation, providing they meet all eligibility criteria.

Nomination guide



Assessment criteria and selection

All eligible nominations for the Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation will be considered by the selection panel.

The selection panel will be drawn from leading members of Victoria's science, engineering and technology sectors. The panel may seek assistance from appropriate learned specialists, professional associations or consultants.

The selection panel will assess all eligible nominations against the following key criteria:

- significant outcomes from the discovery or innovation, or the potential discovery or innovation, particularly in relation to other achievements within their field;
- how the discovery or technological innovation, or the potential discovery or technological innovation, significantly advances knowledge in Victoria;
- novelty of achievement and potential applications or future benefits;
- international significance of the discovery or innovation or potential discovery or innovation; and
- in the case of joint-nominees, the nature of the long-term collaboration, and how equal and complementary the respective nominee contributions have been.

Other major collaborators involved in the discovery or innovation, or potential discovery or innovation must be referenced within the nomination.

The nomination must include:

- i. Details of two independent Referees qualified to assess the nomination. Referees should be from outside of the nominees' institution.

Referees for joint nominations should be able to comment on the research achievements of both nominees. Nominators should ensure each Referee is made aware that they will receive an email from **veski** including a link to the online Referee Form. It is the responsibility of nominators to ensure Referees' Reports are submitted no later than 5.00pm [AEST] on **Monday, 26 July 2021**.

Please check that emails have not landed in spam/junk/promotion or clutter email folders.

- ii. A C.V. of no more than 6 Pages for each individual being nominated - including research and development experience; work experience; academic & notable achievements; awards & accolades; community engagement; publications; patents and other activities undertaken which demonstrate outstanding achievement and leadership potential in innovation, education, research and development and/or commercialisation.

Must be a minimum of 10 point Arial font in PDF format only.

- iii. Professional headshot of the nominee(s) facing the camera in a smiling, relaxed pose; head and shoulders must be included with space above and to each side of the head; landscape orientation; jpeg format; high resolution (minimum 300 DPI/1 MB); full colour; 20 cms wide.

The selection panel will, in its absolute discretion, select the proposed recipients of the Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation on the basis of the key criteria. The panel's recommendation will be submitted to the Minister for Innovation, Medical Research, and the Digital Economy.

The recommendations of the selection panel are final and appeals will not be considered. The Victorian Government and **veski** reserve the right not to award a prize in any year.

Each nominee shall give permission for details contained in the nomination to be released to the members of the selection panel and referees (both those listed in the nomination form and external referees) for the purposes of the selection process.

Whenever such material is considered by the selection panel or referees, this information and details of their deliberations and recommendations will remain confidential, except for information that is required to be disclosed by law or used by an employee of **veski** in carrying out their duties. Nominees should note that a description of the work being acclaimed and images of the recipients will be publicised.

Victoria Prize

Nomination guide



Obligations of recipients

Award ceremony & media engagements

It is anticipated that nominees and nominators will be notified of successful nominations by **October 2021**.

The Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation Award Ceremony will be held in November 2021. Updates regarding the Award Ceremony will be communicated directly to recipients.

It is expected that Victoria Prize recipients attend the event and participate in media engagements where possible.

An objective of the Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation is to actively promote the status of engineering, science and technology as professional career choices.

The recipients of the Victoria Prize for Science & Innovation are expected to:

- participate in activities promoting the importance of science, engineering and technology to Victoria's future;
- participate in 'think tank' activities organised by **veski** to provide advice on future directions in their field;
- interact with recipients of the Victoria Fellowship to promote sharing of ideas and experience across disciplines; and
- include reference to the award of the Victoria Prize as a significant achievement or equivalent on their curriculum vitae and professional biography and in media releases for a period of 10 years.

Victoria Prize recipients will also be called upon to actively participate in **veski** activities as part of the **veski** connection, which includes **veski** fellows, **veski** board members and Victoria Fellows.

Events

Recipients may be invited to participate in additional activities and events organised by **veski** subsequent to the awards to promote innovation at public fora or conferences.

Submission of nominations

Nominations for the Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation are to be submitted via **veski's** Award Force platform.

On submission of a nomination an email will automatically be generated to the two Referees named within the nomination.

- Nominations must be submitted by no later than 5.00pm (AEST) on **Monday, 19 July 2021** via www.veskidelivered.awardsplatform.com
- Referee Reports must be submitted via the link within the email notification 'Victoria Prize for Science and Innovation in 2021' by no later than 5.00pm [AEST] **Monday, 26 July 2021**.

Please note: the process for completion of Referee Reports via Award Force can only commence following the submission of a nomination.

The file naming protocol to use when uploading your professional headshot is;

surname_initial_headshot_vicprize

For advice or further information
regarding nominations,
please contact **veski** on
veski@veski.org.au