New Zealand Road Safety, Emergency Response & Healthcare Awards

National Award for Emergency Response and Healthcare

2026

Application Form

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT TRAUMA CHARITABLE TRUST TRADING AS
NATIONAL ROAD TRAUMA CENTRE

The New Zealand Road Safety, Emergency Response and Healthcare Awards are for ordinary people doing exceptional work, day in, day out, across New Zealand.

The Awards are designed specifically for industry professionals in emergency services, hospital care, post hospital care, primary Healthcare, road safety and recognise those in the community who may otherwise not be acknowledged.

Background

The New Zealand Road Safety, Emergency Response and Healthcare Awards and Medallion were established nationally in 2021, following the nationalisation of the Canterbury Road Trauma Awards.

National Award for Emergency Response and Healthcare

The National Award for Emergency Response and Healthare recognises outstanding individuals, groups or organisations in Healthcare or in emergency services who respond to road trauma for a particularly noteworthy response to either an incidence, or incidences, of road trauma, or deserving of special recognition for their contribution to improved processes of care for road trauma victims. This application form has sections relating to these two categories of the Award.

This Award is open to individuals, groups or organisations in healthcare and emergency services who respond to road crashes and road trauma victims.

Application Form Guide Only
This PDF is for guidance only. Please do not complete or submit it.
To submit a nomination, use the fillable Word form or the Online Entry option for your award category.

The National Award for Emergency Response and Healthcare may be awarded for:

1. Particularly Noteworthy Response to an Incidence, or Incidences, of Road Trauma.

2. Contribution to Improved Processes of Care for Road Trauma Victims.

- Increased patient care capacity or patient care quality.
- Addressed an identified need, enhanced patient outcomes or improved a product, service, process or system that directly benefits people in their region or nationally.
- Enhanced or helped develop a product, service, process or system that directly benefits people in their region or nationally.
- Developed effective ways to minimise the impacts of disability or death after road trauma locally, regionally or nationally.
- Worked with local, regional or national organisations and bodies to strengthen the focus on patient care, improve response times for road crash patients, or both.
- Worked with other local, regional or national organisations or agencies to improve response times.
- Used distinctive skills or creative thinking to solve problems associated with road trauma response and the care of people affected by road trauma.
- Developed new services for population groups that traditionally struggle to access healthcare.

Each Award Recipient receives a medallion and a certificate for their meritorious efforts.

Nomination Guidance

This Award may recognise an individual, group, team or organisation for an exceptional response at a road crash site. A nomination may highlight the contribution of one responder or service, or a joint response involving several services, such as Fire and Emergency New Zealand, New Zealand Police, Hato Hone St John and air rescue services.

Past recipients have been recognised for different kinds of contributions under Section 1. There is no set formula. A strong nomination will generally describe **a series of actions or decisions that, taken together, made a significant difference to the response or to the people affected**. It may focus on one particularly challenging crash or draw on several incidents to show the nominee's contribution.

Describe the circumstances responders faced. Unfavourable weather, poor visibility, difficult access, hazards at the scene or several people needing help at once can help explain what made the response exceptional.

Depending on the nominee's role, examples might include assessing and managing hazards, locating and assisting people involved, carrying out a rescue, providing urgent care, or coordinating a safe handover or transfer. **Describe what made the circumstances challenging, what the nominee did within their role, and what difference their actions made.** For a joint nomination, explain each service's contribution and how working together improved the response.

Improving Care for People Affected by Road Trauma

A nomination may also recognise work that improves how road trauma patients are assessed, treated or transferred. This might involve identifying a gap in care, introducing a change within one service or across several, and showing what improved for patients. Describe the problem, the nominee's contribution and the evidence of improvement.

Award Entry Guidance

In preparing an application, nominators should provide a clear and detailed account of the nominee's contribution and demonstrate how the nomination meets the applicable assessment criteria for the National Award for Emergency Response and Healthcare.

Before completing the Application Form, please refer to the Official Guide and New Zealand Road Safety, Emergency Response and Healthcare Awards Criteria, Nomination and Evaluation Process.

Please ensure that:

- all required contact details are completed;
- the applicable Emergency Response or Healthcare Assessment Criteria are addressed;
- responses are supported by relevant evidence where available;
- the applicable 1,000-word limit is observed; and
- any required supporting documentation is included with the application.

Links to relevant multimedia material may also be included within the application or supporting documentation.

A letter of management support is required for applications to the National Award for Emergency Response and Healthcare.

