



Australian Government
National Emergency Management Agency

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



Resilient Australia Awards 2023 Submission Tips

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Contents

About the Resilient Australia Awards	2
Submission tips	4
Submission requirements	5

About the Resilient Australia Awards

The Resilient Australia Awards celebrate and promote initiatives that build whole of community resilience to disasters and emergencies around Australia, as well as images capturing resilience in action. The awards recognise collaboration and innovative thinking across all sectors.

Since being established in 2000, the awards have recognised outstanding contributions in each state and territory across multiple categories, which now include: business, community, government, local government, mental health and wellbeing, school, and photography. The awards recognise a wide range of initiatives; with past projects centred on risk assessment and mitigation; mental health and wellbeing; education, training and research; and community engagement, as well as response and recovery.

State and territory award winners are considered for national award categories, along with projects entered directly to the national awards. Projects selected as national finalists will benefit from national exposure through a range of communication channels.

The Resilient Australia Awards is proudly sponsored by the Australian Government in partnership with the states and territories and managed by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR).

Submissions for the 2023 awards program must relate to projects or initiatives that commenced after 1 January 2021 or demonstrate significant outcomes or enhancements since 1 January 2021.





Key 2023 dates

Date	Activity
8 March 2023	Submissions open
5 June 2023	Submissions close
16 June-30 June 2023	People’s Choice voting: Resilient Australia Photography Awards
16 June-14 July 2023	State and territory judging period
1-29 September 2023	National judging period
July-October 2023	State and territory award ceremonies
November 2023	National Resilient Australia Awards Ceremony

[‘Resilience’ as defined by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction \(UNDRR\)](#)

The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management.

[‘Disaster’ as defined by UNDRR](#)

A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts. The effect of the disaster can be immediate and localised but is often widespread and could last for a long period of time. The effect may test or exceed the capacity of a community or society to cope using its own resources, and therefore may require assistance from external sources, which could include neighbouring jurisdictions, or those at the national or international levels.

[‘Emergency’ as defined by UNDRR](#)

Emergency is sometimes used interchangeably with the term disaster, as, for example, in the context of biological and technological hazards or health emergencies, which, however, can also relate to hazardous events that do not result in the serious disruption of the functioning of a community or society.

*Definitions from the Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary, available online
www.knowledge.aidr.org.au/glossary.*





Submission tips

General

- Don't leave it until the last minute! Leave yourself enough time to finalise the submission and submit by the closing date.
- Where you are submitting a project on behalf of an organisation, an authorised person will need to approve the submission.
- Check your application before submitting. Is it complete, and correct?
- Consider if your responses to the criteria are better delivered using multimedia rather than written responses.
- A confirmation email will be sent when the submission is complete – if you have submitted and not received a confirmation email, please contact the AIDR Awards Coordinator via raa@aidr.org.au

Photography category

- Ensure the story of the image details the link between resilience and the image content. This will ensure the voting public understands why the images represents resilience.
- Ensure you submit a high-resolution version of the image, as it may be used on websites or other publications.
- Consider images which speak to disaster resilience across the multitude of hazards faced by Australia.
- Images in portrait alignment are desirable due to the design of the voting gallery and the AJEM cover.

All other categories

- You will need to respond to each assessment question, as they are scored individually.
- Be specific when talking about the achievements of the project – broad statements such as 'excellent results were achieved' will not be considered sufficient evidence. Provide the evidence as to why you claim this result.
- Ensure your project goes above and beyond business as usual, as the judges will be looking for projects that deliver above community expectations.
- Attach supporting material to support your submission. Ensure all supporting material is clearly relevant – unrelated material may detract from a submission.
- Keep to the word/time limit – avoid spaces after your last word as this will increase your total word count. The system will not accept submissions that exceed the word limit.
- Draft your responses in a Word document to review prior to submission. You can copy and paste the text into each application field within the online application system. *Please note that formatting such as bullets will not be transferred over.*
- Short, sharp and clear project names attract the audience's attention. Avoid long project names that include the organisation's name.





Submission requirements

Projects and photos must be submitted online via the [Resilient Australia Awards Platform](#).

State and territory award categories, and national award categories

Submissions must include:

- responses to the six (6) assessment criteria, outlining how the project makes a positive contribution to disaster resilience (see [Assessment criteria](#)) – responses can be written, audio or visual.
- supporting information, photographs, and video footage
- your organisation's logo as a high-resolution JPEG (300-500kB) to be used for promotional purposes if required.

If the submission includes any material where the copyright or intellectual property rights are owned by a third party (including text, images, and multimedia), the project team must obtain permission to include the material from the copyright owner and/or intellectual property rights holder.

Photography award category

Submissions must include:

- one high-resolution (300dpi) photograph that demonstrates what resilience means to you, or resilience in action
- the title of the photograph and the location it was taken
- a response to the question 'what about the submitted photograph demonstrates resilience to you' (300 words maximum)
- names and contact details for all identifiable individuals depicted in the photograph to comply with the *Privacy Act 1988*.

Photographs must be between 1.5MB-5MB in size and formatted as JPEGs. They must not contain or depict any objectionable or inappropriate content, including dangerous or inappropriate work practices.

Where a photo is submitted by a photographer who is not the copyright owner, permission must be obtained from the copyright owner and their name and contact details supplied. Further, copyright owners submitting photos they did not take themselves must supply the name and contact details of the photographer.

All categories

- any applicants under the age of 18 must have the permission of a parent or guardian to make a submission
- applicants are responsible for obtaining the express consent of all identifiable individuals depicted in their photo or supporting information, prior to submission
- all permissions and consents must be in writing and be provided to AIDR upon request.





Use of images and other multimedia

For any images or multimedia submitted, the copyright or intellectual property owner retains their rights. However, the applicant grants the Australian, state and territory governments and the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council Limited (AFAC), trading as AIDR, the permission to use, reproduce, modify or adapt the images or multimedia for promotional, informational and/or publicity purposes **in relation to the Resilient Australia Awards program**, credited where practical to the owner. Images or multimedia will not be used in other contexts without the express permission of the copyright owner.

Disclosure and use of application information

In submitting an application for the Awards, applicants grant express consent, to the Australian, state and territory governments and AFAC/AIDR, to make the project information, including photographs, publicly available for promotional, informational and/or publicity purposes **in relation to the Resilient Australia Awards program**, and showcasing resilience activities via our website/s. Examples of use include (but are not limited to) education, case studies, inclusion on government websites, social media content and publications.

All applicants will be subscribed to relevant AIDR information products.

Your personal information and privacy are important to AIDR, and you can find information about our [privacy policy online](#).

