

2026 RTSA Young Railway Engineer Award

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The RTSA 2026 Young Railway Engineer Award will be awarded by the Railway Technical Society of Australasia (RTSA) to reward young professional engineers, technologists or associates in Australia or New Zealand who have:

- reached a demonstrated level of achievement and involvement in any field of railway engineering.
- exhibited technical competence, good character and integrity; and
- assisted in developing or improving the attitude of the public and/or within the engineering ranks towards railway engineering.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Candidates for the RTSA 2026 Young Railway Engineer Award shall be under 35 years of age at 31 December in the year in which the nomination close, and have had at least two years professional experience in the railway industry

or a University after completing an undergraduate degree or diploma (which has required the equivalent of 3 or more years full-time study).

2. The RTSA Awards Sub-Committee will judge applications and, provided a suitable nomination is received, the award may be made each year.

3. Applications (self-nominations, employer nominations or RTSA Chapter nominations) will close on **Tuesday, 23 June 2026**.

4. If an award is made, the prize shall be full registration at CORE 2026, including advanced purchase return airfares and accommodation, plus a cash prize for AU\$1,000 or its equivalent value in New Zealand dollars. The award will be presented at the CORE 2026. One year's free membership of the RTSA also will be awarded.

5. The application requires, in addition to the completed form:

* An up-to-date CV summarising the details of the candidate's career to date. It should pay special attention to academic achievements, work undertaken since graduation, engineering achievements, professional development, and involvement in the greater Railway Industry.



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- * A description of the candidate's engineering achievements detailing technical competence.
 - * A reference letter from the candidate's employer / mentor who is prepared to supply further information on a confidential basis, if needed by the Awards Sub-Committee.
 - * A second reference letter from a person who also is prepared to supply further information on a confidential basis, if needed by the Awards Sub-Committee.
6. Each winner of the award shall agree that the RTSA may use details of the award in any RTSA, Engineers Australia or Engineering New Zealand publications.
7. All applicants, and their respective referees, shall agree to accept, as final, the decision of the RTSA Awards Sub-Committee as to whether or not the nomination is in order, and whether or not any award is to be made; also, that no correspondence shall be entered into. Applicants also shall agree that the RTSA Awards Sub-Committee may make inquiries of their referees.

REVIEW CRITERIA

To assist candidates to assemble appropriate information for the consideration of the judging panel, listed below are details of the judging criteria that are used as part of the process of evaluation of nominations:

- Work Achievements since graduation.
- Evidence of achievement of continuing professional development (to advance technical or professional skills such as achievement of Chartered status or equivalent professional recognition or relevant postgraduate qualifications);
- Role model for junior staff.
- Contribution and involvement to the wider Railway industry beyond immediate employment.
- Technical papers, presentations and or publications.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

In the following, the RTSA presents to potential nominators (self or third party) the following guidelines for the collation and submission of high quality and meaningful nominations.

- Write the nomination on the basis that the members of the Awards Sub-Committee know nothing about the nominee.
- Write the nomination on the assumption that it will be considered purely on its merits alone, and that any past, related nominations will not have any bearing on the current nomination.
- Submit the application online at: <https://engaustrawardsplatform.com/>



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- Write the nomination in the knowledge that the members of the Awards Sub-Committee will be able to consider only what is presented to them in the nomination form and its attachments.
- Write the nomination with a view to presenting material about the nominee that addresses the judging criteria, bearing in mind the weightings which will be applied to those criteria by the Awards Sub-Committee.
- Recognise that the nomination shall have a principal objective of identifying the main attributes of and the contributions that have been made by the nominee.
- Full details of any papers, presentations, articles, project briefs and the like, where applicable, shall form part of the nomination to illustrate the body of work with which the nominee has been involved.
- Ensure that referees provide signed letters of reference to support the nomination.

Footnotes

Candidates for the RTSA 2026 Young Railway Engineer Award shall be accompanied by one copy of a current CV and the two supporting references, which shall be one or two pages whilst giving sufficient detail for the judging panel to appreciate all aspects of the application. The form and the other supporting documents will be retained by the Awards Sub-Committee.



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