Applications will be accepted from 9.00 am on Monday, 7 September 2026 until 11.59 pm on Sunday, 31 January 2027. Due to the time required for the Executive Committee to review and evaluate applications, late submissions cannot be accepted.

Where an application involves multiple nominees, the details of each individual must be provided. Please contact the Trust for guidance before submitting a group nomination.

For further information or assistance in preparing an application, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions Guide or contact:

Email: sarah@nationalroadtraumacentre.org.nz
Phone: 027 324 0918

→ **Who completes this form**
The nominator prepares the submission, enters both sets of contact details and checks the nominee?s credentials and supporting evidence for accuracy.

→ **Required endorsement**
Include a letter from the nominee?s manager that confirms their consent and gives concrete examples supporting the nomination. Additional letters are optional.

→ **Nominee notification**
The FAQ allows the nomination to remain confidential and recommends involving the nominee where appropriate. The Official Guide requires the nominee to agree to be contacted for verification. If you plan a confidential nomination, check with the Trust how to meet that requirement.

→ **Word limit and submission**
The form states 1,000 words and the Official Guide states 500 in total. Confirm the applicable limit with the Trust before submitting. Use the website nomination form, or contact the Trust if you need to submit on paper.

The New Zealand Road Safety, Emergency Response and Healthcare Awards have an agreement with the New Zealand Honours Unit, Cabinet Office, that any significant or deserving nomination deemed by the Committee to meet the criteria for recognition by the New Zealand Royal Honours System, including the New Zealand Government Bravery Awards, the Applicant will be notified by the Committee by way of letter.

The formal decision to proceed with an Award nomination or withdraw the application, to instead nominate for a New Zealand Royal Honour, will be made by the applicant.

Confidentiality

Upon receipt, applications are collated and prepared by the National Road Trauma Centre for presentation to the New Zealand Road Safety, Emergency Response and Healthcare Awards Executive Committee.

All nominations are strictly confidential and the information provided will be used only to assist the Executive Committee in considering the merits of the nomination. The New Zealand Road Safety, Emergency Response and Healthcare Awards Executive Committee keeps all nominations confidential to respect privacy. We ask for the cooperation of nominators and others involved in respecting this policy.

More Help and Further Information

If you have any further questions, or require guidance in the preparation of the nomination, please contact:

Email: sarah@nationalroadtraumacentre.org.nz
Phone: 027 324 0918

Nominator Details

→ **Nominator = the person submitting the nomination**
If you are completing and submitting this form, enter your own details here.

* Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, Prof, etc.)

* Surname

* Given Names

* Organisation/ Business Name

* Position Title

* Postal Address

* Suburb/City/Postcode

* Email

* Mobile

Other Phone

Preference of Contact Home Phone / Mobile / Email

*Information is compulsary

Nominee/Award Recipient Details

→ **Nominee = the person, team or organisation being put forward for the Award**
Enter their details here. If you are nominating yourself, enter your own details here too.

*** Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, Prof, etc.)**

*** Surname**

*** Given Names**

*** Organisation/ Business Name**

*** Position Title**

*** Postal Address**

*** Suburb/City/Postcode**

*** Email**

*** Mobile**

Other Phone

Preference of Contact Home Phone / Mobile / Email

***Information is compulsary**

Assessment Criteria

Your application can be about large or small projects, but most notably you will need to demonstrate how the work you are doing is improving outcomes to reduce road trauma and its direct impacts either locally, regionally or nationally in New Zealand.

To be competitive your application must address the following criteria, and provide evidence that substantiates its claims. The criteria used to assess and judge the submissions are common practice for Awards of such caliber.

Section 1: Emergency Response / Road Crash Site

Please complete this section of the application if your submission is for a particularly noteworthy response to an incidence, or incidences, of road trauma involving an emergency response at a road crash site.

PART A Incident

PART B Action

PART C Outcome

Section 2: Healthcare

Please complete this section of the application if your submission is for a pre- hospital or hospital care healthcare professional that has contributed to improved processes of care for road trauma victims.

PART A Situation

- **Crash-site response**
  Complete Section 1, Parts A, B and C, for a noteworthy professional response at a road crash site. Leave Section 2 blank.
- **Improved processes of care**
  Complete Section 2, Part A, for improvements in pre-hospital or hospital care for road trauma patients. Leave Section 1 blank.

Award Examples

Emergency rescue at a road crash site (Fire and Emergency New Zealand, New Zealand Police, Hato Hone St John and Air Rescue Services). A nomination may recognise an individual, group, team or organisation, or a joint response involving multiple services.

