



North Harbour Club Youth Excellence Awards **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

I am not sure which category I should be entering

The Youth Excellence Awards are divided into six categories (AIMES acronym):

- Arts
- Innovation
- Music
- Education & STEM
- Sport; and
- Service to the Community & Sustainability

Choose the category that best reflects your achievements. Judges may move your application to a different category if they feel it's a better fit. Common changes include Arts with Music or Innovation with Education or Service. Full category descriptions are available by [clicking here](#).

Do I fit into the Scholarship, Emerging Talent or Excellence section?

If you are still at school (aged 13+), apply for the Scholarship category. Judges may move you up if they deem it appropriate. If you have finished school, apply for Emerging Talent or Excellence.

What if I am outside the age range?

Applicants must be aged 13–25 (inclusive) as of the closing date. No exceptions. If you're outside the minimum range, join our mailing list for future opportunities.

What is the North Harbour region?

We follow North Harbour Rugby Union boundaries: north of the Harbour Bridge from Devonport through East Coast Bays, Silverdale, Orewa, Mahurangi/Warkworth, and west to Helensville.

I'm trying to log in but don't have a Google account

Applications are via Google Forms, so you'll need a Google account. If you need help, email info@northharbourclub.co.nz

Having trouble with the link?

Email info@northharbourclub.co.nz and we'll resend it.

We are a group – can we submit an entry?

Yes. Groups have won before. Each member must apply and mention teammates.

I am out of New Zealand – can I still apply?

Yes, if you have a strong North Harbour connection (have lived, schooled, worked, trained for three + years). Interviews can be via Zoom or Teams.

I entered last year and was unsuccessful – should I enter again?

Absolutely. Focus on achievements since your last application.



I won last year – am I disadvantaged if I enter again?

Not at all. Many Supreme Winners started with Scholarship or Emerging Talent. Follow the pathway: Scholarship → Emerging Talent → Excellence → Excellence + Supreme Winner. You can win Excellence twice.

What makes a good application?

The “Present Your Case” section is key. Include achievements in your category, future goals and development plans (with costs and timing), and how you’d use the funds.

Can I get an extension on the closing date?

No. Extensions are not granted under any circumstances.

The North Harbour Club's Youth Excellence Awards recognise excellence, and we expect applicants to demonstrate the same standard throughout the application process. Please submit your application well before the deadline to allow for any technical issues or unforeseen circumstances.

Can I start my application and finish later?

Yes. Google Forms saves progress until submission.

I’d like to send supporting documents that are too large

Max file size is 10MB. For help, email info@northharbourclub.co.nz

I’ve submitted my application – what next?

You’ll receive an automatic confirmation. If not, email us. Judges review all applications after the closing date. You’ll hear within 6–8 weeks if you’ve made the interview stage. Please don’t contact us during this time in case we are delayed. We will contact you. Please note: Judges’ decisions are final.

What if I achieve more after the deadline?

New achievements will be considered if you apply again next year, not in your current application.

How do interviews work?

Held on the North Shore (or online if needed). About 15 minutes long. No-shows are viewed unfavourably.

When will I find out if I’ve won?

After interviews, successful applicants will be notified by phone or email. All applicants will receive a response, whether successful or not. We kindly ask that you do not contact staff to discuss outcomes—judging is a thorough process, and results are confidential until announced.

Can I still apply if I can't attend the Awards ceremonies in person?

Attendance at the Youth Excellence Awards ceremonies is expected (although exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis). Availability to attend in person is one of the factors considered during the selection process. If you already know that attending this year's ceremonies in person will not be possible, you may wish to consider applying in a future year when you are available to participate fully. If exceptional circumstances apply, please provide details in your application.

If successful, when is prize money available?

Awards are presented at the Awards function. Funds are transferred the week after the event.



Are there requirements after winning?

Yes. Winners become part of our Award Winners Network (AWN), a community of talented alumni.

As part of this network, winners are expected to:

- Attend at least six Club or Club sponsors events as a guest, performer, or speaker
- Provide updates on your achievements when requested, so we can share your journey with our sponsors and community

**The North Harbour Club cannot be held responsible for applications not received.
Eligibility is decided by the Judging Panel, and no correspondence will be entered into.**