

STUDY UK ALUMNI AWARDS APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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. Can I nominate someone else?

No, but you can encourage them to apply. You will find suggested template from our assets page [here](#) to write to someone and tell them why you think they should enter the Alumni Awards.

3. 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.

In addition to the standard three Alumni Award categories, some national level countries may hold additional categories. See the T&Cs and Privacy Notice [here](#)

4. Can I apply more than once?

No - you may only apply for *one Alumni Award category*. Multiple applications for different award categories will not be accepted. Please and consider your choice carefully! See categories above.

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 2005, 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 2005 – 2020.

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 (subject to Covid-19 restrictions):

- Azerbaijan
- India
- Kazakhstan
- Mauritius
- Pakistan
- Qatar
- 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. See map at the bottom of this FAQ.

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 2021 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 2021 (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>

**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>

***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>

12. When can I apply?

Applications open 2 September to 30 October 2020.

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, copy of your passport and a reference, at a later date during the selection process. We may also ask for proof of your studies (an official document/certificate).

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.

Shortlisting process

17. 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. After the application deadline, shortlisting will take place in November to December. The 21 finalists, followed by the three winners, of the global awards will be announced in March 2021 in a social media campaign.

Winners of any national level awards will be announced in their countries between December 2020 and 31 March 2021.

18. 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.

Study UK Alumni Awards 2020-21: Process map

The map below describes the application and shortlisting process

