



Employer Awards Information for nominees

Festival of Learning awards

Festival of Learning is a campaign led by Learning and Work Institute (www.learningandwork.org.uk) that celebrates learning and aims to engage more adults in learning. Festival of Learning awards are a central part of this, showcasing the wide-ranging impacts learning has on individuals, families, communities and employers.

More information about Festival of Learning is on our website:

www.festivaloflearning.org.uk

These are the answers to some frequently asked questions from employer nominees.

What kind of employers are eligible for an award?

We are looking for employers who have invested in outstanding staff training and development. We want to hear from employers that have used learning to develop and utilise the skills of their workforce to improve productivity, raise morale, increase staff retention and enhance their business performance. Awards are open to employers based in England only and the employer must provide learning opportunities for adults who are aged 18 and over.

Who can nominate an employer for an award?

Anyone who is familiar with the employer's staff training and development activity, for example staff who are involved in the delivery of the workplace learning, staff who are recipients of/benefiting from the training, or representatives from partner organisations. If the nominator is not a member of senior management within the employer then the nominator must seek the permission of senior management before submitting the nomination.

What is the process for being nominated?

The nominator will need to complete a nomination form which tells us about the staff training and development activity and the impacts on the learners and the business. The nomination will also need to include a statement from one or more of the learners about the difference the learning has made to them at work and why they think the employer deserves an award.

Once the nomination form has been completed, the nominator should submit it to the Festival of Learning team. The final deadline for this is Tuesday 9 February 2021. All nominations are then reviewed and winners for a range of awards are selected.

What information needs to be provided in the written statements?

There are four written statements that the nominator needs to complete plus one from a learner, as follows:

<p>Part A: (up to 350 words) Please tell us about the workplace learning that you are nominating the employer for including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The aim and objectives of the workplace learning, training or development activity.• Who the learners are – e.g. is it all staff, certain job roles, particular team/s or department/s?• The learning, training and/or staff development activities that take place (e.g. what, where, how often).
<p>Part B: (up to 450 words) What difference has the workplace learning made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to individual staff (the learners),• to the business as a whole, and,• where relevant, to the local community? <p>Please provide evidence and examples and explain how impact is monitored and evaluated.</p>
<p>Part C: (up to 250 words) Why does this employer and the workplace learning provision available to staff stand out? For example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is remarkable about the employer and their approach to staff learning and development? What makes it stand out as exceptional?• Have there been wider impacts of the staff learning and development, for example on the local community?• How is the approach to workplace learning and development innovative?
<p>Part D: (up to 200 words) Has the staff training and development activity been influenced or affected by lockdowns and related restrictions? If Yes, please tell us a little more about this for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has the employer successfully moved staff training and development activity online and if so what has worked well?• Has the employee gone above and beyond to support their employees to continue working during lockdown, for example supporting employees to learn new skills and retrain if their previous job was affected by restrictions?
<p>Part E: Learner statement (up to 250 words) Please include at least one testimony from a learner about the difference the learning has made to them at work, and why they think the employer deserves a Festival of Learning award. Please include the name/s of the learner/s providing the testimony.</p>

When will I know if the employer has won an award?

We will notify all award winners and their nominators by 26 March 2021.

What happens if the employer wins an award?

If the employer is selected as an award winner, someone from the Festival of Learning team will contact you by 26 March 2021. We will announce award winners publicly in June 2021. Between March and June 2021, we will be preparing for the announcement of award winners including writing profiles to include in an award winners booklet, and producing some short films.

Where can I find examples of previous award winners?

The 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 award winners' stories are on our website:

<https://www.festivaloflearning.org.uk/our-award-winners/>

I have a question that hasn't been answered here.

If you have any questions that haven't been answered here you can ask your nominator, or contact the Festival of Learning team at fol@learningandwork.org.uk or 0116 204 4239 where you can leave a short message. We will respond to emails and telephone messages as soon as possible (usually within one working day).