

## **Commonwealth Bank Teaching Awards 2022 Award Guidelines**

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### **1. Introduction**

The Commonwealth Bank Teaching Awards (Awards) are national awards open to registered teachers and school leaders at all Australian schools through a partnership between the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (ABN 48 123 123 124) (Commonwealth Bank) and Australian Schools Plus Ltd (ABN 65 164 622 459) (Schools Plus).

Twelve (12) teachers or school leaders are awarded a 'Teaching Fellowship' valued at \$45,000 and in addition this year, up to ten (10) early career teachers (with 5 years or less in the teaching profession) will receive an award valued at \$10,000. The majority of award recipients will be educators working in schools in communities facing disadvantage.

The Awards are supported by the Commonwealth Bank and a key initiative of Schools Plus - the 'Pioneers in Philanthropy'. The Pioneers in Philanthropy include David Gonski AC and Orli Wargon OAM, Angus James and Sarah James, John B Fairfax AO and Nick Fairfax, John Grill AO and Rosie Williams, Roger Massy-Greene AM, Kerry Stokes AC and Christine Simpson Stokes AO, and the Commonwealth Bank.

### **2. Am I Eligible?**

- The Awards are open to registered\* teachers (hereinafter referred to as 'teachers') and school leaders in all Australian primary and secondary schools (any Government, Catholic or Independent school with students from Year K or Prep to Year 12).
- The Early Career Teaching (ECT) Awards are open to teachers and school leaders who have been in the teaching profession for a total of five (5) years or less.
- Teachers and school leaders working in schools in disadvantaged communities are particularly encouraged to apply
- An applicant should currently be practising as a teacher or school leader and to the best of their knowledge should intend to continue teaching in the same school in 2022 and 2023.
- The application form (Form) is to be completed by the teacher or school leader who is applying for, or who has been nominated for, the Awards. Forms not completed by the teacher or school leader will be considered ineligible.
- A maximum of one (1) Form will be accepted per applicant.
- Applicants should apply for one category only – either a Teaching Fellowship or an Early Career Teaching Award. An early career teacher is eligible to apply for the Teaching Fellowship, if they wish to be considered for this Award.
- The Form must be submitted between 9.00am (AEDT) on 7 February 2022 and 12 midnight (AEDT) on Sunday 27 March 2022.

\*A registered teacher is a person who is registered or accredited to perform the duties of a teacher as defined by the relevant legislation in their Australian State or Territory.

### 3. The Awards: **A. Teaching Fellowship** and **B. Early Career Teaching Award**

**A. Teaching Fellowship** - Twelve (12) successful teachers or school leaders (Fellows) will be selected to receive a 12-month Teaching Fellowship, with the majority being teachers and school leaders who are working in schools in disadvantaged communities.

- The Teaching Fellowships are valued at a minimum of \$45,000 each and include:
  - \$10,000 for each Fellow's professional development
  - \$25,000 for the Fellow's school for a strategic project (\$5,000 of which can be used for teacher release funding, if required). The strategic project should be designed to improve student outcomes at the Fellow's school and be an evidence-based project with long-term measurable benefits. The strategic project may include, but is not limited to, extending an existing initiative that is having proven impact or a new strategic project
  - Participation in a 12-month professional learning program, including a group study tour/gathering for the 12 Fellows (dates and destination to be confirmed and will be subject to any travel restrictions)
- Throughout 2022/23, the Fellowship will also include unique opportunities for the Fellows to engage with leading education experts and to develop networks, skills and capabilities through a series of experiences that form part of the Teaching Fellowship year. The Fellows will also be invited to join the ongoing Teaching Fellows Alumni group that grows every year, as each new cohort of Fellows is selected for the Awards.

**B. Early Career Teaching Award** - Up to ten (10) early career teachers (ECT) (with a total of 5 years or less in the teaching profession) will be selected to receive an Award, with the majority being teachers who are working in schools in disadvantaged communities.

- The Early Career Teaching Awards are valued at a minimum of \$10,000 each and include:
  - \$5,000 for each ECT's professional development
  - Participation in a 12-month professional learning and mentoring program with the other successful ECT Award recipients.
- Throughout 2022/2023, the ECT Award will also include unique opportunities for the teachers to engage with leading education experts and to develop networks, skills and capabilities through a series of experiences. The teachers will also be linked into the Teaching Fellows network of leading educators around Australia.

