

Transplant Australia Recognition Awards

Updated August 2026

Purpose

The Transplant Australia Recognition Awards acknowledge individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the organisation and the transplant community. Awards are presented in recognition of outstanding achievement, distinguished service and long-term commitment to the aims and ideals of Transplant Australia.

The three recognition categories are:

1. **Outstanding Achievement Award**
2. **Distinguished Service Award**
3. **Life Membership**

Recognition

The Transplant Australia Recognition Awards are celebrated bi-annually at the Australian Transplant Games. Life Membership is recognised at the AGM and the service recognitions are awarded at the Closing Ceremony Gala Dinner every 2 years.

Nomination Process

Nominations

- Nominations may be submitted at any time but at least 6 weeks prior to an upcoming Australian Transplant Games for considerations for recognition at that event.
- Formal nominations must be submitted by:
 - a State Committee Chair (or appointed delegate);
 - a Transplant Australia Board Member; or
 - the Transplant Australia Chief Executive Officer.
- Any financial member, volunteer or member of the public may recommend a nominee through one of the above representatives.
- All nominations are to be submitted **in confidence** to the Chief Executive Officer via email – chris.thomas@transplant.org.au

Nomination Requirements

To enable proper assessment, nominations should include:

- A clear summary of the nominee's achievements or service and contact details, including their connection to Transplant Australia and how they meet the award criteria.
- Supporting evidence where available (e.g. examples of contributions, leadership, volunteering, testimonials, references or other relevant documentation).
- A recent high-quality head-and-shoulders photograph suitable for publication should the nomination be successful.
- Any additional information that will assist considering the nomination.



Assessment Process

Upon receipt of a nomination:

- The CEO will ensure the nomination contains sufficient supporting information and may request additional information where required.
- For Outstanding Achievement and Distinguished Service Awards, the CEO will appoint an assessment panel consisting of:
 - at least one current Life Member; and
 - one or two additional suitable representatives (which may include a Board Member, Staff member, Life Member or State Committee Member).
- The assessment panel will review the nomination and provide a recommendation to the Board for circular endorsement.
- Life Membership nominations will be considered directly by the Board in accordance with the Constitution. Nominators (or their delegate) may be invited to present the nomination and answer Board questions.

Board Approval

- Outstanding Achievement and Distinguished Service Awards require endorsement by a majority of the Board.
- Life Membership requires a unanimous resolution of eligible Directors in accordance with the Constitution.
- Voting may occur during a Board meeting or by circular (rotary) resolution.

1. Outstanding Achievement Award Criteria

Purpose

Recognises exceptional achievements that have significantly advanced the aims and ideals of Transplant Australia beyond normal expectations.

Eligibility

Nominees should:

- be a financial or honorary member of Transplant Australia;
- demonstrate one or more exceptional achievements supporting the organisation;
- be of exemplary character; and
- have sufficient supporting evidence included with the nomination.

Nominees must not have received financial payment for the achievement being recognised (excluding reasonable reimbursement of expenses).

Award Conditions

- An individual may receive this award more than once.
- A maximum of four awards may be presented in any two-year period, unless otherwise approved by the Board.
- If more than four eligible nominations are received, the assessment panel will rank nominations and recommend recipients to the Board.



2. Distinguished Service Award Criteria

Purpose

Recognises outstanding voluntary service and sustained organisational leadership that has significantly contributed to the aims and ideals of Transplant Australia.

Eligibility

Nominees should:

- be a financial or honorary member of Transplant Australia;
- have provided service beyond routine or expected operational activities;
- have served in an organisational role on a State or National Committee or Sub-Committee;
- be of exemplary character; and
- have sufficient supporting evidence included with the nomination.

Nominees must not have received financial payment for the services being recognised (excluding reasonable reimbursement of expenses).

Award Conditions

- May only be awarded once to an individual.
- Current Life Members are not eligible.
- A maximum of four awards may be presented in any two-year period, unless otherwise approved by the Board.
- If more than four eligible nominations are received, the assessment panel will rank nominations and recommend recipients to the Board.

3. Life Membership Criteria

Purpose

Life Membership is the highest honour bestowed by Transplant Australia and recognises individuals who have provided long and meritorious service to the organisation.

Eligibility

Nominees should:

- be a long-standing financial member of Transplant Australia; and
- have made significant long-term contributions to the aims and ideals of the organisation beyond routine or expected operational activities.

Assessment and Approval

- The CEO and Company Secretary (or another eligible Board member) will review nominations for completeness before submission to the Board.
- The Board may invite the nominator (or delegate) to present the nomination.
- Eligible Directors will independently consider the nomination and vote by confidential ballot.



- Life Membership is awarded only following a unanimous resolution of eligible Directors, consistent with the Constitution.

Presentation

- Successful nominees will be announced at the Annual General Meeting.
- The Life Membership plaque will be presented at the Closing Ceremony of the next Australian Transplant Games or, where necessary, at an appropriate state-based event.

4. General Award Conditions

- The nominee's connection to Transplant Australia (i.e. recipient, living donor, donor family member, supporter, medical or honorary member) does not affect eligibility.
- Receipt of an Outstanding Achievement or Distinguished Service Award does not influence future consideration for Life Membership.
- A person may be eligible for multiple recognition categories; however, only one recognition award may be presented to an individual within a four-year period.
- Outstanding Achievement and Distinguished Service Awards consist of a commemorative plaque displaying the recipient's name and date of presentation. The design may vary from time to time.
- Award costs are met by Transplant Australia.
- Where a recipient is unable to attend the Australian Transplant Games, the award may be accepted on their behalf and presented later at an appropriate state-based event.

5. Constitutional Requirements – Life Membership

Life Membership is governed by the Transplant Australia Constitution, which provides that:

- Life Membership recognises long and meritorious service to the Company.
- Nominations are submitted to the Company Secretary for consideration by the Directors.
- Life Membership may only be awarded by unanimous resolution of the Directors.
- Life Members are exempt from payment of membership fees in accordance with the Constitution.