# TEFMA CLEVER CAMPUS AWARDS

**INNOVATION AWARD**

General information for applicants

The TEFMA **Innovation Award** recognises of innovation in outstanding professional practice by a member institution or individual, in any aspect of higher education property and facilities management.

The **Innovation Award** recognises and rewards an individual member or institution that has developed and fully implemented a practice, process, or physical development, which is innovative and has improved the delivery, efficiency and/or effectiveness of facilities, their management and services.

It is expected that **Innovation Award** applications will showcase best practice and will demonstrate the valuable role played by this work in relation to an institution’s objectives, for the benefits of its customers.

Award applications will be evaluated on the basis of the [criteria](#criteria) set out below.

As well as sector recognition, the award winner will receive a uniquely designed, hand crafted trophy, certificate and gift card.

Applications

Applications for the **Innovation Award** open on the last day of March each year.

To be considered for the **Innovation Award**, applications and supporting material should be received by TEFMA no later than **5pm AEST on the closing date** as noted on the [TEFMA website](https://www.tefma.com/scholarships). If an extension is required, this request is to be received in writing by the Secretariat by this date.

Submissions must be made on the official [application form](#application).

Applications should address [award criteria](#criteria).

Assessment of applications and presentation of awards

Selection of the successful applicant will be approved by the TEFMA Board following receipt of a recommendation from a panel established to review the applications.

The review panel will include the following members:

* Deputy Chair, Membership Services Committee
* TEFMA General Manager
* A Past-President of TEFMA.
* Additional panel members may be included at the discretion of the Membership Services Committee Chair.

It is understood that work described will have different scopes of application and therefore benefits may be realised by small or large groups of people. This will be taken into consideration in judging of applications and assessing the benefits of the work. The largest example will not always be the winning application.

Applications will be judged against the published criteria. Panel deliberations will be confidential, and the judges’ decisions are final. No correspondence or appeal process will be entered into.

The judging panel may decide not to award if it deems that no suitable applications have been received.

Nominated institutions or individuals may be asked to host a site review by an evaluation panel (or representative) responsible for assessing the applications.

Evaluation of applications for the scholarship will be completed in June / July, with those short-listed to be contacted at least 4 weeks prior to the annual TEFMA Conference. The successful applicant will be announced at the [TEFMA Awards Dinner](https://www.tefma.com/annual-awards-dinner), which forms part of the annual TEFMA Conference. Details on the TEFMA Conference can be found via the [Conference website](https://tefmaconference.com/). Should there be any reason the Awards Dinner is unable to take place in person, an online event will be hosted.

The award winner may be asked to make a brief presentation, including a 2-minute video, on receiving the award at the TEFMA Awards Dinner.

Non award-winning entries are able to be upgraded and resubmitted in a subsequent year.

Eligibility

The **Innovation Award** is open for applications from any TEFMA Institutional Member organisation or individual.

Institutions and individuals with outstanding innovation achievements in relevant areas during recent years are encouraged to apply.

Institutions with multiple campuses may submit applications pertaining to the whole institution or for an individual campus.

There is no limit on the number of applications from one institution.

Innovation Award criteria

Applications should clearly reference the criteria provided. Words provided are a prompt only, to assist those completing an application, and

are not intended to be exhaustive.

1. Project Background

Applications for this award may highlight innovation excellence by an individual, a team or an institution.

A thoughtful and creative approach to dealing with a practice, process or a physical development should be demonstrated, resulting in a contribution of significant value. Submissions should show how the innovation has enhanced a facility or a service delivered on the estate of a member institution and should demonstrate its uniqueness.

The innovation must be fully developed and implemented and should improve efficiency and effectiveness of a relevant aspect of property and / or facilities management within the member organisation.

Replicability to achieve similar successful outcomes in other situations, including being able to be implemented in other higher education environments, should be described.

The innovation should be considered best practice, exhibiting professionalism and demonstrating significant outcomes for the benefit of staff, students and visitors, and bringing value to the organisation.

Applications for the **Innovation Award** will be judged with 60% weighting for innovation and 40% weighting for replicability.

1. Innovation

Applications should demonstrate an innovative approach to resolution of a compelling issue in a relevant facilities management area. This may relate to a specific physical development project or to development or improvement of a practice or a process.

The application may, for example, describe an innovative change leading to a more sustainable, robust process, resulting in work effectiveness being measurably and reliably improved on a continuing basis.

