We welcome entries into the eight categories described here – six for qualified healthcare scientists and AHPs, one for students and one for support workers. Please go to https://ahawales.awardsplatform.com/ to register to enter and submit your entry on-line.

The award categories, the judging criteria and submission statements are listed here so you can see what’s required and to allow you to prepare your entries off-line.

The submission deadline for entries is 17:00 Friday 10 September 2021.
Awards open to qualified healthcare scientists and AHPs

Category 1.
THE AWARD FOR NEW WAYS OF WORKING
Sponsored by Welsh Government, Transformation Programme Division

Category 2.
THE AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT
Sponsored by Health Education and Improvement Wales

Category 3.
THE AWARD FOR IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH OUTCOMES
Sponsored by Public Health Wales

Category 4.
THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH DELIVERY
Sponsored by Health and Care Research Wales

Category 5.
THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN REHABILITATION
Sponsored by Attend Anywhere

Category 6.
THE AWARD FOR DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION
Sponsored by Blue Prism

Awards open to support staff, associates and apprentices working with AHPs and healthcare scientists

Category 7.
THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY AN AHP OR HEALTHCARE SCIENCE APPRENTICE, SUPPORT WORKER, ASSISTANT OR ASSOCIATE
Sponsored by the Welsh Government

Awards open to healthcare science and AHP students

Category 8.
THE AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT PROJECT WHICH HELPS WALES MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER
Sponsored by Health Education and Improvement Wales

OVERALL WINNER
selected by the judges from the winners of categories 1 – 7.
The awards in detail

Category 1: THE AWARD FOR NEW WAYS OF WORKING
Sponsored by Welsh Government, Transformation Programme Division

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, healthcare scientists and allied healthcare professionals have adapted to new ways of working to enable the continuation of essential services in a safe environment. This award seeks to recognise innovative new ways of working introduced that build on the foundations set out in A Healthier Wales, our long-term plan for integrated health and social care. The winning idea will play an important role in the stabilisation and reconstruction of services, and have the potential to become firmly embedded in our system.

This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate a colleague or member of their team.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Innovative ideas that have led to new or transformed ways of working in the health and care system during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Ideas that have the potential to be scaled up and implemented across Wales
- Transformed services that will assist with the stabilisation and reconstruction of the health and care system in Wales.

Submission statements

1. Summarise your project and its significance in 50 words
2. How your/their approach has enabled an essential service to continue during the COVID-19 pandemic (200 words)
3. What is innovative in your/their approach? (100 words)
4. How are you/they seeking to embed change for the longer term? (100 words)
5. How you/they are a role model and inspiration to others (100 words).
Category 2. **THE AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT**  
**Sponsored by Health Education and Improvement Wales**

This award seeks to recognise inspirational leaders who have empowered and transformed workforce wellbeing and engagement by demonstrating positive changes in staff. The award winner leads the way for others and acts as a role model for the next generation of AHPs and healthcare scientists, and will be able to actively demonstrate a commitment to equality and diversity within the NHS.

This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate a colleague or member of their team.

**Criteria**
The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Vision and drive for their service
- Improvement in workforce wellbeing and engagement
- Commitment to equality and diversity.

**Submission statements**

1. What is your/their vision and drive for the service you/they work in? (100 words)
2. How you/they have improved the wellbeing and engagement of staff in your/their role (200 words)
3. How you/they are a role model and inspiration to others (200 words)
4. Your/their commitment to equality and diversity (100 words).

Category 3. **THE AWARD FOR IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH OUTCOMES**  
**Sponsored by Public Health Wales**

Healthcare scientists and AHPs deliver a wide range of services that have a major positive impact on improving health and wellbeing across Wales. This award seeks to recognise individuals or teams who are playing a key role in developing and delivering a sustainable health and care system focused on prevention and early intervention, and/or are protecting the public from infection and environmental threats to health. The award winner is making a real difference to public health outcomes, and is supporting and inspiring those around them to do the same.

This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate a colleague or member of their team.

**Criteria**
The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Exceptional contribution to promoting, developing and improving public health outcomes
- Contribution to development of a sustainable and prudent health and care system
- Being a role model and inspiring others to achieve their best.

**Submission statements**

1. Summarise your project and its significance in 50 words
2. How your/their approach is having a positive impact on improving public health outcomes in Wales (200 words)
3. What is innovative in your/their approach and how is this contributing to making a difference? (100 words)
4. How these changes will contribute to a sustainable and prudent healthcare system in the future? (100 words)
5. How you/they are a role model and inspiration to others (100 words)
Category 4. **THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH DELIVERY**  
Sponsored by Health and Care Research Wales

This award celebrates the achievements of an individual or team who has made an outstanding contribution to research delivery. The award winner is a role model for the next generation of AHPs and healthcare scientists demonstrating leadership in research delivery across Wales.

This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate a colleague or member of their team.

