



Cherished Pets Awards 2020

Celebrating the human-animal bond

Guidelines for nominations

Cherished Pets believes in the power of pets to enhance our wellbeing and connect communities. By celebrating those individuals and businesses in our community who nurture and promote the extraordinary bonds shared between animals and people, we can contribute to a greater appreciation of the role of animals in our lives making people happier and strengthening our community.

1. Award Categories

Nominations will be accepted for individuals or organisations in five categories:

1. **Caring Kid (youth)**
2. **Caring Service Provider**
3. **Pet Friendly Business**
4. **Health and Wellbeing**
5. **Pet Supporter**

Cherished Pets Hero Award 2020

The Cherished Pets Hero Award, will be presented to the most outstanding individual or organisation selected by the judges from the winners of the five award categories. Nominations will NOT be accepted for this award.

See section 3. for details on eligibility and judging criteria for each category.

2. Nominations

You can nominate someone or nominate yourself for an award in one of the five categories. If you are nominating someone other than yourself, please obtain their permission before submitting the nomination.

Nominations open **15 March 2020** and close **at 5 p.m. on 19 April 2020**.

Nominations are to be submitted online via <http://www.cherishedpetsawards.com.au/>.

Please check the criteria for the award category before submitting a nomination to ensure your nomination is eligible and addresses the judging criteria.

For nominations in the youth category a guardian or parent must give permission for the nomination.

Please only nominate for one category.

All nominations will be reviewed and assessed by a judging panel according to the judging criteria for each category. The judge's decision will be final.

All finalists will be invited to attend the award ceremony breakfast on 5th May 2020 where the winners will be presented with their award.

All prizes will be awarded on the condition the finalists and winner agree to accept their prize in person at the 2020 Cherished Pets Awards breakfast.

3. Eligibility and Judging Criteria for Award Categories

The judges will choose three finalists and a winner in each category.

Caring Kid (youth)

Nominations in this category must be an individual under the age of 16 years who shows responsible pet ownership and has a special connection with a pet. A guardian or parent must give permission for the nomination.

When judging, the panel will take into consideration the following:

- How they are a responsible pet owner in caring for their pet's health and wellbeing
- Why the bond with their pet is special
- Being compliant with all relevant animal laws and regulations at local (council), state and federal government levels.

Caring Service Provider

Nominations in this category must be an organisation that provides care for people who are elderly or are living with a disability or mental illness. The organisation may provide care in a hospital, supported living, residential facility or home environment. The provision of care must be the primary business of the organisation.

When judging, the panel will take into consideration the following:

- Demonstrating a culture of inclusion and respect for the human-animal bond
- Encouraging, supporting and enabling consumers who have a bond with a pet
- Providing for pet owning consumers' needs, goals and preferences specific to their pet
- Ensuring the health and wellbeing of pets including enrichment and access to pet support services such as veterinarians, groomers, dog walkers, trainers.
- Training staff so they are qualified and equipped to maintain pet wellbeing
- Incorporating pet care and wellbeing and the safety of all consumers, staff and pets in the organisational policies and procedures
- Being compliant with all relevant animal laws and regulations at local (council), state and federal government levels.

Pet Friendly business

Nominations in this category must be a business other than a health or aged care provider that accommodates pets in the workplace or provides pet friendly accommodation.

When judging, the panel will take into consideration the following:

- Demonstrating a culture of inclusion and respect for the human-animal bond
- Encouraging, supporting and enabling employees or consumers who have a bond with a pet to have their pet with them
- Providing for pet owning consumers' or employees' needs, goals and preferences specific to their pet

- Providing an environment that supports pet health and wellbeing and is safe for pets and people to share
- Training staff so they are qualified and equipped to maintain pet wellbeing
- Incorporating pet care and wellbeing and the safety of all consumers, staff and pets in the organisational policies and procedures
- Being compliant with all relevant animal laws and regulations at local (council), state and federal government levels.

Health and wellbeing

Nominations in this category must be an individual or organisation that demonstrates health and wellness benefits from the relationship with an animal.

When judging, the panel will take into consideration the following:

- Incorporating animals in the provision of services that improve human health and wellbeing
- Providing an environment that supports animal health and wellbeing and is safe for animals and people to share
- Improved health and wellbeing of an individual that can be attributed to their relationship with an animal
- Being compliant with all relevant animal laws and regulations at local (council), state and federal government levels.

Pet Supporter

Nominations in this category must be an individual who proactively supports the human-animal bond within their workplace, going above and beyond to accommodate pets for the benefit of other employees, customers, patients or residents.

When judging, the panel will take into consideration the following:

- Demonstrating a culture of inclusion and respect for the human-animal bond
- Encouraging and supporting of colleagues, customers, patients or residents who have a bond with a pet
- Being an advocate for a pet friendly workplace
- Creating an environment that supports pet health and wellbeing and is safe for pets and people to share
- Undertaking training to be qualified and equipped to maintain pet wellbeing
- Helping to create and improve pet friendly organisational policies and procedures and being a role model by demonstrating pet friendly practices.

Cherished Pets Hero Award 2020

This is the judge's choice award that will be awarded to the most outstanding individual or organisation selected from the winners of each of the award categories.

The award will be given to the person or organisation that the judges agree has made the most significant contribution to supporting the human-animal bond.

There will be no nominations accepted for this award.