



# The Anti-Bias Award Nomination Guidelines



## The Anti-Bias Award

The Anti-Bias Award is an annual award presented by Social Justice In Early Childhood in partnership with MultiVerse and Early Childhood Australia.

### Purpose of the Award

This award has been designed to encourage educators and teachers from across the field of early childhood to reignite and reengage with anti-bias approaches, as well as to recognise educators for their pedagogical leadership in making anti-bias practices central to the everyday rather than an 'add on' to practice.

The [Anti-Bias Approach in Early Childhood \(4th Ed\)](#) edited by Dr Red Ruby Scarlet has been integral to both quality and equality in early childhood education. Since its initial publication in 1995, this book has informed practice across the country – in all types of services, in professional development workshops and programs, and in tertiary training and education courses. Anti-bias approaches have been the cornerstone of numerous teacher-research and practice-based studies undertaken in Australia. These studies are unique because they are teacher-research undertaken *by* early childhood teachers *for* early childhood educators and teachers. While parts of the profession have sustained the use of anti-bias approaches in their practice, the speed at which the field is growing and the ever-changing policy landscape has caused anti-bias approaches to be less familiar to many professionals and less explicit in everyday practice. This award is one way to recognize those keeping the work alive.

### How are award winners recognised?

The Anti-Bias Award will be presented at the annual Social Justice in Early Childhood Conference, *Throwing the baby out with the bathwater 17*, on Saturday 31 July 2021.

Award winners will receive

- an award certificate acknowledging their achievement
- a \$500 cash prize from SJIEC to spend on furthering their anti-bias work
- Two vouchers donated by Early Childhood Australia for their ECA Learning Hub
- A special prize donated by Semann & Slattery
- Free registration for the 2021 Social Justice in Early Childhood Conference
- An invitation to present at a Social Justice in Early Childhood Conference or other Social Justice in Early Childhood event.

## Who can be nominated?

There are 2 categories for the Award:

- **Anti-Bias Award for an individual** (individual Award)
- **Anti-Bias Award for a group/pair/organisation/collective** (Collaborative Award)

### *Individual Award*

Eligible nominees include those who;

- a) hold early childhood qualifications or credentials; and
- b) have a minimum of five years face-to-face experience working with children under five.

### *Collaborative Award*

Eligible nominees include any pair, group, organisation or collective, where the majority of members each meet the criteria for the Individual Award, including approved ECEC services.

## Can I nominate myself?

Absolutely! You can nominate yourself for the individual award or nominate a pair, group or organisation you are part of. You can also nominate an individual or group you think is deserving of the award. If you are nominating someone else, please make sure you have their permission to share any personal information about them and their work.

## What criteria will be used to select the award winners?

The award selection committee will review each nomination to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria (*Who can be nominated?*) and then decide the award winners based on how well each;

- a) engages with the four Anti-Bias goals in everyday practice;**
  - i. supporting children, educators and/or families to demonstrate self-awareness, confidence, family pride and positive social identities for themselves and others;
  - ii. enabling children, families and/or educators to express comfort and joy with human diversity, accurate language for human differences (reflecting how individuals express themselves) and deep, caring human connections;
  - iii. enabling children, families and/or educators to recognise unfairness, to have language to describe unfairness, and to understand that unfairness hurts themselves and others;
  - iv. empowering and enabling children, families and/or educators to act, with others or alone, against prejudice and/or discriminatory actions;
- b) embeds Anti-Bias approaches in their practice in sustained, ongoing and central ways ie** in ways that position Anti-bias approaches at the centre of the program and practice rather than as an 'add-on' component.

## What must be included in the nomination?

To be considered complete, a nomination must include;

1. **The name of the nominee** (individual or group)
2. **Current position of the nominee**
3. **Details of early childhood qualification/certification held by nominee**
4. **Certified copies of nominee's early childhood qualification** (*for group nomination please submit minimum of one qualification*)
5. **employment history relevant to the nomination** (*not required if nominee is a group*)
6. **Name and contact of an ECEC professional referee who supports the nomination** (a member of the selection committee will contact the referee as part of the selection process to verify the details of the Anti-bias work described in the written statement).
7. **Written statement explaining how the nominee's Anti-bias work meets the selection criteria**
8. **Supporting documentation** (if required to support the written statement)
9. **Nomination contact information and declaration**

## Supporting Documentation

Supporting documentation is not a requirement but may strengthen your nomination. Any supporting documents should be in PDF or include a link to a URL. Examples include but are not limited to:

- curriculum documentation (with permission from children and families)
- testimonies from children or families
- articles published in professional publications, scholarly books or journals
- family and community newsletters
- images, text, artwork, blogs, vlogs or other media/platforms
- relevant excerpts from Quality Improvement Plans or other service documentation.

