STUDY UK ALUMNI AWARDS
APPLICATION/NOMINATION & SELECTION PROCESS

Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility criteria and the application process

1) Can I apply myself?
Yes, if you meet the eligibility criteria, you can apply online by following the instructions.

2) How do I decide which award category to apply for?
There are three award categories in each participating country:

- **Professional Achievement Award** – recognising alumni who have distinguished themselves through exemplary leadership and achievements in their professional industry, and who can demonstrate the impact and scale of their achievements in their profession, and beyond.

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

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

For an understanding of the kinds of stories in each category, see last year’s global winners’ stories [here](#).

If you are selected as a finalist, the judging panel may allocate your application to a different award category, if they feel it better demonstrates the qualities of that category.

Plus, in Azerbaijan and Greece only:

- **Lifetime Achievement Award (PILOT)**
  Recognising UK alumni who studied at a UK university more than 15 years ago, and who have made a significant contribution to relations between their country and the UK. Only open to alumni in Azerbaijan and Greece, and by nomination only.

3) How will I know if I have been nominated?
You will receive an email from AlumniAward@britishcouncil.org alerting you that you have been nominated. You will be provided with a link to your application form for the award category and country of award entry that your nominator has nominated you for. You then need to complete and submit the application/confirmation form if you would like to enter the Alumni Awards.
4) Can I apply or be nominated more than once?
   No - you may only apply for one Alumni Award category. Multiple applications for different award
categories will not be accepted. If you are nominated more than once, the first nomination we
receive for you will be counted only – so if you are asking someone to nominate you, please only
ask one person, and consider your choice carefully!

5) I’m from a country outside the UK but living in the UK, can I still apply?
   No. You need to be currently residing in one of the countries outside the UK for at least 50% of
your time to apply. Your story should demonstrate how your UK higher education experience has
benefitted your profession/ community/industry and made a positive impact on your country of
entry.

6) I studied at a UK university before 2004, am I still eligible?
   Only if the period of study includes at least one term/semester at degree level at a UK university
in or from 2004 – 2019.

7) How do I decide on my country of entry?
   Your country of entry should be where you are currently living for at least 50% or more of your
time. Alumni living in the UK are not eligible to apply. Your story should demonstrate how your
UK higher education experience has benefitted your profession/ community/industry and made a
positive impact on your country of entry.

8) Can I apply if I’m not a national/citizen of the country I’m now living in?
   Yes, as long as you are living outside of the UK and can demonstrate how your success story
meets the judging criteria.

9) Is my country hosting a national level Alumni Awards?
   National level Alumni Awards (an online digital celebration and, in most cases, an event to
celebrate the winners) will be held in:

   1. Azerbaijan
   2. China
   3. Egypt
   4. Greece
   5. India
   6. Kuwait
   7. Malaysia
   8. Pakistan
   9. Qatar
   10. Saudi Arabia
   11. Thailand
   12. Turkey

   National Alumni Awards will be held separately and in addition to the Global Alumni Awards, so
all applications will be entered into and considered for the Global Awards – even if your country
is hosting a national level award as well.

   Please note that the Lifetime Achievement Award is applicable at a national level in Azerbaijan
and Greece only, not at the global level nor in any other countries.
10) My country is not listed above. What happens to my application?
Your application, alongside all other applications from all countries (including those hosting national level awards) will be considered for the Global Alumni Awards. We will inform all applicants of the outcome of their application via email by March 2020 at the very latest.

Finalists for the Global Alumni Awards will be announced via a social media campaign on Study UK social media accounts. The three global winners of the Global Alumni Awards will be celebrated digitally and invited to the UK in the Summer/Autumn of 2020 (dates to be agreed with winners).

11) I was a research fellow/assistant at a UK HEI. Am I eligible to apply?
No, unless you have also studied in the UK, officially enrolled as a student at a recognised*/listed** UK HEI to study at the levels below*** for a minimum of a term or semester, within the last 15 years.

*Recognised bodies are higher learning institutions that can award degrees. A full list is on this website: [https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/recognised-bodies](https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/recognised-bodies).

**Listed bodies are higher learning institutions that offer courses in the UK that can lead to a degree from a recognised body. They are listed on this website: [https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/listed-bodies](https://www.gov.uk/check-a-university-is-officially-recognised/listed-bodies).