### 4. Selection Criteria (with guiding questions)

Applications will be assessed on the demonstration of professional excellence and achievement across the four (4) Selection Criteria outlined below.

#### **A: Criteria for Teaching Fellowship** or **B: Criteria for Early Career Teaching Award**

##### **A. Teaching Fellowship:**

(Open to teachers and school leaders from all schools Years K to 12)

### 1. Transforming Learning Outcomes

You are able to demonstrate your initiation of, or contribution to measurable, significant and ongoing improvements in student learning, achieved through identifying students' needs and applying high impact, effective and evidence-based teaching or leadership practices. Please outline how you have achieved improved learning experiences and outcomes for your students and refer to evidence and measures that demonstrate this achievement. **(Maximum 500 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- How have your teaching and/or leadership practices brought about significant improvement in student learning experiences and outcomes and what has been the scale and reach of your work?
- How have your teaching and/or leadership practices been informed by evidence and research? Have you introduced and applied innovative thinking and practice to learning and teaching?
- What evidence and measures demonstrate the changes that have been achieved as a direct result of your work?
- What are students and/or teachers doing differently now as a direct result of your work? In what ways has this improvement been ongoing or sustained?

### 2. Collaborating and Sharing Knowledge

You are able to demonstrate that you are contributing significantly to and/or leading a culture of collaboration and connectedness within and/or beyond the school. Please include evidence of how you have shared knowledge to create a professional learning culture that develops the skills of others, and the specific outcomes and collective impact that have resulted from this collaboration. **(Maximum 400 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- In what ways is collaboration a feature of your work?
- How have you facilitated a culture of collaboration for students, teachers, parents, or other groups in ways that have resulted in significant improvements in collective learning and engagement?
- What shared practices have changed as a result of your leadership and contributions?
- How have you shared the learning and evidence gained through your thinking and practice with colleagues at your school and/or with others in the education profession?

### 3. Engaging with the Community

You are able to demonstrate why and how you have fostered family and/or community engagement which has led to improved outcomes for students through purposeful and meaningful connections. Please include evidence of what changes occurred for students, parents and/or community members as a result of their improved engagement. **(Maximum 400 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- Why and how have you engaged parents, families and/or the community as an important, deliberate and strategic approach to your work?
- What changes have occurred in terms of parent, family or community engagement as a result of your work?
- What have been the demonstrable changes for students in terms of learning experiences and/or learning outcomes?
- What are the overall benefits for students, your school and community that have occurred through these changes?

### 4. Attributes of a Teaching Fellow

You are able to demonstrate leadership in education, teaching and learning that stimulates the thinking of others and leads to significant educational improvements in classrooms and schools. Please tell us your story – how you have applied your personal attributes such as creativity, resilience, inclusiveness, resourcefulness and drive; your capacity to inspire and influence others; your commitment to the teaching profession; equity in

education; and your potential to help shape the future of education practice in Australia. **(Maximum 400 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- What personal attributes help you to deliver on your purpose in education?
  - What have been your greatest achievements to date in the profession?
  - In what ways do you want to make a difference in education? What is your passion?
  - Tell us more about you - your understanding and demonstration of leadership in education; your personal attributes and professional achievements; your commitment to the profession and your potential to contribute to the Fellowship group and education practice in Australia.
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## **B. Early Career Teaching Award:**

(Open to teachers and school leaders in the profession for a total of five years or less)

### **1. Transforming Learning Outcomes**

You are able to demonstrate excellence in teaching practice that has made a significant and measurable contribution to improved student outcomes in learning, engagement, inclusion and/or wellbeing for your students. Please outline how you have achieved positive outcomes in learning and experiences for your students within the past 12 months or more and include evidence and measures that demonstrate this achievement.

**(Maximum 400 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- Describe at least one example, supported by evidence, of the impact you have had on improving student outcomes e.g., achievement, engagement, inclusion, wellbeing, or overall student experiences over the past 12 months. Your response could include intended learning outcomes, initiatives and teaching strategies applied and evidence of positive changes that resulted.
- Have you developed and applied any innovative teaching strategies and /or classroom practices that have resulted in evidenced growth in learning? Your response could include understanding your students' needs, implementing effective or innovative practices and applying measures to evaluate improved learner outcomes.

