

National Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Awards – 2020

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What is National CSR Awards (NCSRA)?

Ministry of Corporate Affairs has instituted the National CSR Awards with logistics and technical support of Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) to recognize the outstanding CSR projects/programmes carried out by the companies in accordance to the Companies Act, 2013.

For further details please refer to the Scheme Document [titled: Scheme for National Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Awards – 2020] for nomination which are available at official web portal (www.csr.gov.in).

What are the objectives of National CSR Awards?

The National CSR Awards seek to:

- increase competition in various categories of companies to infuse excellence in their CSR activities
- encourage companies to spend the entire amount i.e. eligible CSR spend
- recognize the impact, innovation, usage of technology, gender and environment issues, sustainability, scalability and replicability of CSR activities
- channelize CSR activities of corporate so that the benefits of their activities reach the marginalized sections of society and in remote areas of the country.

What are the various categories of Awards?

NCSRA seeks to recognise outstanding projects in following three main categories:

- Four awards for Excellence in CSR, based on CSR spend
- Five awards for CSR projects in Aspirational Districts / Difficult Terrains
- Upto eleven Awards for CSR projects/programmes in National Priority Areas

Three awards, one each in above three categories are reserved for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

What is the period (Financial Year) for which a Company is eligible to apply for NCSRA 2020

Calculation of eligible CSR Spend is based on FY 2017-18.

What is the period for which CSR Projects / Programmes are being considered for National CSR Awards 2020?

CSR Interventions carried out between 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2019 in project / programme mode may be considered for National CSR Awards 2020.

If an ongoing CSR project / programme fall under the above mentioned period, the same may be considered, given that Company provides specific structured interventions in project / programmes mode during that period justifying the utilization of the CSR budget of Financial year 2017-18.

Further, if an ongoing CSR project/programme ends at any time during the above mentioned period, the period covered by the project/programme should specifically highlight CSR interventions in project/ programme mode during the period covered justifying the utilization of CSR budget of Financial Year 2017-18.

What period should be covered for mentioning numbers of beneficiaries of the CSR projects/programmes in the application?

Numbers of beneficiaries covered during the 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2019 may be mentioned.

What is the maximum number of nominations, a designated nominating organization can nominate?

A nominating organization can nominate up to maximum of 30 nominations (10 in each main category of awards).

Is there any bar on numbers of nominations from a company? If a company wish to apply in more than one category, is it possible?

As per the Scheme for National CSR Awards a company can apply in different sub-categories of awards as applicable.

Can a company apply to different nominating organizations for same projects?

It is advised that same project /programme /application should not be submitted to more than one nominating organization. However, different CSR projects / programmes / application in different applicable sub-categories may be submitted to different nominating organizations for consideration.

What are various phases of National CSR Awards?

(a) Nominations to be made by designated nominating organizations,

- (b) Shortlisting of nominations,
- (c) Call for detailed submissions for shortlisted entries, and
- (d) Field verification.

What is the maximum number of awards that shall be given?

Up to 20 awards (including 3 awards for MSMEs).

What is the time limit (deadline) for accepting nominations?

10 March 2020.

What is the procedure and mode of submission to apply for nominations for NCSRA 2020?

Only online nominations through designated nominating organisations as given in the scheme of NCSRA – 2020 will be accepted. Designated nominating organizations are:

- Ministries/ Departments of Govt of India
- State Governments/Union Territory Administrations
- Professional Institutions: ICSI, ICAI, ICMAI
- National Level Trade and Industry Bodies (CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM, PHDCCI, SIDBI, FISME, Ladhu Udyog Bharti, Indian Merchants Chamber, Bombay Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Indian Chamber of Commerce, India SME Forum and SCOPE)

Can a Society/ Foundation/ Trust be nominated for National CSR Awards?

No, only the companies registered under the Companies Act, 2013 are eligible for NCSRA.

Is a MSME eligible to apply if it is a proprietorship / partnership firm and does not have CIN?

MSMEs registered under Companies Act, 2013/1956 and falling under the threshold as per Section 135 of Companies Act, 2013 are eligible to apply.

Group companies have a foundation to implement the CSR projects / programmes, can that Foundation apply for National CSR Awards?

No, only eligible companies can apply for the National CSR Awards. The Foundation is to be considered as implementing agency. The award application may either be on the name of eligible Holding Company or one of the eligible group companies who has funded that project/programme in accordance with the eligibility provisions under the Scheme for National CSR Awards.

What are the guidelines for nomination?

Please refer to the guidelines (titled: Guidance Note for Nominating Organisations) for nomination which are available at official web portal (www.csr.gov.in).

Is there any fee for nominations of Awards?

No. There is no fee for nominations for Awards or at any stage of the awards.

Is it compulsory to disclose the net profit made and eligible spend?

Applicants must disclose the Net Profit and CSR Spend as per the mandatory compliance of Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Is it mandatory for Companies to submit the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting in which constitution of CSR Committee was approved?

It is compulsory to submit the minutes as per the compliance of NCSRA, however, confidential part, if any, may be blocked/deleted/erased.

After successful submission of entries, is it possible to edit or withdraw the nomination?

Yes, it is possible on or before the last date of submission.

Who can be contacted for the further information related to NCSRA?

Nodal Officer / Programme Manager, National CSR Awards through
email: national.csrwards@mca.gov.in or Telephone: 0124 - 2640016 /
2640033.