



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PURPOSE

The annual EMPA Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communication have been established to recognise those who have made a significant contribution to emergency communications in Australia and New Zealand.

CATEGORIES

READINESS AND RESILIENCE

- A project or activity that contributes to improved community preparedness and / or resilience.

RESPONSE

- Communicating effectively during an emergency response.

RECOVERY

- Supporting the recovery of a community impacted by an emergency.

RESEARCH

Research that advances emergency communication by:

- Improving community preparedness and / or resilience; or
- Increasing the effectiveness of communication during an emergency response; or
- Enabling agencies to better support communities recovering from an adverse event.

MEDIA

Media reporting emergencies and/or emergency management with:

- In-depth and balanced coverage of a topic that increases public understanding of a hazard or an emergency response.
- Comprehensive and accurate reporting before or during an emergency response, contributing to public safety.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community-focused communications and engagement that involves:

- Collaborating effectively with diverse and varied communities.

EMPA Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communication

Terms and Conditions



Updated Feb 2024

- Promoting collaborative communication methods and engagement with the aim that communities will eventually drive their own programs.

ELIGIBILITY

The EMPA Awards are open to:

- All who make an active contribution to emergency management in Australia in any capacity, provided that their activity is directly associated with communication / public information.
- Students, tutors or teaching staff in any accredited tertiary institution, whose research is directly related to emergency management in Australia.
- Journalists, including freelancers, who report on hazards and / or emergency responses in Australia.
- Individuals, teams and organisations are all eligible for nomination.

The project, activity, research or coverage which is the subject of the nomination must be contemporary in nature, e.g. carried out or substantially completed within the previous 12 months, ending **31 March 2024**.

For the Media category, the material must have been published / broadcast within the 12 months ending **31 March 2024**.

NB: Fellows of EMPA are ineligible to be nominated as individuals. Teams which include Fellows, or organisations which employ them, are eligible for nomination.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Each entry must:

1. Be made via the official online submission portal. You may save progress and return at anytime until entries close on 21 April 2024.
2. Provide sufficient information and additional supporting evidence (*up to 5 file attachments*) to clearly explain the intention and scope of the activity or project, and what it achieved.

Word limit:

Entrants are asked to provide a response to each criteria and to their selection of the EMPA Principles. Entrants are provided with space for up to 350 words per criteria and 200 words per EMPA Principle. However, judges appreciate entries to be kept to under 1500 words in total for the criteria responses (across criteria). The word limit per criteria is 350 as we understand each entry will be different and have varying responses to the criteria. Judges appreciate entries being kept concise.

JUDGING

- A panel including EMPA Fellows will judge each category.

EMPA Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communication

Terms and Conditions



Updated Feb 2024

- The judges may, at their sole discretion, make inquiries or request additional information to verify or confirm any aspect of any entry. Notwithstanding, it is the responsibility of each nominee to ensure that their entry provides sufficient information and supporting evidence to enable a complete assessment to be made.
- Where there are enough entries in a category, the judges may at their sole discretion choose a runner-up and / or highly commend one or more nominees.
- If in the opinion of the judges there is no nomination of a sufficient standard to warrant an award in a category, the judges may decline to make an award in that category, or may commend an entry without announcing it as the winner.
- The decision of the judges is final.

PRESENTATIONS

The Australian EMPA Awards will be presented during the conference dinner, at QT Canberra, on **Wednesday 5 June 2024**.

- Finalists will be notified **two weeks** before the event.
- It is a condition of entry that finalists must attend the conference dinner. Finalists (a representative of) must attend the conference dinner in order to be eligible to win the award. Organisers will provide finalists with a date by which a representative must register to attend the conference dinner.
- If a finalist is not also attending the conference, a ticket to the conference dinner must be purchased separately.
- **Category winners will be invited to give a short, 5-minute, presentation** as part of the Awards Showcase on the final day of conference sessions.
- Travel and accommodation – if required – is at the nominee's own cost.