### **2. Collaborating and Sharing Knowledge**

You are able to demonstrate you are actively involved in collaborating and sharing knowledge with your colleagues and that you have a strong commitment to learning from others to evaluate and develop your own skills and teaching strategies and practice. Please include evidence of your involvement in collaboration and in your own professional learning within or beyond the school. **(Maximum 300 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- In what ways are collaboration, sharing knowledge and learning from your colleagues a feature of your practice? How have you shared the learning and evidence gained through your own practice and what has been your contribution and/or impact on any shared practices?
- In what ways have you actively sought to further your professional learning and develop your own teaching practice?

### **3. Engaging with the Community**

You are able to demonstrate you have developed positive and purposeful engagement with parents, families or the broader school community as an approach to support student experiences and/or learning. Please provide at least one example of why and how you have built meaningful connections and/or improved engagement with families or the school community to support students and their learning. **(Maximum 300 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- Describe why and how you have engaged parents, families and/or the community as a strategic approach to your work?
- In what ways have you contributed to the school or school community outside of the classroom to support or enrich students' learning experiences?

#### 4. Passionate and Committed to Teaching

You are able to demonstrate you have personal and professional attributes to make a significant difference as a teacher; a passionate commitment to the teaching profession; and the potential to become a future leader in education. Please tell us more about you – what is your passion in education? What are your attributes that you feel contribute to your impact as a teacher? What are your goals in the profession and in what ways do you want to make a difference in education? **(Maximum 400 words)**

*Guiding questions you could consider in preparing your response:*

- Why did you become a teacher and what has been the highlight of your teaching achievements or impact as a teacher to date?
- Describe, using an example, of how you have applied personal attributes such as creativity, resourcefulness, inclusiveness, resilience, or drive (or another attribute) to your impact as a teacher?
- What are your goals in the profession and how would the Early Career Teaching Award contribute to those goals?

#### 5. Key Dates

**Nominations open:** Monday, 7 February 2022 (9.00am AEDT)

**Nominations close:** Sunday 27 March 2022 (12 midnight AEDT)

**Shortlisted applicants notified:** Late April 2022

**Finalists notified:** Early May 2022

**Finalist interviews, referee, due diligence checks:** Late May 2022

**Award recipients notified:** Friday 17 June 2022

**Awards Event and Introduction Workshops in Sydney:** 21 and 22 July 2022 (tbc)

**Teaching Fellowship and Early Career Teaching Award programs:** July 2022 to July 2023

#### 6. What is the Selection Process?

*Eligibility check and assessment of applications*

After the closing date, applications will be checked for eligibility. Assessment panels comprising of members with education and leadership expertise will independently assess and score applications against each of the Selection Criteria.

### *Finalist interviews, referee and due diligence checks*

Finalists will be invited to attend an interview via teleconference. Finalists' referees (Principals for teachers and supervisors for Principals) will also be contacted for reference checks. A working with children, due diligence and background check on all finalists will be undertaken.

### *Selection of Award recipients by Selection Panel*

The selection panel for the Awards comprises senior education and business leaders (Selection Panel). The Selection Panel will meet in June 2022 to select the twelve (12) Teaching Fellows and up to ten (10) Early Career teachers from a shortlist of finalists.

### *Announcement of Award recipients*

The Award recipients will be notified immediately following the Selection Panel meeting in June and will be publicly announced at an Awards Event hosted by the Commonwealth Bank in Sydney on Friday 22 July 2022.

## **7. How do I Apply?**

- Applications can be submitted online by completing the Form via SmartyGrants, an online application management system.
- You will need to register and login to the online Awards application site, via the link provided below before starting your application. This will enable you to create, save and modify your Form before submission. Please note if you have previously registered with SmartyGrants, please use your existing login and password details. The link is: <https://teachingawards.smartygrants.com.au/2022>
- After you have registered and received your login, follow the instructions to complete the Form online. You can save a draft of your Form and come back to it at any stage until you submit your application, when no further changes to your Form can be made. You might want to create a word document to have a saved copy offline.
- Following submission, you will receive an email confirmation acknowledging receipt of your application.
- Please note - Forms should be completed by the teacher or school leader applying for, or who has been nominated for, the Awards. Forms completed by the nominee will be considered ineligible.

