



Julie Newlands Best Practice Allergen Management Awards

Guidance for Applicants

BACKGROUND

The Allergen Bureau 'Julie Newlands' Award recognises excellence in food allergen management.

In accordance with the Allergen Bureau Mission, the Selection Committee will decide the award recipient based on their contribution to leading the Australian and New Zealand food industry in best practice allergen management, sharing information that builds trust and transparency that supports allergen sensitive consumers to make informed choices.

Julie Newlands was an inaugural Director, and the first Honorary Treasurer, of the Allergen Bureau Ltd. Julie was a fabulous food allergen advocate and immersed herself in all aspects of allergen science, management, and communication. Everything that Julie achieved at the Allergen Bureau is a testament to her drive and passion for the allergic consumer and for food safety. Julie passed away in November 2017.

INTENTION OF AWARD

The Allergen Bureau 'Julie Newlands' Award aims to promote and raise awareness of best-practice food allergen management in Australia and New Zealand. The award seeks to encourage all food industry sectors to adopt a consistent, science-based approach to food allergen risk assessment, management, and communication for the benefit of the allergen sensitive consumer. The award recipient will gain international recognition for their demonstrated commitment to food allergen management.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

The Julie Newlands award is open to all food ingredient suppliers, food manufacturers and food establishments (large and small organisations) who are committed to ensuring the food they produce can be trusted by allergen sensitive consumers.

The journey to best practice is continuous and ever-evolving. Applicants may be beginning their allergen management journey or be quite mature in the way they and their organisation approach this important area of food safety.

Consider nominating if you have, and can demonstrate, a commitment to and improvement in any or all areas of allergen management, allergen risk assessment or allergen labelling within your organisation.

Organisations are encouraged to acknowledge consultants and/or service providers who have contributed substantially to the business achievement as part of that organisation's application.

We encourage you to take the time to think of all you have achieved and make a submission to celebrate your success. All entrants will be recognised.



NOMINATION PROCESS

- a) The Allergen Bureau shall call for nominations for the Award via channels deemed appropriate as managed by the Allergen Bureau. The notice shall give the closing date of entries, a summary of the award criteria, process and conditions, and an address for return nominations. The notice shall also include date and place of presentation of the Award.
- b) Nominees shall submit by the designated closing date to Allergen Bureau their nomination for assessment.
- c) No late submissions shall be accepted, although the Allergen Bureau reserves the right to extend, or change the closing dates for entries at its discretion.

JUDGING CRITERIA

In accordance with the Allergen Bureau Mission, the Judging panel will decide the award recipient based on:

- a) the applicant's contribution to leading their organisation and the food industry by excelling in best practice allergen management, that
- b) the applicant's contribution to building trust and transparency that supports allergen sensitive consumers to make informed choices.

The nomination will be assessed against four criteria:

- Demonstration of organisational best practice
- Demonstration of consumer benefit
- Evidence of industry leadership
- Evidence of organisational leadership.

This award is for an individual, a leader who may be working with a team.

Judges will consider the evidence provided by the applicant in support of the nomination and determine whether for each criterion the application shows emerging, proficient, or advanced knowledge and application.

Consideration will also be given to the improvements and barriers overcome in achievements.



JUDGING PROCESS

The Judging Panel will include representative/s from patient advocacy organisations, VITAL[®] Scientific Expert Panel representative/s, regulatory and/or enforcement organisation representative/s and an Allergen Bureau director.

After the closing date, all nominations for the award will be sent through to the Judging Panel for assessment.

The Judging Panel will review and assess each nomination individually against the judging criteria, making notes on key assessment reasoning.

Once a decision has been made, the Judging Panel will inform the Allergen Bureau manager, who will notify the successful nominator(s) in line with the award timelines. The Allergen Bureau shall also notify non-successful nominees at this time.

AWARD PRIZE

The award winner will receive a complimentary registration to the following biennial FAMS conference in Australia, currently valued at \$AUD990, an Award Certificate and an image to include in their digital signature.



GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS:

Application Criterion / Areas to consider in your application.

Criterion 1: Organisational best practice

What has been done to encourage best practice within your organisation?

Consider:

- Evidence of continuous improvement over time. Consider the last 12 – 36 months.
- Demonstration of a change over the period, where did the organisation start; how far have they come; what obstacles or challenges have been overcome.
- Declaration of who was involved in the work and how improvement was achieved.
- This might consist of
 - ✓ Demonstration of how 'Intentionally present' is verified and managed
 - ✓ Evidence of how cross contact is managed
 - ✓ Evidence of the elimination, reduction, control philosophy. (e.g changed cleaning processes; scheduling) and how these have worked
 - ✓ Demonstrated appropriate use of knowledge. e.g. sampling plan and testing to verify information
 - ✓ Evidence of appropriate use of risk assessment.
 - ✓ Evidence of improvement in the outcome to the allergen status of products - This may be in confidence or in changed recipes or procedures etc.

Criterion 2: Consumer benefit

- Demonstrate understanding of the food allergic consumer and what they need and expect?
- How do you communicate with the consumer?
- Evidence of consumer benefit may be demonstrated by:
 - ✓ Staff training and ability to answer allergen questions
 - ✓ Consumer consultation and responses or consumer satisfaction
 - ✓ Demonstration of risk-based labelling of PAL's
 - ✓ Online data being more accurate or easily accessible
 - ✓ Communicating beyond just legal requirements - What has been done to ensure the message is clear?



Criterion 3: Industry leadership

- What has been done to encourage best practice with your supply chain and/or other organisations?
Consider evidence of:
 - ✓ Work to mentor or educate suppliers, or customers, or those within industry
 - ✓ Broader industry working group participation
 - ✓ Relevant submissions.

Criterion 4: Organisational leadership

- What have you done within your own organisation to lead towards best practice allergen management?
Consider evidence of:
 - ✓ Improvement in reduction and elimination processes
 - ✓ Tightening allergen management procedures and reporting
 - ✓ Work to access and bring new information to bear on allergen management processes.
 - ✓ Improvements in organisational culture and attitudes towards allergen management - it's a continuum and a journey and where did you start? Where are you now?
 - ✓ The correct use of a PAL and understanding the importance of a risk-based approach



JULIE NEWLANDS AWARD APPLICATION FORM:

The Allergen Bureau “Julie Newlands” Award recognises excellence in food allergen Management.

NOMINEE NAME:

NOMINEE PHONE NUMBER:

NOMINEE EMAIL:

BUSINESS NAME:

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR C.V. WITH THIS APPLICATION FORM:

Please outline your contribution to a consistent, science-based approach to food allergen risk assessment, management and communication that: guides/promotes industry best practice; and assists allergen sensitive consumers to make informed choices based on label information. (max 750 words - excluding other attachments e.g., SOP and, training materials).
Use the application guide and Rubric to assist you.

SUBMISSION DETAILS