

FAQ Awards – New Horizons

What are the Excellence in Education Awards?

The *New Horizons Excellence in Education (EIE) Awards* acknowledge the enhancement of student success through academic engagement and innovation within the VCCS. Student success is enhanced by an array of strategies: pen and paper as well as mouse and keyboard, collaborative work, classroom assessments, and dynamic discussions prompted by thoughtful questions. Such strategies, and their demonstrated and measurable instructional, disciplinary, and student outcomes can find a home and be celebrated in these awards. The Excellence in Education awards program provides an annual opportunity to showcase, celebrate, and share the best practices, ideas and innovations of colleagues across the VCCS that contribute to teaching and learning, student success and the strategic vision of [Complete 2021: One Goal. One Future](#). All faculty, staff, and administrators are welcome to participate in this year's competition, and encouraged to apply.

Within the EIE awards there are three categories:

- [Best Practices in Teaching Face-to-Face, Online and Hybrid](#)
- [Improving Student Success – Institutional](#)
- [Innovative Use of Technology in the Face-to-Face and Online Classroom](#)

How do I submit an Excellence in Education Project?

Submissions for EIE awards may be submitted electronically by completing the form located here: <http://newhorizons.vccs.edu/eie-awards-information/excellence-in-education-awards-nominations/>

How do I know if I am a finalist?

Finalists will be notified via the email provided during the submission process in January. You must email your acceptance to [Nancy Harris](#).

NOTE: It is the Team Leader's responsibility to notify the rest of your team. All communication will be sent through the email address provided on the Submission Form

Where can I find information about the judging process and what should I expect?

A private judging session will be held at the New Horizons Conference. During this time you should prepare a 6-7 minute presentation to share with the judges about your project. This time should include a question and answer time.

You do not need to show the judges the submitted video. This aspect of your work will have already been judged.

You will be assigned a specific time for your judging session. Please be in the assigned waiting area at least 15 minutes prior to your assigned time.

A rubric is provided at the following link: http://newhorizons.vccs.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/eie_awards_rubric.pdf

What is the Walk of Excellence and when does it occur?

The Walk of Excellence gives you the opportunity to briefly share the highlights of your project and introduce your team members to the Chancellor and college presidents. This is a great opportunity and we ask you to use it wisely—finalists will only have three minutes each to share their stories. Please craft a 45-second summary that will then leave you with two minutes for questions.

This special time is set aside after the judging session at the New Horizons Conference.

A photographer will be on hand to take pictures of finalists and their project displays during this time.

What is the timeline to turn in documents?

Your initial proposal (in one of the three categories) must be submitted to Nancy Harris by the end of the business day on Friday, November 13, 2015. Finalists will receive an email by Friday January 8, 2016. You must send your acceptance to Nancy no later than Friday, January 15, 2016. Your brief project description for the program book is due by January 29, 2016. The PowerPoint or Prezi is due no later than Monday, February 29, 2016.

Where can I find the awards rubric?

A rubric is provided at the following link: http://newhorizons.vccs.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/eie_awards_rubric.pdf

What do I need to bring for the table top display?

You will be provided a 6-8ft table, several chairs and electrical outlet access. It is our hope you will be creative in your table top display. You are welcome to bring a laptop on which to play your presentation. Past finalists have used display boards, table cloths, items from their college bookstore, pamphlets or other information about the project, notebook, etc. This is your time to use your creativity and display the project in a clear and concise manner for an audience.

What format does my presentation need to be submitted in?

Your presentation should be in Microsoft PowerPoint or Prezi format, self-running, and a maximum of 3 minutes in length. The use of video clips and audio is encouraged. Submitting

the full PowerPoint as a complete MP4 file ensures that the presentation seen is what is planned. This option is available as an EXPORT option in the software.

If submitting as a PowerPoint and video or audio clips are used (other than PowerPoint's built-in narration), make sure to submit all associated files along with the presentation file, preferably combined in a Zip file. Prezi files should be downloaded and available to view offline.

Test your presentation on a computer other than the one that you create it on to make sure your audio and video run.

Video submissions can be a part of your table display and may be used at the Awards Banquet and in Conference promotions. All videos will be judged prior to the conference and should not be used as part of the formal judging session presentation at New Horizons.

Presentations not in the allotted format and time will not be viewed by the judges, used onsite, nor used in follow-up New Horizons activities.

What is the Excellence in Education Reception?

The reception is a time for colleagues to mingle about the room and view all of the finalists' presentations. Generally, food is also provided during this time and will be very busy. We suggest providing handouts or other materials to pass out to those who stop by your table. Please have someone staffing your table until the conclusion of the reception. For more information, please see the Insider Tips located here: (INSERT LINK)

When can I break down our table display and presentation materials?

At the conclusion of the Reception you are welcome to collect all of your table top items and enjoy the remainder of the conference.

Will all of our group members have a hotel room reserved for us?

As a lead finalist for an EIE project, you are entitled to a room at the Hotel Roanoke, to aid in the storage and transport of your display. Standard VCCS housing policy for New Horizons applies; coverage includes lodging and tax for one night per employee. If you share a room with a colleague you can have both nights covered, or if you choose to keep it a single you will need to cover the cost of the second night yourself. **Please do not contact the hotel before February 25th.**

What should I expect at the Excellence in Education Awards Banquet?

Winners will be announced at this time in the conference Ballroom. Please plan to attend! Finalists will be seated together at reserved tables. If selected as a winner, you will be called to the stage and a photographer will be available for a photo opportunity with the Chancellor and others. Dress is formal attire.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

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Please make sure to visit: <http://newhorizons.vccs.edu/eie-awards-information/> or contact [Nancy Harris](#).