## **8. Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Who is Australian Schools Plus?**

Schools Plus exists to help close the education gap caused by disadvantage. We believe all children should have access to a great education regardless of their background. As a registered charity, we work with teachers and schools in disadvantaged areas to empower them with funding, coaching and resources to implement initiatives that will help their students succeed.

The establishment of Schools Plus brought to life a recommendation in the 2011 Review of Funding for Schooling (the 'Gonski Review'). More than 4,600 disadvantaged schools (Government, Catholic and Independent) across Australia are eligible for support through Schools Plus. For more information, visit [www.schoolsplus.org.au](http://www.schoolsplus.org.au).

### **Who can nominate or apply?**

Anyone can nominate a teacher or school leader for the Awards. Teachers or school leaders who are nominated will receive an email informing them of their nomination and inviting them to apply. A teacher or school leader can also apply directly themselves. Nominated teachers or school leaders who wish to apply will need to complete the online Form themselves to be eligible for the Awards.

### **Who is eligible for the Awards?**

The Awards are open to all registered teachers and school leaders currently working in Australian primary and secondary schools - Government, Catholic or Independent schools with students from Year K or Prep to Year 12. (Please note early childhood teachers working in kindergartens, early childhood centres or pre-schools are ineligible.)

To be eligible for the Early Career Teaching (ECT) Awards applicants will have been in the teaching profession for a total of five (5) years or less.

### **How do I nominate or apply?**

You can nominate a teacher or school leader or apply yourself by selecting these options on the Commonwealth Bank Teaching Awards website. If you are applying, you will be directed to the online Form hosted by SmartyGrants. If you are nominating a teacher or school leader, you will need to enter their email address (or their school) and your nominee will receive an email informing them of their nomination (anonymously if you prefer). They will be directed to the [Commonwealth Bank Teaching Awards website](#) to complete an application. Please ensure you include both the first name and surname of your nominee if a school email is entered, so your nomination can be forwarded to the correct teacher.

### **Can more than one teacher from the same school be nominated or apply?**

Yes, an unlimited number of teachers can be nominated or can apply from each school.

### **Can I apply for both the Teaching Fellowship and the Early Career Teaching Award?**

No, you can only apply for ONE of the categories. However, if you are an early career teacher, you are eligible and can apply for the Fellowship Award, if you want to be considered in this category.

### **Do I need my school Principal or supervisor's permission to apply?**

You should advise the Principal of your school (or your supervisor if you are a Principal) that you are applying for the Awards. Your Principal or your supervisor should be listed as your referee on your Form and will only be contacted if you are shortlisted as a finalist.

### **What will I receive if I am selected for a Teaching Fellowship?**

Award recipients will receive a prestigious Teaching Fellowship valued at \$45,000, including the following components:

- \$10,000 for the Fellow's individual choice of professional development
- \$25,000 for the Fellow's school to develop a strategic project
- Participation in a 12-month Fellowship professional learning program, including a group study tour/gathering for the 12 Fellows (dates and destination to be confirmed and will be subject to any travel restrictions)
- The opportunity to join the Teaching Fellows alumni – a group of leading education changemakers around Australia

### **What will I receive if I am selected for an Early Career Teaching Award?**

Award recipients will receive an Early Career Teaching Award valued at \$10,000, including the following components:

- \$5,000 for the early career teacher's individual choice of professional development
- Participation in a 12-month professional learning and mentoring program, with the other successful ECT Award recipients
- The opportunity to engage with leading education experts and to develop networks, skills, and capabilities through a range of experiences, including being linked to the Teaching Fellows alumni – a group of leading education changemakers around Australia



### **How can I use the \$10,000 (Fellowship) or \$5,000 (ECT Award) professional development funds?**

Teachers can use the \$10,000 Fellowship or \$5,000 ECT Award professional development funds for their individual professional development and learning. This may include course fees, conference attendance, leadership coaching, a research project or further study as examples. Schools Plus will liaise with you to assist in identifying your choice of professional development.

