



Lee Mills Award 2020

Lee Mills was an exemplary educator from NSW with a particular interest in teacher education for those involved in Special Education. She was untiring and dedicated in her support of students with special educational needs. Lee was involved in advocacy and lobbying through AASE, which resulted in significant improvements in service delivery for all students. She was a foundation member of AASE, a State President and an inspiring active Branch, Chapter and National Committee member until her death in 1990. Lee was also instrumental in the establishment and administration of the Australian Disability Achievement Foundation.

The Lee Mills Teacher Training Award is given yearly with the express purpose of encouraging research-based practice by individuals undertaking study to pursue a career directly related to the education of students with special education needs. It is open to students in ALL states of Australia.

Who can enter?

You are eligible if you:

- Are currently enrolled in an Australian University (in any state) or have had your degree conferred in the last twelve months from an Australian University.
- Are undertaking or have completed a post graduate degree (graduate diploma, masters, doctorate) in special education, education or other discipline, or are undertaking an undergraduate program which includes research in the area of special education.
- Are the sole or principal author of the submitted paper. Your major advisor or other persons may be co-authors.
- Your paper may have been published or submitted for review.

What do I do?

You need to submit an original paper relevant to the education of students with special education needs.

Papers may be:

- Reviews of the literature to identify research-based practices
- Reports of original research
- Position papers supporting research-based practices
- Program evaluations
- Critical analysis of curriculum
- Discussion articles drawing on the research relevant to an issue

The topic of papers submitted should be of interest to teachers, and be relevant to teachers working with students with special education needs in inclusive and/or

segregated settings. **Papers that have a direct practical application to teaching are preferred.**

Recommended practices described in the paper should have a sound research base.

Papers should be written with appropriate standards of expression, spelling and grammar. Generally papers should be in the style described in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition) (APA style).

How are papers judged?

Submitted papers will be blind reviewed by the NSW Chapter. Chapter's decision is final.

What can I win?

The successful applicant(s) will be presented with the award at an event organised by the NSW Chapter of AASE Inc.

An award of \$500 is presented to the winner.
Additional encouragement awards may be given.

How do I submit my paper?

Papers should be submitted electronically.

Forward the original paper as an email attachment.

Please submit as a Word document, so your paper can be de-identified for review.

Electronic copies should be emailed with "Lee Mills Award" as the subject to Jennifer.Stephenson@mq.edu.au

Your personal details and/or name should not appear anywhere on the paper itself, apart from the title page. This will ensure blind review of your paper.

In your covering email provide details of your name, contact address, course of study, current enrolment or date when your award was conferred and University, and the name of your paper. Include a statement that tells us whether or not the paper has been, or will be submitted to a journal.

Due to the COVID crisis, the closing date for applications for the 2020 Lee Mills Award is 27th November, 2020

Applicants will be notified of the outcome in early 2021.

What do winners get from the award?

Previous winner Ying Sng: "I entered a paper for the Lee Mills Award titled "Teaching a Student with Autism On-Topic Conversational Responses with an iPad: A Pilot Study" at the suggestion of my supervisors. I had found writing the paper gruelling and quite frankly I was happy to see the end of it but winning the award gave me the encouragement to continue with my research. Part of the prize money I received was donated to a literacy foundation and the rest was used to fund my research. I'm now getting to the end of a doctorate and feel like I'm beginning to make a contribution to the Special Education field."