



## **Star Awards Categories and Criteria**

### **2018**

#### **The SQA Star Award for SQA Champion**

This award recognises staff in centres who champion SQA qualifications. It can be teachers, lecturers, trainers and support staff – anyone who supports candidates to achieve their full potential.

#### *Guidelines for completing your submission*

We are looking for:

- people who have developed or promoted new SQA qualifications in centres to meet candidate needs
- someone who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to SQA over a number of years
- someone who has consistently encouraged and inspired candidates to use SQA qualifications to develop their potential to meet career aspirations or further study

But these are only examples. Please let us know of any individuals who have made an outstanding commitment to SQA.

Winners will receive a trophy.

#### **The SQA Star Award for Innovation**

This category is open to all SQA centres. This award will be presented to a centre that can demonstrate not only good practice, but also the incorporation of innovative initiatives into their delivery of SQA qualifications.

Examples include: approaches to assessment or quality assurance, including use of e-assessment; use of new technology; links and partnership approaches to delivery across education, training and industry sectors; approaches for involving community and voluntary groups in the use of qualifications; approaches of cross-curricular delivery of SQA qualifications; using or creating European or international links to enhance delivery or business growth through innovative use of qualifications.

Or anything else you would like to tell us about!

#### *Guidelines for completing your submission*

The judges will be looking for innovative initiatives that:

- have been sustained over a period of time and which will continue into the foreseeable future
- have been evaluated
- can show quantifiable benefits

- are integrated into the curriculum
- are not common practice

Winners will receive a trophy.

### **The SQA Star Award for Lifelong Learning (Centres)**

Lifelong learning is important. This award recognises the work of our centres to deliver real and sustained learning opportunities to learners of all ages. Nominations could demonstrate the creative use of vocational qualifications or interaction with or support for local communities. The nomination could also describe the partnerships the centre has with local schools, colleges, training providers or business or explain how the use of SQA qualifications drives forward lifelong learning initiatives.

#### *Guidelines for completing your submission*

The judges will be looking for examples of some of the following:

- significant personal development for students
- substantial future plans for students/employers
- benefits of qualifications and training to local community
- creative models of recruitment and/or delivery

This list is not exhaustive – if you have a good example of providing lifelong learning, tell us about it!

Winners will receive a trophy.

### **The SQA Star Award for Partnership of the Year**

In this category, the award will recognise partnerships whose work has set new standards in education and training, to the benefit of candidates. The award recognises partnership in its widest sense and welcomes submissions recognising organisations or teams which are able to demonstrate strong examples of best practice in this field. Types of partnership could include those between schools and colleges, schools and universities and business and training providers.

#### *Guidelines for completing your submission*

When making their decision, the judges will be looking for initiatives that:

- demonstrate improved candidates' experience in education or training
- show how working in partnership has produced more effective results
- have created acknowledged best practice in delivering SQA qualifications

Winners will receive a trophy.

### **The International SQA Star Award**

This category is open to all SQA centres. We operate globally and this award recognises the work of our centres delivering SQA qualifications internationally.

Nominations could demonstrate business growth through the delivery of SQA qualifications. They could demonstrate the creation of international links or partnerships to enhance the student experience. Centres can also nominate creative approaches in delivery and assessment of SQA qualifications.

#### *Guidelines for completing your submission*

The judges will be looking for examples of some of the following:

- quantifiable benefits to candidates
- how activities have been evaluated
- ongoing commitment and potential for future development

Winners will receive a trophy.

### **The SQA Star Award for College Candidate of the Year**

This award acknowledges college candidates who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to their fellow candidates or community, or achievement through international exchange in their pursuit of SQA qualifications.

The successful candidate will have shown outstanding commitment in the way they have made use of SQA qualifications and have made an outstanding contribution to their college, community or fellow candidates.

#### *Guidelines for completing your submission*

The judges will be looking for nominated candidates who:

- are using SQA qualifications to broaden their knowledge and contribute to their personal development in innovative and unexpected ways
- benefit their local community
- have unusual or innovative plans for future progression

This list is not exhaustive – if you have a candidate who deserves SQA recognition, tell us about them!

Winners will receive a trophy.

### **The SQA Star Award for Lifelong Learning (Candidates)**

This award acknowledges candidates who have demonstrated commitment to lifelong learning in achieving SQA qualifications. Centres submitting nominations could indicate how the candidate made use of SQA qualifications to embrace lifelong learning or how they have overcome an obstacle in order to participate in learning. How a candidate has benefited or progressed as a result of their learning experience can also be included.

#### *Guidelines for completing your submission*

The judges will be looking for candidates of all ages who have engaged with Lifelong Learning to:

- broaden their knowledge and contribute to their personal development
- provide opportunities for further progression in learning or for career development
- provide inspiration to other lifelong learners

This list is not exhaustive – if you have a candidate who you feel deserves credit for Lifelong Learning, tell us about them!

Winners will receive a trophy.