

# Study UK Alumni Awards application and selection process

## Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

### Eligibility criteria and the application process

#### 1. Can I apply myself?

Yes, if you meet all the [eligibility criteria](#), you are welcome to apply for the Study UK Alumni Awards online by following the instructions.

#### 2. Can I nominate someone else?

No, you are not able to directly nominate someone else, but you can encourage them to apply themselves.

If you would like to encourage someone to apply themselves, please [download our 'Alumni Awards recommendation letter' template](#) in our [campaign toolkit](#). This will give you guidance on communicating why you think someone should enter the Alumni Awards.

#### 3. Can I reapply if I applied last year?

All applicants from the Alumni Awards in previous years, except global award winners, may re-apply if they meet this year's eligibility criteria. Winners from previous national level awards will be considered for the global awards only.

#### 4. I'm not from the UK but I live here, can I apply?

No. The Alumni Awards are open to UK alumni who are residing outside the UK for most of the time (their home should be outside of the UK). Your story should demonstrate how your UK higher education experience has benefitted your profession/community/industry outside of the UK and made a positive impact on your country of entry.

## 5. I have a British passport, can I still apply?

Some restrictions may apply to British passport holders. You need to be residing outside the UK for most of the time (your home should be outside of the UK) and the vast majority of the impact of your work needs to have taken place outside of the UK.

Please email the Alumni Awards team if you have any questions.

## 6. Can I apply if I'm not a national/citizen of the country where I currently reside?

Yes, if you are living outside of the UK and can demonstrate how your success story meets the judging criteria.

## 7. I studied at a UK university before 2008, am I still eligible?

No, unless you also studied either at a UK university or in the UK for a minimum of one term or semester OR been awarded a full UK degree level qualification (or higher) by a recognised HEI in your home country (Transnational Education – TNE/long-distance learning) between 2008 - 2023.

## 8. I was a research fellow/assistant at a UK HEI. Am I eligible?

No, you must have been enrolled as a student at an officially recognised body or received a recognised award from a UK HEI at degree level or above (defined as band 9 and above on the UK ENIC band framework), within the last 15 years.

## 9. How do I decide which award category to apply for? Can I apply for more than one? How do I decide my country of entry?

When making your application, please submit to only ONE of the four awards categories (listed below). Multiple applications for different award categories will not be considered. As such, applicants are encouraged to consider which category feels most relevant to their profile and career to date.

Additionally, if applicants are selected as finalists, the judging panel may allocate their application to a different award category, if they feel it better demonstrates the qualities in that category.

Please note: some national-level countries may hold additional categories in addition to the standard four Alumni Award categories. See our terms and conditions and privacy notice for more information.

### There are four award categories:

- **Science and Sustainability Award** - recognising alumni who have distinguished themselves through their career and achievements in the world of science and sustainability, and who can demonstrate the impact and scale of their achievements in their profession, and beyond.

*Areas of work could include, but are not limited to: climate action, clean energy, medicine, sustainable cities and communities, engineering, industry and construction.*

# Study UK Alumni Awards

- **Culture and Creativity Award** - recognising alumni who have carved a career for themselves in arts and culture. We are looking for individuals who can demonstrate their artistic ingenuity, influence and creativity.

*Areas of work could include, but are not limited to: arts, design, humanities, traditional media, music, video, TV, sports and online content and audiovisual media creation (e.g blogging, vlogging including for YouTube and social media).*

- **Social Action Award** - recognising alumni who have made an exceptional contribution and commitment to creating positive social change and improving the lives of others.

*Areas of work could include, but are not limited to: education, peace and justice and reducing inequality, poverty and hunger and broader humanitarian work or work for social good.*

- **Business and Innovation Award** - recognising alumni who are active in initiating and contributing to innovative or creative new ideas, solutions or business opportunities, that have the potential for growth.

*Areas of work could include, but are not limited to: entrepreneurship, business, technology and finance.*

Beyond the details above, you can **read the profiles of the [2022](#) and [2023](#) global award winners and finalists** to get inspired and gain a deeper insight into the wide range of alumni we are currently celebrating.

## 10. How do I decide on my country of entry?

Your country of entry should be where the majority of your work and the impact it has made has taken place. It must be outside the UK, as alumni living inside the UK are not eligible to apply.

Your application should demonstrate how your UK higher education and subsequent career has positively impacted your profession, society and country where you live now.



## 11. Is my country hosting national level Alumni Awards?

National level Alumni Award ceremonies will be held in these countries:			
1. Armenia	2. Bangladesh	3. Brazil	4. China
5. Cyprus	6. Egypt	7. France	8. Ghana
9. Greece	10. India	11. Indonesia	12. Jordan
13. Kazakhstan	14. Malaysia	15. Nigeria	16. Pakistan
17. Philippines	18. Saudi Arabia	19. Sri Lanka	20. Turkey
21. UAE	22. USA	23. Vietnam	

**If your country is listed above**, please note that only if you are a national level award winner or finalist, you will be entered into the global Alumni Awards.

## 12. My country does NOT host national level Alumni Awards. What happens to my application?

**If your country is not listed as hosting national level Alumni Awards** and you are eligible to apply, you will automatically be entered into the global Alumni Awards pending verification from your university.

## 13. Do I need to contact my former university to let them know I'm applying?

You do not need to contact your former UK university to let them know that you are applying for the Alumni Awards as the British Council will do this on your behalf.

As part of the verification and shortlisting process, all applications will be shared with applicants' respective UK universities. For more details, [see our terms and conditions](#).

## 14. When can I apply?

Applications open 1 September to 22 October 2023

## 15. What are the selection criteria for applicants?

All applications will be reviewed against the same judging criteria.

See the [judging criteria](#) for evidence of what the judges will be looking for.

## 16. What supporting documentation is required for my application?

In the first stage of the application process, no supporting document is required.

## 17. When should I expect to hear back after I've submitted my application?

All applicants will receive an immediate, automatic confirmation that their application has been submitted and received.

In November and December 2023, following the application deadline, shortlisting will take place.

Between December 2023 and 31 March 2024, winners and finalists of any national level awards will be announced in their countries.

From April 2024 onwards, the 28 finalists, followed by the four winners of the global awards will be announced across our social media channels.

## 18. What happens if I am selected?

If you are selected as a national or global finalist, you will be asked to provide the following documents:

- your current CV/resume
- a copy of your passport
- a reference (this will be requested during the selection process).

Please note: we may also ask for an official document/certificate as proof of your UK studies.

**If you're selected as one of the 28 global finalists**, you will be requested to make a **one-minute self-made film about your UK education**, the impact it has had on you, and the scale of your success/impact in your country. In short, how you have applied what you learned in your UK education experience, and the impact of your work. The video will be viewed by the global judging panel as part of the judging process to identify the four global winners and will also be shared on Study UK social media accounts to promote your story.

You can [see an example of an edited global finalist video](#) that we've posted on the [global Study UK Facebook page](#).