## How do I nominate?

There are two ways to nominate:

- i. Use the online nomination form (<https://forms.gle/f673pZmhvDXX6nBfA>) - you will need to sign in to Google docs to use the online form
- OR
- ii. Complete the nomination form on pages 5-6 and email it (and any supporting documents) to [foundation@sjiec.org](mailto:foundation@sjiec.org)

## When should I submit my nomination?

In order to be considered, completed nominations must be submitted by **5pm on 25 June 2021.**

## What happens after I submit my nomination?

Award winners will be notified by email by 6 July 2021 and presented their award at the Social Justice In Early Childhood Conference in on Saturday 31 July 2021.



## Anti Bias Award Nomination Form

Section 1 – Nomination details	
<b>Award category (select one)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Anti-Bias Award for an individual <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-Bias Award for group/pair/organisation/collective	
<b>In what capacity are you making this nomination?</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I am the award nominee (or part of the nominated group/pair/organisation/collective) <b>OR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> I am nominating a deserving individual, group, organisation or collective (and I have the necessary permission to share the details of the nominee's work)	
<b>1. Name of nominee</b> <i>(Individual or group)</i>	
<b>2. Current position</b> <i>(individual category only)</i>	
<b>3. Details of early childhood qualification/certification held by nominee</b> <i>Include award, date, institution, certifying authority.</i>	
<b>4. Certified copies of nominee’s early childhood qualification</b> <i>For group nomination please submit minimum of one qualification.</i>	<p style="color: #4F81BD;"><i>Submit copies of qualifications (detailed at 3.) certified by a Justice of the Peace.</i></p>
<b>5. Employment history relevant to the nomination</b> <i>Not required for organization/group nominee.</i>	
<b>6. Name and contact details of an ECEC professional referee who supports the nomination</b> <i>A member of the selection committee will contact the referee as part of the selection process to verify the details of the Anti-bias work described in the written statement (section 2).</i>	<b>Name:</b> <b>Relationship to nominee:</b>  <b>Phone number:</b> <b>Email:</b>



## Section 2 – Written Statement

### 7. Submit a written statement explaining how the nominee’s Anti-bias work/practice\* meets the selection criteria;

- i. Describe how your practice supports children, educators and/or families to demonstrate self-awareness, confidence, family pride and positive social identities for themselves and others  
*(350-800 words)*
- ii. Describe how your practice enables children, families and/or educators to express comfort and joy with human diversity, accurate language for human differences (reflecting how individuals express themselves) and deep, caring human connections  
*(350-800 words)*
- iii. Describe how your practice enables children, families and/or educators to recognise unfairness, have language to describe unfairness, and understand that unfairness hurts themselves and others  
*(350-800 words)*
- iv. Describe how your practice empowers and enables children, families and/or educators to act, with others or alone, against prejudice and/or discriminatory actions  
*(350-800 words)*
- v. Describe how you embed an anti-bias approach into your practice in ways which position it at the centre of your program and practice rather than as an ‘add-on’ component  
*(350-800 words)*

Your responses might address anti-bias in general, or focus on one particular aspect of anti-bias work eg ability, gender, ethnicity, Aboriginal and Torres-Strait Islander, LGBTIQ etc.

\* ‘practice’ might include (but is not necessarily limited to) one or more of the following:

- educational program and practice
- leadership and collaborative approaches
- advocacy and activism
- community outreach projects



### Supporting Documentation (optional)

Send any supporting documentation as a PDF or include a link to a URL here:

## Section 3 – Nomination contact information and declaration

<b>Name of main contact person for nomination</b>	
<b>Email address for main contact person</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I have read, understand and agree to the eligibility and selection criteria of the Anti-Bias Award, and all information and documentation supplied with this nomination is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.	
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