An alternative example may relate to a specific project that demonstrates an innovative solution to a physical development that can be applied in other circumstances.

Applications may address such considerations as:

* New knowledge: Information gathering, and analysis may have led to new knowledge or approaches being identified and applied to achieve measurably improved outcomes.
* Creativity: A fresh break-through with a ‘wow’ factor may have been made. It may have sparked further innovation on top of the original idea, or perhaps led to the creation of a new industry. Something that did not exist before may have been invented, a new process or way of doing a particular thing may have been developed or an unrelated process may have been adapted to solve a problem.
* Uniqueness: The innovation may be unique; unusual and incomparable to anything else, with research showing that there is no other innovation like it.
* Value adding: The innovation may have changed the way that something is done and in doing so, solved a problem, made an improvement or created an efficiency. Examples include improvements to quality of life, efficiency of use of resources, or the way business is conducted.

1. Replicability

Applications should demonstrate the value of the innovation in the way it is able to be replicated. It may be able to be duplicated within the organisation, or adapted for use in other organisations, providing continuing benefits as a result.

Replicability may be demonstrated through the development or improvement of repeatedly used processes leading to measurably improved business effectiveness. This may relate to operations management, business, administrative, quality control, project delivery or other such applications associated with property and facilities management.

Alternatively, the innovation described may apply to more than one development project, where it can be applied repeatedly.

Sustainability improvements in relevant contexts may also be examples meeting **Innovation Award** criteria.

Applications may address such considerations as:

* Replicability: The extent to which your innovation is able and ready to be implemented in other institutions, creating value to the higher education sector. The basic conditions that another institution would need for the innovation to work elsewhere may be identified.
* Performance monitoring: Simple and concise KPIs; baseline data periods and review milestones may be recommended; performance may be able to be forecast from data.
* Budget: Implications described with basic business case argument described to secure senior management support and align project with institutional goals.
* Stakeholder consultation: Collaboration strategies and methods described.
* Post implementation feedback: Methods articulated.

Application form

Instructions

1. To be considered for this award you must provide the following:

* Completed application form.
* Supporting materials (if any).
* Details of any additional material to be made available should the judging panel choose to make a site visit.

1. All sections of the application form must be complete for an application to be considered.
2. Applications must be endorsed and signed by the relevant Institutional Member.
3. Applications must be submitted online via the Online Submission Portal [HERE.](https://tas.currinda.com/register/event/2323)
4. Save your file name as YOURSURNAME\_SCHOLARSHIPNAME\_date submitted i.e. SMITH\_INNOVATION\_15.05.24. Word or PDF is acceptable.
5. If you have supporting documents (up to 2 supporting documents can be uploaded), please ensure they are saved as YOURNAME\_SCHOLARSHIP NAME\_Attachment A or Attachment B i.e. i.e. SMITH\_INNOVATION\_ATTACHMENT A
6. Once you have submitted your scholarship, you will receive an automatic email within 24 hours. If you do not receive an email, please email the TEFMA Secretariat: [info@tefma.com](mailto:info@tefma.com) to confirm your application has been uploaded correctly.

Applications are due by **5pm AEST on the closing date advised on the TEFMA website,** unless otherwise agreed**.** Please contact the TEFMA Secretariat on +61 2 9431 8692 or [info@tefma.com](mailto:info@tefma.com) with any queries.

1. Applications that are shortlisted may be asked to submit a 2-minute video presenting a snapshot of the nominee and their work proposed for the award.

Hints for application preparation

Be factual and positive.

It is important to provide evidence to back up your claims. As well as describing the situation you are presenting, you should cite actual examples relating to the work done, how well it was carried out, what was achieved, and how it has benefited your institution’s staff, customers and students.

Responses need not be lengthy, but they should be relevant, include meaningful supporting descriptions, and should demonstrate particular characteristics, qualities or approaches that have resulted in the work making a significant contribution to your organisation.

A submission should anticipate the key points a panel member will be looking for in the responses to the award criteria.

To maximise your chances of success it is important that you address the award criteria to clearly identify the suitability of your application for consideration as winner of the award.

When addressing the criteria you should look for things to highlight that might set you apart from other applicants.

Be clear and to the point and do not exceed word limits. Edit your responses for grammar, spelling and punctuation.

**NOTE:** Please delete this text and all previous pages prior to submitting Application

TEFMA Innovation Award Application Form

Applicants should address all sections 1 – 6 in this form in their applications and should note item 7.