### **How can I use the Fellowship \$25,000 prize for my school?**

The Fellow's school will receive \$25,000 to develop a strategic project designed to improve student outcomes at their school. The strategic project should meet the needs of their students and/or school and be an evidence-based project with long-term measurable benefits. The funds might be used to extend an existing initiative that is having proven impact or a new strategic project. Schools Plus will liaise with your school to assist in the development of this project. Up to \$5,000 of this amount can be used by the school for teacher release funding, if required, while the Fellow is participating in the Fellowship Program.

### **What is the Fellowship group study tour/gathering?**

The twelve (12) Fellows will participate in a fully funded group study tour/gathering during the Fellowship year. The destination from 2017 to 2019 was Singapore. With travel restrictions during 2020 and 2021, the Fellowship group gathering was Sydney. The program is organised by Schools Plus and led by an education expert. The destination and dates for the 2022 Fellowship are to be confirmed and will be advised at the finalist stage.

### **What will the assessment panels look for in an application?**

The written information provided in your Form is the main factor in selecting shortlisted finalists. You should check Section 4 of the Award Guidelines for tips on how to address each of the Selection Criteria. These tips include guiding questions as well as a guiding structure for your responses, which should be supported by reference to clear evidence and specific examples.

### **What is evidence ('please include evidence') in the Selection Criteria?**

You should give clear examples of what data, research or measures you have used to inform your approach or to determine your activities or strategy and to demonstrate the changes for your students and/or school. You should include examples of how you have achieved improved learning experiences and outcomes for your students and the measures or evidence that demonstrate this achievement. Note, the Form does not allow for documents to be uploaded or attached.

### **Who are the Award Selectors?**

Applications will be selected from a shortlist of finalists by a panel of senior education and business leaders.

### **When will I be notified?**

All applicants will be notified on the status of their application as unsuccessful or shortlisted in April 2022. Shortlisted applicants will progress for further assessment and will be notified if they have been selected as a finalist in May 2022. The successful Award recipients will be notified following the Selection Panel meeting in June 2022 and will be publicly announced in Sydney on Friday, 22 July 2022 when a full list of the 2022 Awards will be published on <http://www.teachingawards.com.au>.

### **What are the key dates?**

Nominations for the Awards open at 9.00am (AEDT) on Monday, 7 February 2022 and close at 12 midnight (AEDT) on Sunday, 27 March 2022. Finalists will be contacted in May 2022 with the Award recipients notified in June 2022. The 2022 Awards will be publicly announced on Friday, 22 July 2022 at the Commonwealth Bank Teaching Awards Event in Sydney.



### **Can I submit a late application?**

Applications will close at 12 midnight (AEDT) on Sunday 27 March 2022. No late applications will be accepted via any means after this time.

## **9. Terms and Conditions of the Awards**

9.1. By applying for the Awards and submitting a Form, the Applicant accepts and agrees to be bound by these Award Guidelines, including these Terms and Conditions.

9.2. The Applicant acknowledges and agrees that all material submitted by the Applicant in their Form must not, and the Applicant warrants that such material does not, infringe the copyright or other intellectual property rights of any person or organisation. The Applicant indemnifies the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus against any claim made against the Commonwealth Bank or Schools Plus that any use of the material submitted by the Applicant in their Form infringes the intellectual property rights of any person or organisation.

9.3. The Applicant grants Schools Plus and the Commonwealth Bank a perpetual, royalty-free, non-exclusive, irrevocable and transferable licence to reproduce, use, or modify any material contained in the Format Commonwealth Bank's or Schools Plus' (as relevant) discretion.

9.4. The Applicant must declare on their Form that they have advised their Principal or supervisor that they have applied for the Awards.

9.5. By submitting their Form, the Applicant agrees that they have never been charged with a criminal offence, subject to misconduct proceedings by their relevant State or Territory education body or subject to any process that may bring disrepute to the Commonwealth Bank or Schools Plus or the Awards.

9.6. By submitting their Form, the Applicant agrees to the Commonwealth Bank and/or Schools Plus (as relevant) conducting appropriate due diligence and background checks on the Applicant including, but not limited to:

9.6.1. working with children checks;

9.6.2 reference checks with Applicant's Principals or supervisors;

9.6.3 National Police and Financial Crimes Checks (identifying specific or general involvement with money laundering, terrorism financing, politically exposed persons, terrorists and wanted criminals) by an independent third party;

9.6.4 social media and internet search checks; and

9.6.5 such other due diligence and background checks as considered necessary by the Commonwealth Bank and/or Schools Plus from time to time.

