



MALAYSIAN DIETITIANS' ASSOCIATION RISING STAR AWARD (RSA)

1. Objective

MDA Rising Star Award is to recognize the achievement of a young, emerging member who plays a critical role in the clinical, community and professional grounds of the dietetics industry. The award is important to honour the achievements of our young dietitian. The emergence of these young leaders is critical to the future MDA and the members we serve.

2. Nomination and Award Presentation

Nomination must meet the deadlines for nomination form submission and CV submission.

No.	Steps	Duration (week)	Datelines
2.1	MDA Rising Star Award opens for nomination	3	20 th Apr – 10 th May
2.2	Award, Scholarship and Grant (ASG) Committee receive and review nomination (see Eligibility Criteria), and invite the nominee to submit the application package, including an electronic portfolio (See e-portfolio).	1	11 th – 17 th May
2.3	The nominees work on an e-portfolio and submit it to the ASG latest by 7th Jun 2026	3	18 th may – 7 th Jun
2.4	ASG Committee reviews and submits the best e-portfolio to the panel of judges	1	8 th – 14 th Jun
2.5	The panel of judges, whom the Council members will appoint, receive nominee details and review for merit criteria, including the e-portfolio.	2	15 th – 28 th Jun
2.6	Successful nominees have to be endorsed by ASG and Council, and then the award Recipients will be notified.	1	29 th Jun onwards
2.7	Award Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Award certificate(s) will be presented during the award ceremony (to be decided by the current Council). ● In case of absences to the award ceremony, the award will be sent to the recipient's address ● The Award recipient will also receive a letter of recognition and a sum of RM1000 		4 th Jul

3. Eligibility Criteria

3.1 Both the nominee and the nominators have to be active MDA Ordinary Members of the year of nomination.

3.2 The nominee must be currently working/residing in Malaysia

3.3 A nominator can only provide one (1) Letter of Nomination. The repeated nomination may result in the rejection of all Letters of Nomination. The following supporting documents shall be submitted:

- a) Nomination form
- b) Description of the achievement in the field of dietetics

3.4 The ASG committee would invite the nominee to submit the application package, including an electronic portfolio (**See e-portfolio**), starting **11th May 2026**.

3.5 Nominees must submit an e-portfolio of their supporting materials to the MDA Award Committee latest by **7th Jun 2026** for the evaluation process

4. E-Portfolio

The e-portfolio (electronic portfolio) is an electronic collection of evidence that shows your journey in the dietetics profession over time. The e-portfolio should encompass material relevant to the “Merit Criteria”(see below) and include evidence of achievement, photos, and/or videos. It should highlight the most impactful project/ activities relevant to the award.

To facilitate the review process, the material must be presented in electronic form, in the following order and include:

- **Brief Highlights –**
 - A brief one-para highlight of no more than 250 words provides a clear and thematic picture describing the nominee’s accomplishment. The abstract may be used for the website / Facebook in highlighting the award recipients.
- **Personal Statement –**
 - the personal statement is a section to highlight and simplify the work journey and achievement, including future aspirations for the profession and MDA. The personal statement should not be more than 2 pages. The following is the sample e-portfolio.

- **Curriculum Vitae –**
 - A comprehensive document lists the qualifications and achievements. The CV is more detailed than a resume, but for this award submission, the CV should not be more than 5 pages.
 - Include your personal detail, academic history, professional achievement, and current roles and teaching responsibilities, especially in clinical teaching. Besides, the contributions to the MDA and other achievements (e.g in media or involvement in University activities, recognition/ awards) should also be included in the CV.

- **Evidence for the Merit Criteria –**
 - This section should demonstrate your role as a CI and provide evidence for the following “Merit Criteria”. The materials relevant to the “Merit Criteria” such as evidence of achievement, photos, and/or videos can be included. The most impactful project/ activities relevant to the award must be highlighted.

- **Other significant contributions (if any)**

- Examples of e-portfolio can be found here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Nz0sHUJCnqQ8fwN-3L0BzQ0beQ-M9hOrHYoR0l0DW-s/edit?usp=sharing>

Merit Criteria

As the intent of the award is to honour outstanding young emergence dietitians, the MDA Rising Star Award will be judged based on professionalism, achievement, leadership and contribution in professional grounds of the dietetic industry, based on the following **merit criteria**:

- 4.1 Aged 35 years old or less at the time of nomination and evidence of dietetics-related career of at least 5 years
- 4.2 Demonstrate professional excellence through dedication and commitment to the profession, patients and/or broader community.
- 4.3 Has outstanding vision and strong leadership with a demonstrated ability to steer and implement change for the dietetic profession.
- 4.4 Acts as a role model by demonstrating outstanding competence and professionalism in the practice setting that meets dietetic standards of practice.

5. Appointment of Judges

- 5.1 The Council appointed a Panel of Judges, which consists of One (1) senior private sector dietitian, One (1) senior MOH dietitian, One (1) academic dietitian, Current President or Vice President of MDA, and a previous RSA recipient.

6. Nomination Submission

7.1 The application must be submitted via email to mda.awardsgrants@gmail.com by **10th May 2026***

Important date: The Award, Scholarship and Grant (ASG) Committee will receive and review nominations and invite the nominee to work on the electronic portfolio starting **11th May 2026. The nominee must submit the e-portfolio by **7th Jun 2026** for further evaluation by the panel judges.*



**MALAYSIAN DIETITIANS' ASSOCIATION
MDA RISING STAR AWARD
NOMINATION FORM**

ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST

- Nominee must be active MDA Ordinary Member of the year of nomination
- Nominator must be active MDA Ordinary Member of the year of nomination
- Must submit MDA Rising Star Award Nomination Form before the due date

NOMINEE'S DETAILS

NAME : _____
(Full name as it should appear on the certificate)

I.C. NO. : _____

EMAIL : _____

CONTACT NO. : _____

CURRENT POSITION & AFFILIATION : _____

NOMINATOR & ENDORSERS' DETAILS

NOMINATOR : _____

I.C. NO. : _____

EMAIL : _____

CONTACT NO. : _____

SIGNATURE & STAMP

ENDORSER (1) : _____

I.C. NO. : _____

EMAIL : _____

CONTACT NO. : _____

SIGNATURE & STAMP

NOMINEE'S MERITS

- Avoid abbreviations, acronyms (unless explained) or technical jargon which may not be evident to the judges
- Type or printed format is preferred.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN DIETETICS

State the five (5) most important Professional & Meritorious Contributions concisely to the Field of Dietetics, including leadership, clinical services, community service, and professional ground of the dietetics industry.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MDA (If any)

State contributions to MDA if any

OTHER AWARDS (IF ANY)

Provide a list of previous award received in areas of dietetics. The award can range from international to local and institution level.

NOTE: A nominator can only provide one (1) Letter of Nomination each year. The repeated nomination may result in the rejection of all Letters of Nomination.