



## SCNZ Apprentice of the Year Award

The SCNZ Apprentice of the Year award celebrates excellence amongst apprentice fabricators and casts a spotlight on careers in the structural steel industry. The Award acknowledges people whose skills, drive, and willingness to learn and work hard has helped them to achieve outstanding outcomes; it recognises well-rounded apprentices who demonstrate not only talent in steel fabrication, but display traits important to the industry – commitment, innovation, and agility.

### Why enter?

- The winner will be presented with a trophy, certificate and \$1,000 in prize money
- Take the opportunity to pit yourself against your peers and see how you measure up
- Gain recognition for your skills and commitment
- Foster confidence in yourself and your abilities
- Network with industry people
- All finalists will receive a letter of congratulations and a certificate of encouragement for their efforts

### Who is eligible?

Entrants must:

- Be employed by an SCNZ Non-Certified Fabricator or Steel Constructor Member at the time of judging
- Have completed their apprenticeship in the period between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026, and not entered in the awards before
- Be available to attend the Awards Presentation and Dinner

(Please note there is no age limit for this award)

### Judging process

Judging occurs via a review of the entry forms, where finalists are selected, followed by each finalist being interviewed by the judges.

### Stage 1 – Select Finalists

All candidates will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Entry submission – To be completed by the Employer>
  - Personal, employment and apprenticeship training details
  - A short statement explaining why your Apprentice should be the 2026 SCNZ Apprentice of the Year
  - Details of a project the Apprentice is currently working on or have completed during training
  - Employer and Education and Training Coordinator's details
  - Entrants will need to give permission for training progress information to be made available to the judging panel
- Preliminary interview via phone/Zoom. Further information on projects, training progress, etc may be asked for if required

### Stage 2 – Select Winner

Finalists selected following stage one will be judged on the following:

- Face-to-face interview



### Important dates

- April 2026: Entries open
- 26 June 2026: Entries close
- July/August: Preliminary judging
- September: Finalists notified, and face-to-face interviews arranged

### How to enter

Complete the online form by 5pm on **26 June 2026**.

<https://scnz.org/aoty-entry/>

For any issues or questions, please contact Darren O'Riley, SCNZ General Manager

[darren.o'riley@scnz.org](mailto:darren.o'riley@scnz.org)

### Terms and Conditions:

- Entrants must have completed their apprenticeship in the in the period between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026 and be endorsed by their employer
- Entrants must be available to attend the Awards Presentation and Dinner – 6 November in Wellington, New Zealand.
- The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into