Section 1: Emergency Response / Road Crash Site

Part A: What Was the Incident?

Emergency responder professionals involved in pre-hospital care with particularly noteworthy response to an incidence, or incidences of road trauma at a road crash site to complete Section 1, Part A: C of the Award category application. Please note 1,000 words maximum apply.

1. **Please provide a brief description of the incident.**

2. **Date, time and location of the incident.**

3. **Describe conditions, were there any conditions needed to overcome to respond well to the incident?**

For example, what was the temperature, time, visibility level, weather, number of people around and other environmental conditions at the time of the accident, or what were the workload, occupancy, roster restrictions in the relevant healthcare environment.

→ **Part A | Set the scene**
Give the date, time, location and circumstances. Explain the challenges responders faced.

Section 1: Emergency Response / Road Crash Site

Part B: What Was the Action?

What was the influential difference, contribution or assistance at the scene of a road crash site or in the care of the victims of the road crash?

1. Please provide a brief summary of the rescue/care efforts of the nominee? Please clearly articulate what the person that you are nominating for this award, you may wish to elaborate on any elements of risk (if any).

2. What patient injuries or rescues or attempted rescues needed to be attended to?

3. Did the incident/rescue/care require advanced or technical skills e.g. Vehicle extraction or medical equipment, devices or procedures? Please outline if there was optimal use of skills within the available personnel?

4. Was emergency medical aid rendered including emergency procedures? Detail whether the applicant demonstrate the ability to treat specific injury types and enable analysis of triage for treatment?

5. Was there multiple agencies or specialities involved?

→ **Part B | Describe the response**
Explain what the nominee did, the skills and decisions involved, and how they worked with other responders where relevant.

Section 1: Emergency Response / Road Crash Site

Part B: What Was the Action?

Please complete any futher detailed information.

→ **Part B | Continue if needed**
Use this page if you need more space for Part B. Leave it blank if your answer fits on the previous page.

Section 1: Emergency Response / Road Crash Site

Part C: What Was the Outcome?

What was the influential difference, contribution or assistance at the scene of a road crash site or in the care of road crash victims?

1. **Please provide a brief summary of the attributing outcome of the nominees contribution.** Examples may include, rendered first aid, vehicle extraction, site communication and co- ordination of emergency services onsite or procedures in the Healthcare context.

Please write in detail your response below (note 1,000 words maximum for Section 1: A, B and C combined):

→ **Part C | Explain the outcome**
Connect the nominee?s actions to the outcome for the patient or the response. Include evidence where available.

Section 2: Healthcare

Part A: What Was the Situation?

Complete Section 2, Part A, for a nomination about improved processes of care for people affected by road trauma in pre-hospital or hospital care. Explain how the nominee contributed and provide evidence for the examples that apply.

1. Increased patient care capacity or patient care quality.
2. Addressed an identified need, enhanced patient outcomes or improved a product, service, process or system that directly benefits people in their region or nationally.
3. Enhanced or helped develop a product, service, process or system that directly benefits people in their region or nationally.
4. Developed effective ways to minimise the impacts of disability or death after road trauma locally, regionally or nationally.
5. Worked with local, regional or national organisations and bodies to strengthen the focus on patient care, improve response times for road crash patients, or both.
6. Worked with other local, regional or national organisations or agencies to improve response times.
7. Used distinctive skills or creative thinking to solve problems associated with road trauma response and the care of people affected by road trauma.
8. Developed new services for population groups that traditionally struggle to access healthcare.

Additional prompt, if relevant

9. Worked with local, regional or national partners to plan services across an area to improve the health and wellbeing of people who experience poorer outcomes.

Use the response page that follows. The maximum response length is 1,000 words.

→ Choose the examples that apply
Use the next page to explain the care issue, the nominee?s contribution and the improvement achieved. Use the additional prompt only if relevant.

Section 2: Healthcare

Part A: What Was the Situation?

Please write in detail your response below, (note 1,000 words maximum):

→ **Section 2 | Show the improvement**
Describe the need, what the nominee changed, who benefited and how you know. Use measures such as response times, patient outcomes, access or capacity where relevant.

Further Information and Guidance

For further information or guidance in preparing an application, please contact:

Email: sarah@nationalroadtraumacentre.org.nz

Phone: 027 324 0918

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First published 2021. Revised 2026.

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Issued by the Road Traffic Accident Trauma Charitable Trust trading as the National Road Trauma Centre, Christchurch, New Zealand.