



2025

EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARDS



AIM

To provide an incentive for students who wish to seek a professional career in business administration/management.

PRIZES

First Prize	\$1000
Second Prize	\$700
Encouragement Awards (2)	\$450
VET Encouragement Award	\$450
Female Student	\$500



FROM CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION

EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARDS

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Schools may nominate students in Year 12 undertaking studies in Business (General), Business Studies (Applied), and Certificates II and/or III in Business with a grade of B or higher for the Excellence in Business Awards.

The Awards are aimed at students interested in fostering a standard of excellence in business administration, management, HR, marketing, public relations, operations, or finance, through tertiary studies or vocational training/studies.

PRIZES

Winner:	\$1000.00 and Certificate
Runner Up:	\$700.00 and Certificate
2 x Encouragement:	\$450.00 and Certificate
VET Encouragement:	\$450.00 and Certificate

Excellence in Business for a Female Student	\$500
<i>Sponsored by Cairns Business Women's Club</i>	

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

Bridging pathways between education, training and employment.

OVERVIEW

The Excellence in Business Awards, presented by the Business Liaison Association in collaboration with local business, aim to recognize and reward Year 12 students from Cairns and the region who are interested in pursuing a career in business. These awards are intended to provide an incentive for students with aspirations in business administration, management, HR, marketing, public relations, operations, or finance.

The Excellence in Business Awards recognize students excelling in business studies, whether through academic or vocational pathways.

The aim of the awards is to:

- Provide an incentive for students aspiring to pursue a professional career in business administration/management.
- Promote and recognize excellence in business professionals.
- Enhance the study of Business (General), Business Studies (Applied), and Certificate II and/or III in Business.
- Foster awareness of the qualities and skills required to be a successful business professional.

PROCESS

1. School-Based Submission:

- Applications must be submitted via the Business Studies Department of the participating school.
- This ensures coordination, selection of student work, and centralised communication.

2. Submission Format:

- The submission includes a completed Application Form and supporting documentation outlining the student's interests and achievements in business studies.
- Shortlisted students shall be interviewed on the by a panel of business professionals made up of a representative or nominee of the BLA, two (2) business proprietors and a teacher working in the subject field.
- All applications must be submitted by **Friday, 19th September 2025**.
- Late applications will not be accepted.
- Scanned Applications and supporting documentation should be sent to:

Lynette Watt

Cairns School of Distance Education

lwatt47@eq.edu.au

- Shortlisted students will be notified in advance of the so that they may prepare for the interview process. The Interview shall be:
 - An interview time will be scheduled via Microsoft Teams on **Saturday, 11th October 2025**.
 - Students will be required to:
 1. Present a Resume (maximum 2 typed pages), including copies of relevant certificates, awards, etc. (Note: Documents will not be returned).
 2. Answer a series of questions from the panel.
 3. Demonstrate high personal presentation and communication skills.

4. In formal school uniform for the interview.

- The decision of the interview panel is final; no correspondence shall be entered into.
- The Application must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$88 (inc GST) per school (NB schools can submit multiple entries without attracting additional fees).
- Winning students are expected and will be invited to attend the Aspire Awards presentation evening.

3. 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 the BLA and its partners.
- Applications and submission material must be the **original work** of the student. The use of **generative AI tools** (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, etc) is **not permitted** in the drafting or writing any aspect of the submission. 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 OPTIONS

Direct Deposit

BSB 633 000
Account 120970611
Reference Excellence in Business Awards, [School's Name], [Invoice Number].

AWARDS PRESENTATION EVENT

Awards and Presentation Evening

Winning students will be formally recognised at an invitation-only **Aspire Awards** presentation evening:

Date: Thursday, 27th November 2025
Time: 4:45pm – 7:30pm
Venue: Pullman Cairns International Hotel

Award Recipient Requirements:

- All recipients must attend the Awards Ceremony in **formal school uniform** as per school policy.
- A formal invitation will be sent to each recipient and their school

**All information can be downloaded from the Business Liaison Association website
www.bla.org.au**

EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARDS

REGISTRATION FORM

Lynette Watt

Cairns School of Distance Education

Lwatt47@eq.edu.au

Student Name	
Year Level	
School	
Student's Email	
Teacher Contact and Email	