**Criteria**

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Impact of research for patients and/or the public
- Leadership in research delivery
- Collaborative working in a pan-Wales context
- Engagement and raising the profile of research in health and/or social care

**Submission statements**

1. What was the impact for patients and/or the public from the research project/services provided? (e.g. this could just be opportunities were provided/equity of access/benefits to participant health or social care from the intervention) (100 words)
2. Describe the role of leadership in the context of the research delivery (project or services) (200 words)
3. What strategies for collaborative working across Wales were employed and describe how these were delivered (200 words)
4. Describe your approach to engagement and raising the profile of research delivery in health (100 words)

Category 5. **THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN REHABILITATION**  
Sponsored by Attend Anywhere

The past 12 months has seen an increased focus on rehabilitation across Wales in response to the Covid pandemic. Rehabilitation requires a biopsychosocial approach to enable people to remain as independent as possible and support them towards recovery so that they can participate in meaningful life roles, including education and work. This award celebrates teams who have embraced integrated working, breaking down traditional organisational structures and boundaries and new ways of working to deliver truly person-centred, co-produced rehabilitation that has a measurable impact on the health and well being of their service users.

This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate colleagues.

**Criteria**

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Integrated ways of working
- Working across (internal and external) organisational structures and boundaries
- Innovative practice and/or innovative use of technology
- Coproduction with service users
- Robust service evaluation.
Submission statements

1. Summarise your rehabilitation intervention, its target population and aims (100 words)
2. Describe how you have engaged with the population group in order to understand their needs (50 words)
3. Describe how you have adapted to work in a more integrated way, work across organisational structures and boundaries and/or used technology (200 words)
4. Outline the outcomes and benefits, including cost effectiveness (200 words)
5. What are the key messages to others wishing to do something similar? (100 words).

Category 6. THE AWARD FOR DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION
Sponsored by Blue Prism

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the rapid adoption of digital technology and changes to the way in which health and social care services are delivered. Many services have introduced new systems that not only respond to meet the requirements/impact of the pandemic, but also contribute to the longer-term transformation of health and social care. This award is open to healthcare scientists and allied health professionals (individuals or teams) who can demonstrate excellence in the way they have used digital technology to transform service delivery to improve quality, efficiency, people’s experiences as well as supporting more integrated care, improving people’s health and well-being. This award is open to patient-facing services and those supporting the interventions of others. The scope includes use of digital and technology for communications, diagnostics, interventions and interpretation/management of data for clinical benefit.

This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate a colleague or member of their team.

Criteria

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Commitment to digital innovation
- Successful implementation and roll out of a digital system or service
- Coproduction with service users engaged in development (other services or patients/carers)
- Robust evaluation of benefits/service improvements
- Efforts to minimise digital exclusion and maximise equity (when relevant)
- Plans to further build on this innovation to offer continual improvement, including potential to support larger-scale digital change
- Evidence of sharing, promulgating the lessons learnt and good practice.

Submission statements

1. Summarise your digital intervention, including any innovative aspects, its target population and aims (200 words)
2. Describe how you have engaged with service users (patients, carers or clinicians) in order to understand their needs (100 words)
3. Outline the outcomes and benefits of your digital intervention, including cost effectiveness (200 words)
4. How have you shared outcomes? what are the key messages to others wishing to do something similar? (100 words)
Category 7. **THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY AN AHP OR HEALTHCARE SCIENCE APPRENTICE, SUPPORT WORKER, ASSISTANT OR ASSOCIATE**  
Sponsored by the Welsh Government

This award is open to apprentices, support workers, assistant practitioners, technicians or others of a similar title working within an AHP or healthcare science service. It aims to recognise and encourage their increasing contribution to improving citizen outcomes by celebrating an individual that provides, or helps to provide, high quality, creative care which enhances the quality of life for the citizen.

This award can either be self-nominated or you can nominate a colleague or member of their team.

**Criteria**

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- Exceptional commitment: role model to others
- Team working to provide high quality care
- Citizen involvement, citizen benefit.

**Submission statements**

1. In what ways does this person stand out from the crowd? (100 words)
2. Give some examples of their particular contribution to citizen care (200 words)
3. What makes them a special member of the team? (100 words).

Category 8. **THE AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT PROJECT WHICH HELPS WALES MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER**  
Sponsored by Health Education and Improvement Wales

This award seeks to recognise a project by a healthcare science or AHP student (undergraduate or masters) which has the potential to make a real difference to the way services are delivered. The award-winning project will demonstrate new thinking and fresh ideas which could be put into action in a variety of settings to improve the service.

This award can be self-nominated (with endorsement from tutor/manager/supervisor) and nominations are welcome from tutors, placement supervisors, and peers.

**Criteria**

The judges will be looking for evidence of:

- A completed project with clear conclusions
- Attunes with Welsh healthcare policies and priorities
- Originality and fresh thinking
- Feasibility, likelihood of implementation
- Impact on patient care.

**Submission statements**

1. Briefly describe the project and its conclusions (100 words)
2. What is the background to the project: what issue did it set out to tackle and how was it carried out? (200 words)
3. What is innovative in the approach and/or conclusions? (100 words)
4. What impact does the project have on improving services? (100 words).

**OVERALL WINNER**

Chosen from the winners of categories 1 – 7.
We are delighted to announce our third national awards programme. We ask you to support us in recognising and celebrating the achievements of our professions throughout Wales.

Ruth Crowder
Chief Allied Health Professions Advisor, Welsh Government

Dr Rob Orford
Chief Scientific Adviser for Health

An opportunity to celebrate everything that is done every single day in our national health service for the length and breadth of Wales

Rt Hon Mark Drakeford AM
First Minister for Wales