

Frequently Asked Questions

Australian Vocational Student Prize (AVSP)

Who is eligible for nomination?

A student is eligible for nomination if he/she:

- will complete Year 12 in the year of nomination
- has completed, as part of their senior secondary studies, a Vocational Education and Training in Schools program or an Australian School-based Apprenticeship to a minimum Certificate II level
- will have their Vocational Education and Training in Schools or Australian School-based Apprenticeship results recorded on their senior secondary school certificate
- is an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

Who can nominate the student?

Students should be nominated by their school principal or Vocational Education and Training (VET) coordinator.

Is the student's UAI score important?

No. To be eligible, a student must be on track to complete Year 12, however it is their achievements in a Vocational Education and Training in Schools program or an Australian School-based Apprenticeship that are considered for these prizes.

How many students can each school nominate?

Schools with fewer than 25 students in Vocational Education and Training in Schools programs Australian School-based Apprenticeships may nominate two students. Schools with 25 or more students in Vocational Education and Training in Schools programs or Australian School-based Apprenticeships may nominate up to four students.

School VET enrolments	Nominations per school
Fewer than 25 students	2 - one VETiS student and one ASbA student
25 or more students	4 - two VETiS students and two ASbA students

What is a Vocational Education and Training in Schools program?

Vocational Education and Training in Schools programs may be undertaken by students as part of their senior secondary certificate and provide credit towards a nationally recognised VET qualification within the Australian Qualifications Framework. The training that students receive reflects specific industry competency standards and is delivered by a Registered Training Organisation, or a school in partnership with a Registered Training Organisation.

What is an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

An Australian School-based Apprenticeship student will be enrolled in a senior secondary certificate under the relevant Education Act. The student's school or education provider acknowledges and endorses the Training Plan or Outline required by the Apprenticeship or Traineeship Training Contract. Their Australian School-based Apprenticeship is recognised on their senior secondary certificate.

Can a student who completed their Vocational Education and Training in Schools program in Year 11 still be nominated when they are in Year 12?

Yes, as long as they will complete Year 12 in the year of nomination and have completed a minimum Certificate II.

Can a student enrolled in Year 12 at TAFE be nominated?

Yes, as long as their Vocational Education and Training in Schools program or Australian School-based Apprenticeship meets the definitions above.

Are winners of other prizes eligible to be nominated for the Australian Vocational Student Prize?

Yes, winners of other prizes, both academic and vocational, are eligible for entry in the Australian Vocational Student Prize.

Can a student or parent approach the school to be considered for the prize?

Yes, but it is at the discretion of the school who they nominate.

How many prizes are there?

Up to 500 prizes are awarded each year. Not every nomination will be successful.

How are the winners selected?

The nominations are divided into industry groups and distributed to state and territory selection panels. The selection panels include industry representatives and a national moderator. All nominations are assessed on a qualitative basis, with consideration given to the merit of each student's vocational education achievement.

Is there an age limit on the prize?

No, there is no age limit. As long as the student will complete Year 12 in the year of nomination and satisfies the other eligibility criteria, they are eligible for nomination.

Prime Minister's Award for Skills Excellence

What is the Prime Minister's Award for Skills Excellence in School?

Exceptional recipients of the Australian Vocational Student Prize will be considered for the Prime Minister's Award for Skills Excellence in School. These Awards are for the highest achieving students from each state and territory, the highest achieving student in each industry area and the highest achieving Indigenous student in Australia. To be awarded a Prime Minister's Award for Skills Excellence in School a student must achieve a Certificate III qualification or above.

Can I nominate a student for the Prime Minister's Award for Skills Excellence in School?

No. Exceptional recipients of the Australian Vocational Student Prize (AVSP), who have completed a Certificate level III or above, will be considered for the Prime Minister's Award for Skills Excellence in School. Candidates are recommended to a national assessment panel by the state and territory selection panels that assess the AVSP nominations.