



BHP Billiton Science & Engineering Awards 2013



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– About the awards –

The BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards are Australia's most prestigious student science awards. The Awards reward young people who have undertaken practical research projects which demonstrate innovative investigative approaches using scientific methods or who have used technological innovation to design a new invention. The BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards are a partnership between BHP Billiton, the world's largest diversified resources company, CSIRO, Australia's premier scientific research organisation and The Australian Science Teachers Association (ASTA).

– Entry Process –

BHP Billiton, CSIRO and ASTA work with the Science Teachers Association (STA) in each state and territory to select finalists for the BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards. To be eligible for selection as a finalist, you must either:

- submit a project based on your own experimental data into the experiment, research or investigation category of your local STA Awards or
- submit an invention with written support material into the invention or engineering category of your local STA Awards (contact your local STA for entry requirements as not all STAs have an Engineering category for the 2013 awards) or
- successfully complete a science or technology project in the Blue, Silver or Gold category of the CSIRO CREST Awards.

While some STA competitions have specific subject categories, there are no restrictions on subject category for the science awards component, except that projects must include designing and carrying out an experimental investigation. In the engineering side of the awards projects must include designing and building and invention. Entries of the highest standard will be chosen by each state and territory STA and forwarded for selection of the BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards finalists. A number of Gold, Silver and Blue CSIRO CREST Awards will also be submitted for selection. See the appropriate website for more information on how to enter your local STA and CSIRO CREST Awards:

WA	www.stawa.net	ACT	www.seaact.act.edu.au
QLD	www.staq.qld.edu.au	SA	www.sasta.asn.au
VIC	www.sciencevictoria.com.au	TAS	www.chooseit.org.au/stat
NSW	www.stansw.asn.au/ys	STANT	/www.stant.asn.au/
CREST	www.csiro.au/crest		

– Who can enter? –

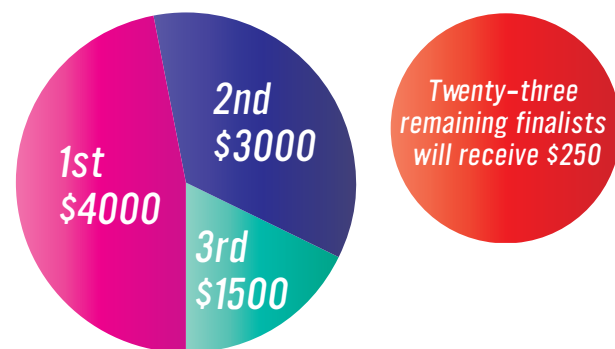
The BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards are open to all Australian permanent residents enrolled full-time in primary or secondary schools (including home-schooled) or undertaking full-time secondary study in TAFE colleges. Group entries will be accepted. The maximum number of students in a group varies for each STA competition but the **maximum number to be accepted in the BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards is three**. Entry into the BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards is free however, fees may be applicable for STA competitions.

Closing date

Consult the relevant STA website for specific closing dates of your local STA competition. Each STA will forward its best entries directly to the BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards. If you are entering through CREST, your school will need to have submitted your completed project to the CREST National Office by 19 October 2012. Finalists will be informed in early December 2012.

– Prizes to be won in each category –

The two winners of the national BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards will win \$4000 each and the chance to compete at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in the USA (subject to fulfilling the conditions that apply).



Other Cash prizes

Up to eight winning primary entries will win \$250.
Up to one hundred semi-finalist entries will win \$100.

Encouragement Awards

Up to ninety primary students will receive encouragement award prize packs

The national competition

As well as winning prizes in your local STA or CSIRO CREST Awards, you may also have the honour of being selected to proceed to the next level as a finalist in the national BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards. Twenty-six finalists, from all over Australia, will be invited to participate in an educational and entertaining four-day science camp and attend a presentation function held in Melbourne in February 2013. This is an excellent chance to meet with like-minded people and visit fascinating research labs and other programs. The camp includes fun elements and is a great experience that you'll always remember. Many distinguished people will be attending the Presentation Ceremony and you'll be given the rare opportunity to meet and talk with them.

For the twenty-six finalists selected to attend the camp in Melbourne, a further component of judging will take place at this camp. Irrespective of the original style of entries, **finalists will be required to prepare a science fair exhibit**, which will be displayed in a public venue and judged. The science fair presentation will be worth 20% of the final score. Judges will use the student's written report for the remaining 80% of the assessment.

From these twenty-six finalists, a small number will be offered a trip and a chance to compete at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in the USA!

I cannot speak highly enough of this opportunity...it was certainly life changing for me. Student Finalist

The International competition

The student winners, a teacher and a CSIRO representative will take part in the International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona, USA in May 2013. This event brings together more than 1000 of the brightest scientific minds from around the world to compete in one of the world's largest pre-university celebrations of science. Students compete for over three million dollars worth of prizes during this week-long fair - it's the opportunity of a lifetime!

– Ineligible Projects –

Projects that involve cruelty to animals or do not follow national guidelines on animal welfare will not be accepted. Any study involving experiments on living animals must be carefully considered to ensure that animals are given proper care.

Projects that do not follow national guidelines on experiments involving recombinant DNA will not be accepted.

Any experiments involving blood products will only be accepted if they have been carried out under strict medical supervision, for instance, in a hospital research centre while working with a scientist.

Projects involving experiments where illegal activities are undertaken will not be accepted.

Projects involving explosives, rocket fuels, or damage to the environment or which are detrimental to the health or safety of individuals or the community will not be accepted.

Projects which arrive after the closing date will not be accepted.

– Partners and Supporters –

The BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards are a partnership between BHP Billiton, CSIRO and the Australian Science Teachers Association.

– BHP Billiton –

BHP Billiton is a leading global resources company. Its purpose is to create long-term shareholder value through the discovery, acquisition and development and marketing of natural resources.

This is pursued through the Company's consistent strategy of owning and operating large, long-life, low-cost, expandable, upstream assets diversified by commodity, geography and market. This strategy means more predictable business performance over time which, in turn, underpins the creation of value for its shareholders, customers, employees and, importantly, the communities in which BHP Billiton operates.

BHP Billiton has operations around the world, which focus on developing and converting the natural resources it discovers. The Company is among the world's top producers of major commodities, including aluminium, energy coal, metallurgical coal, copper, manganese, iron ore, uranium, nickel, silver and titanium minerals, and has substantial interests in oil and gas.

– CSIRO –

CSIRO, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation is one of the largest and most diverse scientific organisations in the world and has been solving scientific problems in Australia and internationally since 1926. CSIRO is a powerhouse of ideas, technologies and skills. It aims to enhance national productivity through research and development and apply its knowledge to the creation of industries, national wealth, a healthy environment and improved living standards

– The Australian Science Teachers Association –

The Australian Science Teachers Association (ASTA) is a federation of the Science Teachers Associations from all eight Australian States and Territories. These eight member associations comprise approximately 4,000 members across all school sectors.

ASTA is the peak professional association representing the science educators of Australia. It works to achieve its mission of promoting our profession and enriching science education through representing and advocating for the science teaching profession; through the establishment of networks and partnerships; through the publication of a refereed quarterly journal Teaching Science; by conducting an annual national conference for science educators (CONASTA); and through the management of a wide range of other programs and projects with outcomes that benefit science teachers and their students.

Through this award I had the opportunity to make invaluable professional contacts to further extend my learning and that of my colleagues and students. Teacher Winner

– Contact Us –

For the full set of conditions please access the BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards website (see below). If you have any additional questions or queries regarding the Awards, please contact the Awards Coordinator.

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