

Ochre Award for First Nations Australians

Applications Open 1 April and Close on 30 June.

Ochre is a natural clay pigment, predominantly Ferric oxide.

In Australia, we commonly find Brown Ochre $\text{FeO}(\text{OH})$, Yellow Ochre $\text{FeO}(\text{OH}) \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, and Red Ochre Fe_2O_3 .

These Ochres were prepared in grinding groves (Australia's first mortar & pestles) before being used by the Traditional Owners for ceremonial purposes with body painting and rock art. This scientific process is just one of many and solidifies that the First Nations people were truly Australia's first chemists.

This award of up to \$500 is designed as an encouragement award, with the applicant choosing how best to use the prize.

*This award is given with thanks to our sponsors:
Envirolab Group and Environmental Science Solutions.*

Criteria:

- The candidate must be a person of Indigenous Australian or Torres Strait Islander descent and have a genuine interest in Chemistry.
- The application will be judged predominantly on how the prize money will be used, in a beneficial or innovative way, relating to science.
- The award is open to all ages – from high school to post-retirement.
- The applicant must be a financial RACI member for a minimum of 6 months, or for high school students, their school must be an affiliate member.

Please provide some information about yourself, your goals, and how you would use this award to highlight science within your community (no more than 1 PDF page).

Email to awards@raci.org.au (Subject: Ochre Award) - no later than 30 June. Receipt will be acknowledged by return email.

After the closing date, no further nominations for the award shall be accepted. If in the opinion of the Board there is no candidate who has sufficient merit, the Board may refrain from making an award.

