



Generic Version: News Article: 2021 ICAS Medal Winners AU/NZ

ICAS celebrates its 40th anniversary with 860 medal winners across ANZ

Celebrating its 40th anniversary in an equally challenging and inspiring year, ICAS Assessments has awarded 860 first-place medals across Australia and New Zealand in 2021.

ICAS is a school-based competition that students from Australia and international schools sit annually across six subject areas – English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling Bee, Writing and Digital Technologies. Owned and operated by Australian edtech company Janison, the prestigious competition is administered in thousands of schools across the globe. Despite COVID's continuing impact on school education, hundreds of thousands of online tests were completed in 2021.

Students with the top score in each year level, in each subject, are awarded an ICAS medal and a medal winner's certificate. In Australia, the state by state medal tally was: New South Wales (169), Victoria (151), Queensland (132), SA (101), WA (89), Tasmania (64), ACT (19) and NT (10). New Zealanders received 125 medals.

"Congratulations to every student who participated in ICAS 2021, and the wonderful families and teachers that supported them. At ICAS Assessments, our aspiration is to help unlock the potential in every learner, and to recognise and reward their academic excellence. As we celebrate our 40th year delivering the ICAS competition, we could not be prouder of you and what you've achieved during another challenging year," said Amy Barouch, Group Executive – ICAS Assessments at Janison.

"The ICAS competition goes beyond the classroom curriculum, giving students the opportunity to demonstrate the higher-order skills that are essential for success in the modern world: critical thinking and problem solving.

"To our medal winners, your current resilience and love of learning is an inspiration to us, and we can't wait to hear of your future successes. We look forward to seeing you again this year!"

Students will be honoured in an online medal celebration video available late March/early April. Details including the date are yet to be confirmed. Keep a look out on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ICASAssessments.

Janison's CEO, David Caspari said it has been 40 years since the University of New South Wales first introduced ICAS testing, but it is the future that he is most excited about.

"In what's been an absolutely extraordinary 2021, we could not be more delighted with how many students and how many schools participated in ICAS in our 40th anniversary year.

ICAS is entirely unique globally. Where some seek to achieve on the sporting field and others seek to achieve in performing arts, those that are passionate about academics want to succeed in ICAS – and so many of you did this year. One of the things that excites me so much is that our ICAS participants often go on to achieve such great things in their lives beyond school. I cannot wait to see all of you come back for ICAS 2022."

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In celebration of its 40th anniversary, ICAS Assessments has scoured the archives to dig up some fun facts across its rich four-decade history:

- The ICAS team has developed over 22,000 test questions since inception.
- Tests have been delivered in over 30 countries globally including the United Kingdom, China, India, South Africa and Singapore.
- In the last decade, ICAS has delivered over 16,000 ICAS medals awarded to over 12,000 students.
- The most medals any one student has won is 16 ICAS medals over a four-year period!
- Longest word used in the Spelling competition; “enthusiastically” (16 letters)
- Shortest question ever asked in ICAS: $6^2 = ?$ (Year 7 level)
- Longest question ever asked in ICAS: A question about polymers and molecules, with 248 words. (Year 11 level)

ICAS is just one of the ways in which Janison helps to unlock the potential in every learner.

“Janison seeks to change the world through digital educational assessments such as Check-In, Reach Assessments, VALID and the OECD’s PISA for Schools test. Our team of educators, technologists and change agents are passionate about empowering teachers and students to achieve better outcomes,” said Mr Caspari.

“We are an Aussie-based success story, now thriving on the global stage by delivering more than 6.5 million best-in-class assessments annually in 117 countries. Founded by a teacher from regional NSW, Janison is now a trusted edtech partner of the OECD, governments and private educators.”

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