1. Applicant information

The applicant institution must be a current financial member of TEFMA.

Applications are required to be supported by the TEFMA Institutional Member.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Applicant Institution: |  |
| Contact name: |  |
| Contact’s Title: |  |
| Contact Details: | Phone:  Email: |
| Name of TEFMA Institutional Member: |  |
| Signature of Institutional Member: |  |
| Date: |  |

1. Abstract

Provide an abstract of no more than 250 words, summarising the key aspects of your submission for the TEFMA Innovation Award

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| 250 words maximum |

1. Narrative

Provide a narrative describing the work proposed for the TEFMA Innovation Award in no more than 500 words,

OR

Provide your narrative using an alternative media presentation form such as video, graphic representations or other standard formats.

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| 500 words maximum |

1. Response to selection criteria

Describe the work and personnel proposed for the award in a written response to all award criteria that are relevant to the activity being put forward for the award, with a maximum of 500 words for each.

Applications should clearly reference the criteria provided. Words provided are a prompt only, to assist those completing an application, but are not intended to be exhaustive.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CRITERION | RESPONSE |
| 1. Project Background   Applications are to briefly outline the project and the innovativeness of the project to highlight to the Panel the merit of the project for this Award.  Applications for the **Innovation Award** will be judged with 60% weighting for innovation and 40% weighting for replicability. | 500 words maximum |
| 1. Innovation   Applications should demonstrate an innovative approach to resolution of a compelling issue in a relevant facilities management area. This may relate to a specific physical development project or to development or improvement of a practice or a process.  The application may, for example, describe an innovative change leading to a more sustainable, robust process, resulting in work effectiveness being measurably and reliably improved on a continuing basis.  An alternative example may relate to a specific project that demonstrates an innovative solution to a physical development that can be applied in other circumstances.  Applications may address such considerations as:   * New knowledge: Information gathering and analysis may have led to new knowledge or approaches being identified and applied to achieve measurably improved outcomes. * Creativity: A fresh break-through with a ‘wow’ factor may have been made. It may have sparked further innovation on top of the original idea, or perhaps led to the creation of a new industry. Something that did not exist before may have been invented, a new process or way of doing a particular thing may have been developed or an unrelated process may have been adapted to solve a problem. * Uniqueness: The innovation may be unique; unusual and incomparable to anything else, with research showing that there is no other innovation like it. * Value adding: The innovation may have changed the way that something is done and in doing so, solved a problem, made an improvement or created an efficiency. Examples include improvements to quality of life, efficiency of use of resources, or the way business is conducted. | 500 words maximum |
| 1. Replicability   Applications should demonstrate the value of the innovation in the way it is able to be replicated. It may be able to be duplicated within the organisation, or adapted for use in other organisations, providing continuing benefits as a result.  Replicability may be demonstrated through the development or improvement of repeatedly used processes leading to measurably improved business effectiveness. This may relate to operations management, business, administrative, quality control, project delivery or other such applications associated with property and facilities management.  Alternatively, the innovation described may apply to more than one development project, where it can be applied repeatedly.  Sustainability improvements in relevant contexts may also be examples meeting **Innovation Award** criteria.  Applications may address such considerations as:   * Replicability: The extent to which your innovation is able and ready to be implemented in other institutions, creating value to the higher education sector. The basic conditions that another institution would need for the innovation to work elsewhere may be identified. * Performance monitoring: Simple and concise KPIs; baseline data periods and review milestones may be recommended; performance may be able to be forecast from data. * Budget: Implications described with basic business case argument described to secure senior management support and align project with institutional goals. * Stakeholder consultation: Collaboration strategies and methods described.   Post implementation feedback: Methods articulated. | 500 words maximum |

1. Supporting materials

Supporting materials for your application may be provided and should be listed within, and attached to, your application.

The judging panel will decide whether or not to review all material provided, depending on the extent to which it informs the application, and the quantum.

Applicants should provide only information of direct relevance to support their application as the time available to the judging panel to make their assessment is limited.

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| List of any supporting materials: |

1. Additional material for site visit

Provide a list of additional materials to be made available to the assessment panel during a site visit, should a visit be scheduled.

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| List of any additional materials for panel review: |

1. Snapshot video

Applications that are shortlisted will be asked to submit a 2-minute video presenting a snapshot of the work proposed for the award.