



Celebrating diversity, for all students, from all backgrounds

Xcel Student of the Year Awards

Nominations Easy Guide

Nominations Deadline

Nominations have to be received by email (xcelawards@srmedia.net), or via the Xcel Awards website by **FRIDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2010**.

Aim of the 'Xcel Students of the Year Award' Scheme

To recognise and celebrate diversity of all students, from all backgrounds, who have demonstrated excellence.

Who Can Be Nominated?

- Any student currently attending a UK college or university and undertaking a post-school qualification, diploma or degree.
- Students from multi-ethnic or minority backgrounds which can include women, the disabled and those from a challenged background.
- Students of any age.
- Students who are high academic achievers.
- A proactive student who is making a contribution to university life and/or projects outside university commitments.
- An inspiring individual who is a potential role model.
- A student who has made significant personal development in their life so far.

You can nominate students who have recently graduated within 12 months prior to 30th June 2010.

For a detailed description of who should be nominated, please see the 'Nomination Criteria' section below.

Nomination Categories

Nominations have to be students involved in one of the 8 subject areas (that are deliberately drawn in a wide and inclusive manner). There are also three additional awards for 'Xcel Best Institute of Widening Participation', 'Xcel Student of Courage' and the overall 'Xcel Student of the Year 2010'.

The 10 subject area nomination categories are (with five nominations maximum, per subject area):

Apprentice of the Year
Business, Commerce and Law
Creative Arts, Media and Design
Economics and Finance
Construction, Built Environment and Engineering
Fashion, Hair and Beauty
Science, Computing and Technology
Student of Courage
International Beauty Award
Best Institute of Widening Participation

Best Institute of Widening Participation

This award will be given to the institution who is judged to have made the biggest increase in recruiting students from a multi-ethnic and minority group background and who has been actively involved in widening participation.

The opportunity to nominate your own institution for this award is available on the student's nomination form.

Student of Courage

This special award is designed to recognise the achievement of students from exceptionally challenging backgrounds that may also include financial or social privation, disability, or refugee status; amongst any that you feel worthy of acknowledgment. We wish to give nominating universities and institutions as free a hand as possible with this award.

The 'Xcel Student of the Year'

The overall Xcel Student of the Year will be selected from all of the individual winners from the other categories. This award does not require a nomination.



Xcel Student of the Year Awards

SR Media Ltd., 101 Southwark Street, London, SE1 0JF

www.xcelawards.com

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Nomination Criteria

Students nominated should have been judged by you to have fulfilled two main criteria, firstly academic achievement and secondly, personal development and achievement.

Academic Achievement - 50%

We wish to leave nominating university staff relatively free to personally assess academic achievement.

You may wish to recognise those who have achieved, or are forecast to achieve, a high result in their degree or course. Or, you may wish to recognise academic achievement based on a start and completion comparison that might allow for a student to be nominated even if they are predicted to achieve a lower grade.

Similarly, you might wish to include an assessment of the student's academic understanding of, and commitment to, the subject they are studying. We suggest that you award 50% of any overall marking system you use to this judgement.

Personal Achievement and Development - 50%

The Xcel Awards team also wish to give university staff involved in assessing their potential nominees, a free hand in judging this area; whilst bearing in mind that 50% of any overall marking or judging system you wish to use should be devoted to this.

You may wish to assess your nominees based on their cultural, family, social or economic backgrounds, as well as their individual personality and attitudes. Similarly, you may vary as to how you judge issues such as race, gender and disability; as well as your student's non-academic activities and achievements. You may also wish to consider your student's personal (and academic) achievements prior to their attendance at your institution. (That is, what they had to achieve in order to reach you in the first place).

If you are still unsure as to what makes a student an Xcel Award winner, please be advised by last year's winner profiles on our website: <http://www.xcelawards.com/xcel-awards.htm>

Once you have assessed and decided upon which students you wish to nominate, we ask you to very briefly explain your reasoning in the nomination form.

Marking and Judging

All comments and assessments are kept strictly confidential and are not revealed to any third party (other than Xcel Awards judges and Awards Editor) without explicit consent. Similarly, no institution is allowed to use, divulge or reveal details of any part of the nominations it makes, nor of the individuals they nominated without the explicit consent of the organisers.

Once all nominations are received, the Xcel Awards judges will decide upon the award winners. The judging will be done by 'blind' marking (without influence of either the nominating institutions or awards sponsors).

Winners will attend the Xcel Awards event with four additional guests (one of these guests will be the nominating tutor). Award winners will be publicly presented with their awards, receive a £250 prize and also be invited with their attending guests, to enjoy a post-presentation celebration party.

Again all information received is strictly confidential and not be released or revealed without explicit permission from both the nominees, award winner and the organisers.

Winners and their nominating tutors will be notified by FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2010.

Invitations to the event will be emailed with an RSVP deadline of FRIDAY 14TH JANUARY 2010.

'Xcel Student of the Year' Organisers:

SR Media on behalf of 'Xcel' magazine

Nominations and contact addresses

Nominations email: xcelawards@srmedia.net
Nominations fax: 020 7401 7233

Contact details:

Please phone: 020 7401 7333 and ask to speak to a representative

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