9.7. The Applicant acknowledges and agrees that all considerations, deliberations and decisions made by the Selection Panel in relation to the Awards, including but not limited to the award of the Teaching Fellowship, are final and the Selection Panel is under no obligation to disclose or communicate to or otherwise discuss with the Applicant the nature of such considerations, deliberations and decisions.

9.8. Before distribution of the Teaching Fellowship, the Fellow and the Fellow's school will sign an acceptance letter from Schools Plus that sets out the further terms and conditions for the award of the Teaching Fellowship.

9.9. Before distribution of the Early Career Teaching Award, the teacher will sign an acceptance letter from Schools Plus that sets out further terms and conditions for the Early Career Teaching Award.

9.10. The Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus may use, disclose and promote (and all Award recipients and their schools acknowledge and agree) information about the Award recipient and their school, and share the stories and any other information provided by the Award recipient. They may do so on various Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus related promotional material, general media, online, social media, communication and marketing mediums (Materials).

9.11. The Fellows and Early Career Teaching Award recipients acknowledge and agree that all copyright in the Materials rests with the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus and the Fellows and Early Career Teaching Award recipients and their schools are not entitled to remuneration, royalties, or any other payments in respect to the use of the Materials by the Commonwealth Bank or Schools Plus for any purpose.

9.12. The Fellows and Early Career Teaching Award recipients may be required to attend a presentation of the Award at their school to which persons including, but not limited to, local media, public personalities, and members of the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus will be invited to attend. An appropriate date and time for this presentation will be coordinated with the Award recipient, subject to the commercial needs of the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus. The Award recipients may (at the discretion of the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus) be required to do press interviews and photography to help promote the Awards.

9.13. All personal information (as defined in the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)) (Personal Information) included in the Form and collected by the Commonwealth Bank or Schools Plus in connection with the Awards is collected for the purposes of administration and promotion of the Awards. The Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus may disclose any Personal Information they collect in connection with the Awards to each of its related bodies corporate and to external service providers, entities and organisations undertaking any of the Commonwealth Bank's and/or Schools Plus' functions and obligations in respect of the Awards. All Personal Information collected by the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus in connection with the Awards will be collected, used, and disclosed in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) and the privacy policies of Schools Plus and the Commonwealth Bank which can be found, respectively, at: <https://www.schoolsplus.org.au/privacy-policy/> and [https://www.commbank.com.au/security-privacy/general-security/privacy.html?ei=footer\\_privacy](https://www.commbank.com.au/security-privacy/general-security/privacy.html?ei=footer_privacy) (Privacy Policies). The Privacy Policies contain further details about the Commonwealth Bank's and Schools Plus' information collection and handling processes including information about how to seek access to and correction of the Personal Information and how to make a complaint and complaint handling procedures. For privacy related queries, Applicants can contact the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus using the methods set out in the respective Privacy Policies.

9.14. Any waiving of the requirements contained in these Award Guidelines and these Terms and Conditions (including the Selection Criteria) is at the discretion of the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus.

9.15. By applying for the Awards, Applicants discharge and release the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus from all liabilities or claims of any kind arising from or in connection with the Awards and the Fellowship. Applicants also indemnify the Commonwealth Bank from any claims arising from third parties in relation to the Applicant's participation in any stage or aspect of the Awards and the Fellowship.

9.16. To the extent permitted by law, the Commonwealth Bank, Schools Plus and their related bodies corporate and their respective directors, officers, employees and agents, exclude any and all liability for any loss or damage, whatsoever which is suffered or sustained, in connection with:

9.16.1. the Applicant's participation in the Awards; or

9.16.2. the receipt or use of the Teaching Fellowship or Early Career Teaching Award by the recipient or anyone participating in the use of the Teaching Fellowship or Early Career Teaching Award with the recipient.

9.17. These Award Guidelines and these Terms and Conditions are subject to modification by the Commonwealth Bank and Schools Plus at their sole discretion.

9.18. These Award Guidelines, these Terms and Conditions shall be governed by the laws of New South Wales, Australia and the Commonwealth Bank, Schools Plus and each Applicant submits to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of New South Wales, Australia.