



Nomination Guidance

2025



LAND-BASED & ENVIRONMENT LEARNER AWARDS

Entries are encouraged from employers and providers (colleges, universities, and private training providers). Nominations should be for individuals undertaking Land-based and Environment courses (either part-time or full-time) which were on programme in England and Northern Ireland **between September 2024 and September 2025**.

The closing date for nominations is **30th May 2025**.

An independent review panel will judge all the entries, before interviewing the short-listed nominees. Then on **27th November 2025**, we will announce the winners at our high-profile awards ceremony.



Award Categories

FE and Apprenticeship Awards

- Agriculture
- Animal Care and Management
- Aquaculture
- Arboriculture, Forestry and Woodland Management
- Environment, Conservation, Game and Wildlife
- Equine and Farriery
- Floristry
- Land-based Engineering
- Landscape and Horticulture (includes keeper and aquarist/dog groomer)
- Sports Turf and Greenkeeping
- Veterinary Nursing

HE and Higher Apprenticeship Awards

(Undergraduates can be nominated for a HE Learner of the Year award)

- Agriculture and Horticulture
- Animal Studies
- Arboriculture, Forestry and Woodland Management
- Environment, Conservation and Countryside Management
- Equine and Veterinary Nursing

Research Student of the Year

Supervisors are encouraged to nominate a student studying at post-graduate level, either for a Master's Degree (second cycle) or a Doctoral Award (third cycle). The research student must be based in a department that offers Land-based and Environment studies.

- Agriculture and Horticulture
- Animal Studies
- Arboriculture, Forestry and Woodland Management
- Environment, Conservation and Countryside Management
- Equine and Veterinary Nursing



Nomination Criteria

Make the case as to why an individual deserves to win the award based on the following general criteria (you will be asked to provide a numerical score and supporting evidence)



Their achievements

- On target to achieving excellence or/goals exceeded
- Commitment to and enthusiasm for learning (for example, being a mentor or student representative)
- Inspirational role model to peers (for example, overcoming adversity, acting as an ambassador/advocate)



Their impact on the sector

- Impact on college facilities/industry placement or job role (for example, developing a new process or system)
- Innovation in the workplace or sector (for example, supporting groups or businesses)
- Sharing learning and knowledge with others (for example, developing networks and communication channels)



Their potential for future impact

- Career and/or employment prospects (for example, offer of employment)
- Make a difference to industry and/or a community (for example, wider impact to business or local communities)
- Wider impact, (for example, informing and/or influence policymakers)



If you have any questions regarding nominations or the awards programme, please contact:

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Example LBEL Nominations

Nominations are being assessed against three criteria: **Achievements, Impact on the Sector**, and the **Potential for Future Impact**.

You will be asked to provide a short statement that will need to be concise with specific examples and supporting evidence explaining how the candidate meets the criteria. The **minimum word count is 350 words** and the **maximum is 500**.

The independent judges will be reviewing nominations and ranking them based on the following scoring matrix:

- 1 – doesn't meet any of the criteria
- 2 – meets one of the criteria
- 3 – meets more than one criteria
- 4 – meets all criteria
- 5 – exceeds criteria

Below are 2 example nominations from last year, with all identifying information removed for privacy.

Example 1

Example 1 is from a winning nomination; this example provides the level of detail and anecdotes that the independent judges are looking for.

The nominee has been an exceptional student throughout their three years at [name of college/university]. Academically, they are a very high achieving student, rarely scoring less than a distinction in any assessment, and they often gained scores of 80 or above in each year of their degree. They were awarded a well deserved Distinction for their (qualification) in [title of course] and a first in their (qualification) top-up course in [title of course]. Like many students, their educational journey was impacted by Covid-19, but, despite these setbacks, the nominee's determination and resilience led them to academic success, and a suite of transferable skills which have ensured their career in the [industry title] began as soon as they graduated. They secured a role as [job title] at [location] where they will be able to put their diverse knowledge and skills to excellent use. The nominee has always been a joy to teach. Their enthusiasm and outgoing personality have enhanced each class they have been in, and they can always be relied upon to have a positive outlook on any issue. They worked at [company/job location] for two years, working as a [job title] at weekends and holidays, taking excellent care of the animals there. They also demonstrated a talent for [industry name], interacting with visitors of all ages, including school children. In addition to producing a first-class scientific article from their study, the nominee also presented

their research at the [name of Research Committee's] annual conference to colleagues from industries across the UK. This was not their first-time being part of the wider [industry name] they have also attended a [name of workshop] and [name of workshop]. It was not only in their education that the nominee excelled, however. They spent several months in the summer of 2022 in [location] after completing their (qualification) in title of course. At University, they were Chair of the [title of committee], encouraging other students to enhance the lives of the animals in the industry, and creating enrichment and training plans. They have also been a student course representative, and a member of the [committee title]. Wherever the nominee's journey takes them, I am sure they will bring to it cheerful enthusiasm, commitment, and a strong work ethic. They have a wealth of experience to draw on already and will no doubt take every opportunity available to them to develop their expertise further.

Example 2

Example 2 is a low scoring example; it is not evidence based and does not provide specific examples to support the nomination.

The nominee is a hard-working individual who always tries their best in any theory or practical task that is set. The nominee has an amazing attitude and is always willing to learn something new. The nominee has the potential to achieve anything that they set their mind to and is always willing to give everything they are tasked with 110%, which is a quality that will see them progress far in any field they choose in the future. The nominee has a real passion for everything they do, gets on well with the peer group and is determined to succeed.