***Degree level or above is defined as band 9 and above on the UK NARIC band framework: [https://www.naric.org.uk/naric/Code%20of%20Practice/Band%20Framework.aspx](https://www.naric.org.uk/naric/Code%20of%20Practice/Band%20Framework.aspx)

12) When can I apply?
Applications open 3 July to 28 October 2019, except for alumni in Azerbaijan, China, Malaysia and Qatar, where the application deadline is 15 September.

If you are nominating someone, you must nominate them between 3 July to 15 October 2019, unless the person you are nominating lives in Azerbaijan, China, Malaysia and Qatar, in which case the deadline to nominate them is 1 September 2019.

13) How will I know that my application has been received?
As soon as you have submitted your application form, you’ll receive an automatic email confirmation of your submission. No changes can be made after you’ve submitted your application form.

14) Can I re-apply if I applied to the competition 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.

15) What supporting documentation is required for my application?
None, at the initial stages. If you’re selected as a national or global finalist, you will be asked for your current CV/resume and a reference, at a later date during the selection process.
If you’re selected as one of the 21 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 three global winners, and will also be shared on Study UK social media accounts to promote your story.

16) Do I need to contact my former UK university to let them know I am taking part?
You are welcome to contact your university to let them know but it is not essential. The British Council will do this on your behalf. As explained in the T&Cs, all applications are shared with applicants’ respective UK universities as part of the verification and shortlisting process.

Nominations

1) Who can nominate alumni?
Anyone may nominate alumni. UK universities are particularly encouraged to nominate their successful alumni. Alumni can also be nominated by their friends, family and colleagues - anyone who knows the alumnus/alumna and why their success deserves to be recognised.

2) Who can I nominate?
Before you nominate someone for an Alumni Award, please check that the person is eligible.

3) What if I don’t know my nominee’s contact details?
You don’t need to know full contact details, just their given/first name and family/last name, their email address, and which country they are currently living in.

4) Can I nominate someone for more than one award category?
No. If the judging panel decides that the nominee you have put forward is better suited to another category, they will make that change on your behalf. You can however nominate as many alumni for the awards as you wish.

5) Can I nominate someone if they’ve already been nominated?
No – if your nominee has already been nominated, or has applied themselves, any additional nominations will not be included with their application.

6) Can I nominate a group?
No, but you can nominate a named individual who can represent a group.

7) Can I nominate someone who has received an Alumni Award before?
You can’t nominate previous global award winners, but you can nominate finalists and winners from national level or those who weren’t shortlisted last year, or they can reapply themselves.

8) When can I nominate someone?
You can nominate someone between 3 July and 13 October 2019 (or before 1 September for alumni in Azerbaijan, China, Malaysia and Qatar).

9) What happens after I submit my nomination?
When you have submitted your nomination form, your nominee will receive an email from AlumniAward@britishcouncil.org with a link and password to complete their application form if they wish. They will need to complete the rest of their application via their personal link, before the deadline, so it’s worth getting your nomination in early so that they have time to complete it.
Shortlisting process

10) When will I hear from you after I have completed my application?
   All applicants will receive an immediate confirmation that their application has been submitted and received, followed by notification of the status of their application by 31 December 2019. After the application deadline, shortlisting will take place in October and November. The 21 finalists, followed by the three winners, of the global awards will be announced in March 2020 in a social media campaign.

   Winners of any national level awards will be announced in their countries between December 2019 and 31 March 2020.

11) What are the selection criteria for applicants?
   All applications will be reviewed against the same judging criteria. See the juding criteria for evidence of what the judges will be looking for.
Study UK Alumni Awards 2019-20: process map

The map below describes the application and shortlisting process:

1. **All Applications** go through to Global Awards.
2. **National** Awards process:
   - 12 participating countries
   - 7 British Council regions
   - Shortlisting
   - HEI Confirmation
   - Finalists Announced
3. **Global** Awards process:
   - 3 winners per participating country (National Awards)
   - 3 finalists per region (Global Awards)
   - 3 global winners (Digital campaign)

**Timeline**:
- July 2019
- October 2019
- November 2019
- Dec 2019 – Mar 2020
- Apr / May 2020