



Te Whatu Kairangi

Aotearoa Tertiary Educator Awards

Join the growing community of phenomenal Pacific educators in Aotearoa



Tālofa lava, malo e lelei, kia orana, fakaalofa lahi atu, ni sa bula vinaka, kia ora, tālofa, fakafeiloaki, halo olaketa, mauri, fakatalofa atu, taloha ni!

New awards for 2023

Ako Aotearoa is excited to announce the Le Moana Mua Pacific Award and revised Group Award for the 2023 round of Te Whatu Kairangi | Aotearoa Tertiary Educator Awards.

We want to recognise and celebrate phenomenal Pacific educators and trainers in their contributions to developing and supporting the next generation of students and leaders.

We know that amongst the Pacific tertiary community across Aotearoa there are many educator individuals and groups doing great things to support their learners, colleagues and organisations in their day-to-day teaching practice.

While some Pacific educators or trainers may not see what they do as special, or worthy of an award, it is important their work is recognised and celebrated for the positive impact it makes and the success they contribute to for their learners. Through the Te Whatu Kairangi Awards, phenomenal Pacific individuals and teams from our communities have the opportunity to be acknowledged for their efforts. This raises the profile of Pacific Peoples and Pacific priorities across our diverse sector and in work-based learning.

Image credits: Te Whatu Kairangi (or previously Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards) recipients: Kamuka Pati, Unitec (2013); Fa'afetai Sopoaga, University of Otago (2018); Latika Samalia, University of Otago (2021); Marcia Leenen-Young, University of Auckland (2022) and Patrick Vakaoti, University of Otago (2022).

More about the Te Whatu Kairangi Awards

Te Whatu Kairangi (the Aotearoa Tertiary Educator Awards) celebrates outstanding educators and teams across the entire tertiary education sector who are making a difference to learners, their whānau, aiga and communities.

Whether you are being nominated, getting a group nomination together or supporting someone else to enter, being part of these awards is being part of something big!

The two new awards introduced in 2023 are part of the evolution of Te Whatu Kairangi; to make these awards more inclusive and diverse.

Le Moana Mua Award represents national recognition of outstanding Pacific teaching or training delivered by exemplary, phenomenal Pacific educators. The revised Group Award offers a wonderful opportunity for Pacific teaching/training groups to shine.

Le Moana Mua Criteria

The criteria for the Le Moana Mua Award are based on Chu-Fuluifaga and Ikiua-Pasi's (2021) research on phenomenal educators for Pacific learners. This research outlines a process that can improve teaching practice and results in transformational change in Pacific learners. The 10 Habits can give teachers the confidence that they are on the right path to develop outstanding practice (see pages 13-15 in the Criteria and Guidelines booklet for all information about this award's criteria).

Group Award Criteria

Nominees will provide evidence of the Overarching Criteria for Individual and Group Awards listed in 3.1.1 (page 8 of the Criteria and Guidelines booklet). They will also provide narratives and evidence about the two criteria:

- Evidence of the group's collaborative approach
- Evidence of the group's practice, impact and outcomes of the collaborative approach.

(Please see pages 10-11 for all information about this award's criteria.)

Through these awards, outstanding tertiary educators and trainers working in vocational and work-based learning have the opportunity to:

- **Share their commitment to and outstanding practice in building educational capability and sustained learner success**
- **Showcase their innovative work and responsiveness to student needs**
- **Reflect on and strengthen their teaching or training practice**
- **Enhance their careers**
- **Access monetary grants to advance their work, enhance their career, promote good practice and benefit learners**

Who can enter

We encourage nominations from any tertiary educator who has been working in an education position for at least four years full-time, or equivalent, and is employed with an organisation that receives Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) funding. This includes educators from Industry Training Organisations, Private and Government Training Establishments, Adult & Community Education, Wānanga, Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics, Universities and more.

Download the 2023 Procedures, Guidelines and Criteria booklet to find out more about all Te Whatu Kairangi Awards.

Online Information and Q+A Sessions

Join a session to hear from judging panellists and past recipients of the awards! Learn how to make a strong nomination and get answers to any questions you have about Te Whatu Kairangi 2023.

- General Award Session | 1pm, Thursday 2 March
- Le Moana Mua Award Session | 1pm, Thursday 9 March
- Kaupapa Māori Award Session | 1pm, Thursday 16 March

Visit the [Te Whatu Kairangi](#) webpage to register.

Submit or support a nomination

Learn more at: <https://ako.ac.nz/te-whatu-kairangi/>.



**Nominations close 5pm,
Friday 30 June 2023**

