Key dates

Nominations and entries open
Wednesday 29 May 2019

Nominations close
Friday 28 June 2019

Entries close
Friday 5 July 2019

Finalists announced
Tuesday 10 September 2019

Awards dinner and winners announced
Tuesday 22 October 2019
About the awards

After six fantastic years, we are returning with Women of Influence Program that aims to broaden and deepen the engagement with the Women of Influence community.

*The Australian Financial Reviews* Women of Influence program is committed to increasing the visibility of women’s leadership in Australia, highlighting the important contribution women make in creating a bold and diverse future for Australia.

We want to uncover and promote Australian women who have dedicated their time and energy to encourage and influence other women in their industry, and who are fighting for change every day – be it in their workplace, their community or among their peers.

These are women who confront unfairness and don’t take no for an answer; who identify what needs to be done then roll up their sleeves to do it, and who use their skills and ability to help change the status quo to a more equal, more diverse, and vibrant society.

This is an opportunity to share your story with others, to help change and improve common perceptions of what influence is.

Your experiences, the lessons you’ve learned and your achievements and failures will help encourage others and energise them to do more.

What are we looking for

Women who don’t accept the status quo; who are not afraid of asking questions and who are everyday are trying to do things differently. Our winners come from all roles and ranks, from all sectors and from all across Australia.

No efforts are too small or too large to be included. If you are using your influence to change things for the better, you are a woman of influence.
What are the judges looking for

Judges are looking for women who invest their time and energy into helping other women make the most of their potential. These women will advocate for change every day – in their workplace, their community, their peer group and wherever decisions are made. These women confront unfairness and don’t take no for an answer. They identify what needs to be done and roll up their sleeves to do it. These are women who use their skills and talents to help change the status quo and create a more equitable society.

We are looking for the special women who didn’t set out to become role models but truly are, and who can tell us why they make a difference.

Entries need to include a clear and focused description of the impact and results of the nominee’s efforts, as well as a succinct story about how they got to the position they are in.

We particularly want to know how they used their influence to make change happen: the lobbying, the fund-raising, the mentoring and support of others, the networks established, the causes they support.

Our nominees come from all ranks and roles, and from all sectors, and no efforts are too small to be included.

The awards are intended to encourage the widest possible range of women to enter or be nominated, and show their contribution. To do that, judging focuses on quality and impact rather than the scale or seniority of a woman’s role.

Even if you have never entered an award program before, and feel uncomfortable about the attention, remember this is a chance to really extend your influence well beyond your own remit, on what matters to you.
Success profile

Our strategic partner Korn Ferry has created a Success Profile to help pinpoint the competencies, experiences, traits and drivers that make women so influential.

Competencies

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<th>Thought leadership</th>
<th>Cultivates innovation</th>
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<td>Results leadership</td>
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<td>Action oriented</td>
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<td>Drivers results</td>
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<td>People leadership</td>
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<td>Communicates effectively</td>
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<td>Persuades</td>
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<td>Drives vision and purpose</td>
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<td>Self leadership</td>
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<td>Courage</td>
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<td>Being resilient</td>
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<td>Self-development</td>
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Experiences

| Demonstration of achievement within their field and beyond their field of expertise |
| Have influence in their field of expertise at a local level and influencing the global agenda |
| Involvement and contribution to Australian communities through collaboration and mentoring |
| Demonstrated a level of innovation and creativity in their contribution |
| Influenced through challenges and hardships |

Traits

| Courageous |
| Passionate |
| Tenacious |
| Focused |
| Agile |

Drivers

| Commitment to a vision and cause |
| Commitment to women’s social and economic progression |
| Value and enjoys being influential |
Categories

Arts, Culture and Sport
Women involved in furthering Australia’s artistic and cultural institutions or sporting, organisations. Entries are invited from women including but not limited to performers, writers, athletes, curators, or those involved in advocacy for, or administration of, initiatives across areas such as the creative arts, sports, media and entertainment, both locally and globally.

