

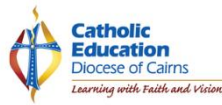
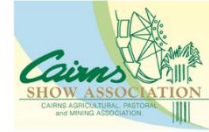
# BUSINESS LIAISON ASSOCIATION

# **ECOMAN COMPETITION**

SPONSORED BY



# 2026 AWARD SPONSORS



# ECOMAN COMPETITION

## About the Business Liaison Association (BLA)

The Business Liaison Association (BLA) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to building meaningful connections between education and industry across Far North Queensland – from Cardwell to the Torres Strait and west to the Tablelands and Gulf.

Each year, we empower more than 12,000 students from over 37 schools to explore diverse career pathways, engage with industry mentors, and make informed choices about their futures. By bridging the gap between the classroom and the workplace, we help young people step confidently into their next chapter – and in the process, strengthen the local workforce.

BLA embraces multicultural diversity and First Nations perspectives, fostering respect, understanding, and inclusion for all cultures and identities.

## Our Mission

To inspire, inform, and empower the next generation while forging lasting partnerships between schools, business, tertiary institutions, and the community. Together, we're cultivating a skilled, sustainable regional workforce ready for the opportunities of tomorrow.

## Our ECOMAN Competition Sponsors

**Hosted by the Business Liaison Association (BLA)** in partnership with local schools and community stakeholders in Cairns, North Queensland.

**The Business Liaison Association extends its sincere appreciation to BDO and Raymond Plumbing for their valued sponsorship of the ECOMAN Competition Award.**

Through their ongoing support, we continue to strengthen pathways between education, training, and employment, empowering the next generation of students and future professionals across Far North Queensland.

## Overview

The ECOMAN Competition is an immersive, real-world business simulation in which student teams assume the role of co-directors of an established operating company. Over the course of four (4) simulated years of competitive trading, students make strategic decisions impacting:

- Market demand and production outputs
- Sales and marketing strategy
- Environmental considerations
- Workforce training and staffing levels
- Budget management
- Income and expenditure reporting
- Dividend allocation
- Borrowings and financial sustainability

Each team competes against other schools within a dynamic economic scenario that evolves annually. At the conclusion of the simulation, teams formally report to shareholders on the overall performance and success of their company.

## Conditions of Entry

- A maximum of five (5) school teams will be selected to participate.
- Each school may nominate **one (1) team** that consists of a **maximum of six (5) students**.
- Participating students must be enrolled in Years 10, 11, or 12.
- Students must not have previously participated in the ECOMAN Competition.
- Students are not required to currently study Economics, Finance, Accounting, or Business; however, they must demonstrate an interest in pursuing further study or a career in a related field.
- Selection will be based on the quality and comprehensiveness of responses to the ECOMAN Program questionnaire.
- The Program Coordinator's decision is final, and no correspondence or appeals will be entered.

## Prize & Bursaries

*(All prize monies awarded to a team will be divided equally among its student representatives.)*

First Place Team	\$500.00
Runner Up Team	\$300.00
Team Encouragement Award	\$150.00

## Process

### 1. 1. Application Submission

- Applications must be emailed to:  
**Dan Kaggelis**  
Smithfield State High School  
[dkagg1@eq.edu.au](mailto:dkagg1@eq.edu.au)
- Completed nominations must be received by **30 April 2026. Thursday, Week 2, Term 2**  
Late applications will not be accepted under any circumstances.

### 2. 2. Application Requirements

- Each school must submit:
  - A completed Application Form.
  - A fully completed ECOMAN Program questionnaire (computer-generated responses).
  - An application fee of \$88.00 (incl. GST) per school to cover administrative costs.
  - One fee per school.
  - Registration fee is non-refundable.

### 3. Competition

- The competition will be conducted over two (2) consecutive days:
- Date: Thursday 11 – Friday 12 June 2026
- Time: **8:30 am – 3:00 pm**
- Location: BDO Office | Cairns Corporate Tower, Level 1, 15 Lake Street, Cairns City, QLD 4870

### 4. Awards Presentation

- Successful teams will be formally recognised at a presentation function held at the Pullman Cairns International.

### 5. Consent and Ethical Standards

- By entering, students and schools provide consent for photographs and video footage to be taken during interviews, awards event and used for promotional purposes by BLA and its partners.
- Entries must be the original work of the student. The use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini) is not permitted in drafting or writing the submission materials. All submissions must be the student's own original works. Submissions found to breach this condition will be disqualified.
- Students and schools are encouraged to positively promote their achievements on social media and acknowledge support from the Business Liaison Association.

- BLA reserves the right to withdraw awards, bursaries, or recognitions in instances where a recipient publicly defames, misrepresents, or undermines the values or reputation of the BLA, community stakeholders, or their affiliated partners.

## **Payment Information**

An invoice of **\$88.00** will be issued to **each** school on the official closing date of the award.

## **Awards Night Presentation**

Winning students will be formally recognised at the invitation-only Aspire Awards Presentation Evening, details as follows:

- Date: Thursday, 17 September 2026
- Time: 4:45 pm – 7:30 pm
- Venue: Cairns Performing Arts Centre (CPAC)

## **Award Recipient Requirements**

- All award recipients are required to attend the Awards Ceremony in full formal school uniform, in accordance with their school's uniform policy.
- A formal invitation will be issued to each recipient, parent, and their respective school.

# Application Form

Please forward the application to both:

**Dan Kaggelis**

Smithfield State High School

[dkaggl@eq.edu.au](mailto:dkaggl@eq.edu.au)

**Abigail Peter**

Business Liaison Association

[events@bla.org.au](mailto:events@bla.org.au)

Please complete the details below correctly.

## Registration

Due Date: **30 April 2026. Thursday, Week 2, Term 2**

## Student Team Information

Student Full Name	Year Level	Email
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

## School and Teacher Information

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Email: \_\_\_\_\_