



Terms and conditions for application for the NSA Samuel Wharry Memorial Award for the Next Generation

Compulsory reading for everyone making an application for the 2026 award

1. Purpose of the Award

1.1 The Award is established by the National Sheep Association (NSA), with support from The Staple (the Company of Merchants of the Staple of England), in memory of Samuel Wharry.

1.2 The Award aims to support and encourage young sheep-farmers and sheep-industry professionals to engage with global science, technology and best practise in sheep production, and to share their learning for the benefit of the UK industry.

2. Eligibility

2.1 Applications are open to any young person actively involved in the UK sheep sector or ancillary industries, aged more than 21 years and less than 35 years at the time of application, with the exception of NSA and Staple employees and their families. They must have a UK passport and be willing and able to travel within and outside the UK.

2.2 Applicants are not required to be an NSA member, but the two award recipients will be expected to join before the end of 2026 and remain a member for a minimum of two years at their own cost.

2.3 Applicants must be actively involved in the sheep industry (farming, technical, commercial or allied roles).

2.4 Applicants must provide the name and contact details of a referee who is already involved with the NSA (for example: a regional or national NSA committee member; a ram-sale committee member; an NSA staff member; or a person who has supported the organisation of NSA events).

2.5 NSA reserves the right to verify eligibility, and to reject incomplete or ineligible applications.

3. Award format & benefit

3.1 Two winners will be selected to receive the 2026 Award.

3.2 The Award includes a fully-funded study trip of approximately 10–14 days (exact dates to be confirmed) in or around the global gathering of young sheep farmers (July 2026, Australia/New Zealand region), including farm visits, industry networking events and attendance at the LambEx Forum near Adelaide.



Chief Executive: Phil Stocker
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National Sheep Association is an organisation which represents the views and interests of sheep producers throughout the UK.
NSA is funded by its membership of sheep farmers and its activities involve it in every aspect of the sheep industry.

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3.3 Accommodation, event fees and other approved expenses will be met by NSA (and associated funders) as part of the Award package.

3.4 The cost of flights to Australia and returning from New Zealand will need to be met by the Award recipients themselves, less a £500 contribution from NSA and the Staple. The cost of a flight from Australia to New Zealand will be covered by the Award.

4. Application & Selection Process

4.1 Applications must be submitted by the deadline published by NSA. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

4.2 By submitting an application the applicant consents to NSA carrying out any verification checks as required.

4.3 A selection panel appointed by NSA (and supported by The Staple) will assess applications on the basis of: relevance to the sheep industry; demonstrated motivation; potential to apply and share learning from the trip; and alignment with the Award's objectives.

4.4 The decision of the selection panel is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

5. Obligations of Award Winners

5.1 Winners agree to participate fully in the trip itinerary as organised by the NSA, including farm visits, industry meetings and networking events.

5.2 Upon return from the trip, winners agree to provide a written or digital report or presentation to the NSA (and / or NSA Next Generation programme) summarising the trip and their learnings.

5.3 Winners agree to permit the NSA to use their name, photographs taken on the trip, and the trip report for publicity, communications and promotional purposes (in NSA digital, print and partner media).

6. Cancellation, Changes & Liability

6.1 The NSA reserves the right to cancel, postpone or amend the trip and Award arrangements in the event of unforeseen circumstances (including but not limited to travel restrictions, event cancellation, force majeure).

6.2 If a winner becomes unable to attend the trip for medical, personal or professional reasons, they must notify NSA as soon as possible. NSA may at its discretion withdraw the Award, or substitute another recipient.

6.3 The NSA and The Staple accept no responsibility for losses, injuries, damages or delays incurred by winners in connection with the trip (other than liability under applicable law). Participants are responsible for obtaining their own travel insurance, health cover, and any necessary visas or entry requirements.

7. Data Protection & Confidentiality

7.1 By applying for the Award, applicants consent to the NSA processing their personal data for the purposes of administering the Award, contacting referees, selection, trip logistics and post-trip reporting. The NSA will treat data in accordance with its privacy policy.

7.2 Applicants' and winners' personal data will not be shared with third-parties except as required for the administration or promotion of the Award, or as required by law.

8. Publicity & Intellectual Property

8.1 Winners grant to the NSA (free of charge) the right to use, reproduce, publish and distribute any report, photographs or other materials generated from the trip for promotional, educational or industry purposes. The winners retain copyright, but grant the NSA a worldwide, non-exclusive licence to use the material for the stated purposes.

8.2 The NSA may publicise the winners, their farms/companies and their activities in NSA publications, website, social media and partner channels, unless a winner explicitly requests otherwise in writing.

9. Compliance & Governing Law

9.1 Winners must comply with all applicable laws, regulations and health & safety requirements while on the trip.

10. Acceptance

10.1 By submitting an application, the applicant confirms that they have read, understand and accept these Terms & Conditions and agree to be bound by them if selected as a winner.