Board and Management
Women working on a board or in management in public or private companies, or who are running a team, a key project, or developing strategy within an organisation. Their influence extends beyond their formal role to personal support, mentoring and networks.

Business and Entrepreneur
Women who have founded, own, or run a business. This category recognises women who have substantially developed a business, or led its strategy and direction, and remain actively involved in its operation.

Diversity and Inclusion
Women who have dedicated themselves to consistently advocating for a more diverse workforce or diverse representation on community, government and business entities and who have helped make the change happen. This includes advocacy in the boardroom, in government, lobby groups, in small or large businesses or the community.

Global
Women whose work is making a mark on the global stage, including through offshore business expansion, projects that originate in areas outside Australia, or international collaborations. Entrants are invited from a broad range of sectors, and they may be based overseas or in Australia.

Innovation
Women who are driving innovation and entrepreneurship, within a business or workplace, through their work in the sciences, medicine, academia, technology, finance, engineering or in organisational design and management. This category also recognises innovative ways of tackling community and social issues and improving inclusion.
Local and Regional
Women who are having a positive impact in their community at a local, rural or regional level. This may be across business, community, the not for profit sector, the arts or in government.

Public Policy
Women working in the public sector at either local, state or federal level. This may include those working in agencies or in an advisory role to influence and change public policy, for instance, to support better social inclusion and equity.

Social Enterprise and Not-for-profit
Women working in a range of capacities to support social change as entrepreneurs or in community projects or campaigns in the not for profit sector. This may cover a range of areas including health, education, domestic violence, indigenous programs, financial literacy or cultural programs

Young Leader
Young women aged up to and including 30 years (as of Friday 12 July) who demonstrate a capacity to influence and act as catalysts for change. This new generation of leaders is advocating for and giving a voice to younger women and their concerns.

Judging process
A selection committee from Korn Ferry, in conjunction with the Financial Review will review all entries and create a shortlist to be provided to the judging panel.

Our panel of esteemed judges will review the shortlisted entries and determine the 100 Women of Influence for 2019. A winner will be selected for each of the 10 categories, and from those 10 women, the panel will select the overall Woman of Influence for 2019.
Self nomination or entry

- Select the most relevant category. If the judges think the entry is suitable in another category - they will move it accordingly
- Provide an overview of your influence in 500 words or less. Please refer to What are the judges looking for as guidance
- Provide a brief biography. Please note, you will be required to upload a .pdf copy of your curriculum vitae
- You will be required to provide one referee. Judges may wish to contact your referee to validate the claims in your entry
- Provide a professional headshot and an influential image related to your entry, for use across all digital and print advertising platforms. Images need to be in high resolution at least 300 dpi and in .png/.jpeg format.
- Link to your LinkedIn profile (optional)

How to guide

- Visit the website afrwomenofinfluence.awardsplatform.com
- Register account with your own details or Log in to your account if you have any existing account with AFR Women of Influence AwardsForce.
- Once registered, follow prompts to ensure account verification or can not proceed with the entry phase.
- Once logged in, click on Start new nomination or entry
- Under Nomination type, select Self nomination or entry
- Select Category from drop down options, under each category, you will find a description. Please read to ensure it is relevant.
- Enter your Full name
- Select the best option behind the reason of your entry
  - I received a nomination and am now entering the awards
  - I am nominating myself into the awards
- Click Save + next
- Follow the prompts and answer all the following questions. You can jump to different sections through the tabs at the top. Select Save + close at any time, you aren’t required to complete the entry all at once
- Once completed all sections, acknowledge all information provided is correct and review before clicking on Submit nomination or entry. Once submitted, you will not be able to edit.
- You will be notified by email confirming Entry Submitted. If you do not receive this email please contact us via afrwomenofinfluence@fairfaxmedia.com.au and provide us your full name and the category you have entered