



IRISH ACADEMY  
OF MANAGEMENT

## IAM Business Educator of the Year Award Call for Applications

### Introduction

The IAM Business Educator of the Year Award aims to recognise and encourage excellence in business teaching. The Award is open to both individuals and/or team submissions. The winner will be chosen by a selection panel comprising members of the Irish Academy of Management Council and/or other appropriately qualified expert(s) across multiple business disciplines.

The Awardee will receive a Certificate and Award along with free registration to the Annual Irish Academy of Management Conference for the year of the award. In addition, the Awardee will be invited to present a masterclass on excellence in business education teaching at either the Annual IAM Conference or at a standalone IAM event.

A key aim of this Award is to recognise and showcase a clearly defined teaching practice, approach, or initiative that demonstrates excellence in business and management education, and to promote and share this practice across our community. This aligns with the vision of the Irish Academy of Management to *“be a leading internationally engaged academy that engages, supports, and connects business and management educators and researchers, fostering excellence and impact in scholarship, teaching, and practice on the island of Ireland.”*

Applications should focus on a specific teaching practice, approach, or initiative. While applicants may situate this contribution within their broader teaching context, the Award is not intended to represent a career-long teaching portfolio or lifetime achievement award.

### Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for this Award, applicants must:

- Be a member of the Irish Academy of Management. Details of current institutional members can be found [here](#). If you are not an individual or institutional member then you can join by clicking [here](#).
- Be employed to teach business school courses. The Award is open to all levels of appointment and non-permanent faculty are also welcome to apply.
- Courses include all that are taught within disciplines/sub-disciplines that fall under business curricula within higher education.

### Submission Instructions

Applications will be accepted from all eligible applicants. Applications may be submitted by individuals or teams. In the context of team applications, interdisciplinary approaches are welcome; however, there must be clear evidence of the business education focus.

Submissions should clearly describe:

- the teaching practice, approach, or initiative being presented;



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- the context and rationale for its development;
- how it was implemented; and
- evidence of its value, effectiveness, or impact on learning and/or engagement.

Applicants should complete the appended application form and provide any relevant supporting materials.

Applications must be submitted by email to [admin@iamireland.ie](mailto:admin@iamireland.ie) no later than 5pm, Thursday 30 April 2026. Please insert 'IAM Business Educator of the Year Award' in the subject line.

**Late applications will not be accepted.**



## Selection Criteria

The panel will make its decision on the basis of the information provided in the application form and any permitted supplementary materials. Applicants should select the category that best reflects the *primary* contribution of their teaching practice. While applications may touch on multiple areas, assessment will focus on one selected category only.

Applicants must select **one** primary category from the list below as the focus of their application:

1. Curriculum and assessment and Design: Evidence of a clearly articulated teaching and learning practice/initiative focused on innovative curriculum design, assessment design, or pedagogical model, rather than engagement outcomes.
2. Learner Engagement: Evidence of innovative teaching approaches where the primary contribution is enhancing meaningful student participation, motivation, or interaction, particularly in large, blended, or online settings.
3. Research-Led Teaching: Evidence of effective approaches to integrating research into teaching and learning, including how research informs or shapes the curriculum and its delivery.
4. Inclusion: Evidence of teaching practices that foster inclusion and promote high-quality learning experiences for a diverse student population.

## Supporting Evidence and Appendices

The provision of evidence to support the application is important; however, applications should be concise and focused. The panel will not consider extensive teaching portfolios or large volumes of supplementary material.

- Applicants may include up to three items of supporting evidence as appendices.
- Appendices must not exceed a combined total of 10 pages (or equivalent).
- Evidence must relate directly to the specific teaching practice, approach, or initiative described in the application.

Indicative types of evidence may include:

- Documentation relating to the teaching practice or initiative (e.g. module or course outlines, assessment briefs, sample teaching materials);
- Summary extracts from student feedback or evaluations;
- Peer observation or review excerpts;
- Evidence of dissemination or recognition (e.g. presentations, awards, publications).

Applicants are not required to submit all types of evidence listed above. However, applications must include at least one form of evidence demonstrating impact on student learning and/or engagement.

Applications will be assessed on the clarity, coherence, and quality of the submission rather than the volume of material provided.

Applications should focus on how their application clearly demonstrates innovation (e.g. creative/imaginative approaches) and excellence (e.g. quality impact of the initiative).



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Word counts per sections must be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will render an application ineligible.

The Irish Academy of Management reserves the right not to confer the Award if the quality of applications is not deemed sufficiently high.

### **Further Information**

For further information, please contact

Dr Margaret Heffernan (IAM Chair)  
[margaret.heffernan@dcu.ie](mailto:margaret.heffernan@dcu.ie) | [chair@iamireland.ie](mailto:chair@iamireland.ie)



## IAM Business Educator of the Year Award Application Form

1. Application type:  Individual application  Team application *(Please tick one box)*

1a. What type of membership of the Irish Academy of Management do you hold:

Institutional Member  Individual Member

2. Contact details (for applicant or team representative):

Name:	Text here	Text here	Text here
	<i>First</i>	<i>Last</i>	<i>Middle Initial(s)</i>
School/Dept./Unit:	Text here		
University:	Text here		
Position:	Text here		
Email address:	Text here		

2a. For team applications:

For team applications, list all members, their institutions, and roles.

Name	Institution	School/Department/Unit	Position
Text here	Text here	Text here	Text here
Text here	Text here	Text here	Text here
Text here	Text here	Text here	Text here
Text here	Text here	Text here	Text here
Text here	Text here	Text here	Text here

\* Add or delete rows as appropriate

3. Title of application:

*Please provide a brief descriptive title for this application. (Max. 30 words)*

Title here

4. Award Category:



**Applicants must select the category that best reflects the primary contribution of the initiative. While multiple strengths may exist, only the selected category will be evaluated.**

*Please tick one box only*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Innovative Teaching Approach | <input type="checkbox"/> Innovative Learner Engagement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research-led Teaching        | <input type="checkbox"/> Learner Inclusion             |

**5. Short biography of applicant(s)**  
*(Max. 250 words per person)*

**6. Summary of Initiative** *(provide a concise summary of the teaching initiative incl aim and main features of initiative/approach) (Max. 250 words)*



### **7. Detailed Written Statement:**

*Please provide a detailed statement describing the specific teaching practice, approach, or initiative that is the focus of your application. Your statement should be structured to address your selected category (Teaching Approach and Design / Learner Engagement / Research-Led Teaching / Inclusion) and clearly explain:*

- 1. The educational context in which this practice is applied (e.g., module, programme, student cohort, institutional setting).*
- 2. Your teaching philosophy or approach underpinning the practice.*
- 3. Rationale for its development*
- 4. How the practice was implemented and operated.*
- 5. The impact of the practice on students and/or other stakeholders, supported by at least one form of evidence (e.g., student feedback, peer review or dissemination).*
- 6. Reflection on lessons learned and potential transferability to other contexts.*

*Applications should focus on one primary contribution; while multiple strengths may exist, only the selected category will be evaluated. Word limit: 1500 words.*



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### **8. Consent**

The Irish Academy of Management may wish to use elements of the information provided in the application forms and supporting information, anonymously, in publicity for these awards. If you do not wish this information to be used for publicity purposes, please tick here.

### **Submission Instructions**

Email applications to: [admin@iamireland.ie](mailto:admin@iamireland.ie)

Deadline: 5pm, 30 April 2026

Please submit one email only per application, containing all relevant documents as attachments.

Please insert '**IAM Business Educator of the Year Award**' in the subject line heading.

Word counts per sections must be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will make an application ineligible.

Late submissions will not be accepted.