



Awards Information

Te Tango Raumaire o Avaiki is the first ever legislated national awards system of the Cook Islands, established in 2025 to coincide with our 60 years of self-governance. It is a uniquely Cook Islands way of recognising service, leadership, innovation, bravery and achievement.

Who can be nominated?

- Current residents of the Cook Islands (18 years and over).
- Exceptional cases: bravery awards may include non-residents, visitors, or those under 18.
- Nominees must be of good ethical standing.

Who can nominate?

- Any Cook Islands resident, organisation, or community group.
- You cannot nominate yourself.

Award categories:

CATEGORY	NAME OF AWARD	WHAT IT RECOGNISES
Grand Awards (Te Mira Nui o Avaiki)	Tui o te Mira Nui o Avaiki (for men)/ Tapairu o te Mira Nui o Avaiki (for women)	The highest honour – awarded once every six years for once-in-a-generation contributions of national and historical significance. Recognises lifetime leadership, exemplary character, and enduring impact.
	Akataura o te Mira Nui o Avaiki	Exceptional service, leadership and innovation of national importance. Conferred every two years.
	Pūtokotoko o te Mira Nui o Avaiki	Commendable service and leadership of a high standard across any field. Conferred every two years.
Premier Awards	Rei Ārangatū o Avaiki	Outstanding contribution to the Public Service, demonstrating leadership, innovation or reform that improves government credibility and service delivery.
	Ētū Matariki o Avaiki	The Star of Excellence, awarded for significant contributions in: Social Impact & Sports; Arts, Culture & Humanities; Business, Science Innovation; or Environment & Conservation.
	Reinga Toa o Avaiki	The Seal of Distinction – awarded for acts of absolute heroism, bravery or gallantry, including to non-residents and visitors.
	Taiki Pāeru o Te-Atukura	The Prime Minister's Leadership Mace – a discretionary award for extraordinary achievements not otherwise covered.



How to apply:

1. Complete the nomination form (print or online).

2. Include supporting documents:

- Nominee CV and passport page
- 1–2 page supporting statement
- At least one letter of support (recommended more)

3. Submit by deadline:

- **Wednesday 15 October, 4pm**
- Send to: National Awards Secretariat,
Cabinet Services,
Office of the Prime Minister
- Email: national.awards@cookislands.gov.ck
- Phone: **25494**

Why it matters

These awards celebrate Cook Islanders who embody service, leadership, peu Māori and innovation, inspiring our people today and generations to come. The awards ceremony will be held near the end of November 2025.

Kia manuia e te Atua te aroa.

