

# Alumni Awards 2017 application and selection process

# Frequently asked questions

## Eligibility criteria and the application process

## 1) Can I apply myself?

Yes, if you meet the eligibility criteria, you can apply online by following the instructions on this page.

2) I studied at a UK university before 2001, am I still eligible?

Only if the period of study includes at least one term/semester in or from 2001 or onwards.

## 3) How do I decide on my country of entry?

You must be currently residing in one of the countries participating in the Alumni Awards 2017:

- Egypt
- Ghana
- Greece
- Hong Kong
- India
- Indonesia
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Saudi Arabia
- Thailand
- Turkey
- USA
- 4) I'm from one of the participating countries but living in the UK, can I still apply?

No. You need to be currently residing in one of the countries listed above to apply. Your story should demonstrate how your UK higher education experience has benefitted your profession/ community/industry and made a positive impact on your country of entry.





- 5) Can I apply if I'm not a national/citizen of one of the participating countries? Yes, as long as you are currently residing in of one of the listed countries, and can demonstrate how your success story meets the judging criteria.
- 6) Why isn't my country participating in the Alumni Awards?

Countries are selected to take part in the Alumni Awards based on a number of factors. We are intending on growing the Alumni Awards in future years. As we roll out the Awards into more destinations, we'll update you accordingly.

7) I was a research fellow/assistant at a UK HEI. Am I eligible to apply?

No, unless you have studied in the UK, officially enrolled as a student at a recognised\*/listed\*\* UK HEI to study at the levels below\*\*\* for a minimum of a term or semester, within the last 15 years.

\*Recognised bodies are higher learning institutions that can award degrees. A full list is on this website: <u>https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/recognised-bodies</u>.

\*\*Listed bodies are higher learning institutions that offer courses in the UK that can lead to a degree from a recognised body. They are listed on this website: <u>https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/listed-bodies</u>.

\*\*\*Degree level or above is defined as band 9 and above on the UK NARIC band framework: https://www.naric.org.uk/naric/Code%20of%20Practice/Band%20Framework.aspx

# 8) When can I apply?

Applications open 7 September – 31 October 2016.

# 9) How do I decide which award category to apply for?

There are three award categories in each participating country:

• **Professional Achievement Award** – recognising alumni who have distinguished themselves through exemplary leadership and achievements in their professional industry, and who can demonstrate the impact and scale of their achievements in their profession, and beyond.





- Entrepreneurial Award recognising alumni who are active in initiating or contributing to innovative new business opportunities that have the potential for strong growth.
- **Social Impact Award** recognising alumni who have made an exceptional contribution and commitment to creating positive social change and improving the lives of others.

#### 10) Can I apply or be nominated more than once, or for more than one category?

No - you may only apply for one Alumni Award 2017 category. Multiple applications for different award categories will not be accepted. If you are nominated more than once, your first nomination will be counted only.

#### 11) How will I know if I have been nominated?

We will send you an email alerting you that you have been nominated as soon as the nomination has been processed. You will be provided with a link to your application form for the award category and country of award entry that your nominator has nominated you for. You then need to complete and submit the application form if you would like to enter the Alumni Awards 2017.

#### 12) Can I re-apply if I applied to the competition last year?

All applicants, except award winners, from the Alumni Awards in previous years may re-apply if they meet this year's eligibility criteria.

#### 13) What supporting documentation is required for my application?

You will only be required to upload your current CV/resume.

As an optional extra, we invite you to make and share a one-minute self-made film about your UK education, the impact it has had on you, and the scale of your success/impact in your country. In short, how you have put what you learned in your UK education experience to use, and the impact of your work. This is not a compulsory part of the application, but you may like to include it to support your application. Video content can be uploaded onto social media and tagged with #AlumniAward2017, and the URL copied and pasted into your application form.

You may also wish to upload additional supporting documentation such as (but not limited to): additional references; portfolios; newspaper articles, websites, links to audio or visual materials, performance evaluations etc.





The maximum number of additional pages that may be uploaded as part of your application form is 5.

References are not required this year, unless you are selected as a finalist. We will request a reference from finalists only, at a later stage.

**14) If I'm applying myself do I need to contact my former UK university to let them know?** No, the British Council will do this on your behalf.

## Nominations

#### 15) Who can nominate alumni?

Anyone, except British Council staff working on the Alumni Awards. UK universities are particularly encouraged to nominate their successful alumni. Alumni can also be nominated by their friends, family and colleagues - anyone who knows the alumnus/alumna and why their success deserves to be recognised.

## 16) Who can I nominate?

Before you nominate someone for an Alumni Award 2017, please check that the person is <u>eligible</u>. Nominate someone in a few simple steps by following the instructions <u>here.</u>

#### 17) What if I don't know my nominee's contact details?

You don't need to know full contact details, just their given/first name and family/last name, their email address, and which of the participating countries they are currently living in.

#### 18) Can I nominate someone for more than one award category?

No. If we decide that the nominee you have put forward is better suited to another category we will make that change on your behalf. You can nominate as many different alumni for the award as you wish.

#### 19) Can I nominate someone if they've already been nominated?

No – if your nominee has already been nominated, or has applied themselves, any additional nominations will not be included with their application.





## 20) Can I nominate a group?

No, but you can nominate a named individual who can represent a group.

21) Can I nominate someone who has received an Alumni Award before?

You can't nominate previous winners, but you can nominate finalists or those who weren't shortlisted last year, or they can reapply themselves.

# 22) When can I nominate someone?

You can nominate someone between 7 September and 16 October 2016.

# 23) What happens after I submit my nomination?

When you have submitted your nomination form, you will receive a confirmation by email. Your nominee will then receive email to inform them that they have been nominated, with a link to complete their application form if they wish.

# Shortlisting process

## 24) When will I hear from you after I have completed my application?

We will write to you in early November confirming that your application is being reviewed. Reviewing and shortlisting will take place in November and December 2016, and you will be informed of the status of your application by late December 2016/January 2017.

# 25) What are the selection criteria for nominees and applicants?

All applications will be reviewed against the same judging criteria. See the judging criteria for evidence of what the judges will be looking for.

