



HR30 submission guidelines

How to Submit a Nomination

All entries must be submitted online [here](#). There is no fee to submit a nomination.

Key Dates

- **Deadline for entries:** 20th March 2026
- **Successful nominees notified:** early May 2026
- **Official announcement:** 10 June 2026
- **Celebration event:** 10 June 2026 (invite-only)

Who can be nominated?

Any people professional who is a senior people leader in their organisation, responsible for the people function in their country or region. For example: Chief People Officer, People and Culture Director, CHRO, HR Director, Head of HR, or an equivalent substantive role.

Submissions are also open to independent consultants who can demonstrate that they have taken responsibility for the HR strategy and operations of an organisation. In this instance, the entry must be endorsed by a senior leader within the client organisation.

HR leaders can nominate themselves or be nominated by colleagues or peers, but those submitting must be able to provide sufficient detail about the work and the organisation to satisfy the entry criteria and evidence the person's measurable impact on the organisation.

Submissions are open to both CIPD members - from associate through to chartered member or chartered companion - and those without a membership.

We welcome entries from under-represented groups and encourage all entrants to highlight diversity in their entries.

You'll be asked to complete a citation about the nominee's impact over the last 12 months, and include any testimonials or supporting documentation. You can enter on behalf of someone else, but you'll need to indicate they are aware they are being entered for the award.

Judging Criteria

Judges will assess measurable impact achieved by the nominee over the past 12 months (1 January - 31 December 2025). Impact may include, but is not limited to:

- Financial performance, growth, or expansion
- Business strategy development
- Organisational change or transformation programs
- Equality, diversity, and inclusion initiatives
- Talent management and retention strategies
- Major transactions, including M&A
- Equity and fairness initiatives
- Learning and development programs
- Organisational design and HR efficiency
- Leadership development
- Corporate governance and ESG contributions

Judges will evaluate evidence of organisational impact, which may be demonstrated quantitatively (e.g., financial performance) or qualitatively (e.g., employee surveys or senior leader testimonials). They will also assess the nominee's role in strategic planning and operational delivery.

Submission Agreement

By submitting an entry, you agree to the following:

- **No Duplicate Submissions:** While you may nominate multiple individuals (including yourself), each nominee can only be entered once.
- **Confirming Attendance:** Successful nominees must confirm attendance by mid-May 2026.
- **Expense Responsibility:** Nominees are responsible for any registration, travel, subsistence and accommodation expenses.
- **Primary Contact Responsibility:** All correspondence will be directed to the individual submitting the nomination.

Using the Submission System

Before being able to submit your abstract you will need to login to the submission system. CIPD HR30 uses Oxford Abstracts to manage all submissions.

If you already have an Oxford Abstracts account, you can login as normal using your existing credentials. If you have previously used Oxford Abstracts but have forgotten your password, you can recover this by entering your email address into the 'sign in or create account with email' field and then selecting 'forgot password'.

If you don't have an Oxford Abstracts account already you will need to create one. Enter your email and follow the onscreen instructions. Please note the email you enter at this stage will be your username for Oxford Abstracts, so you must continue to use the same email each time you wish to log in. All correspondence regarding your submission will be sent to the submitter/account holder.

When you have logged in or created your account you will arrive at the submission information page.

Your work will save as you proceed through the pages, and you can save your submission and come back to it at any time before the submission deadline.

You will be able to keep track of your submissions using the Oxford Abstracts dashboard, click here to open: [Oxford Abstracts](#).

Amending a submission

If you wish to change your submission you can do this at any time up to the deadline of **Friday 20th March 2026, 23:59 (GMT)**.

You may pause in the completion of your submission at any time but **MUST** press the submit button to save and be able to return to it before the deadline. Pressing submit will generate an email about the status of your nomination submission, including a link to access it for revisions.

NOTE: Incomplete submissions will not be considered for review, you must ensure you have completed your submission by the deadline, **Friday 20th March 2026, 23:59 (GMT)**.

What You Need to Submit an Entry

Citation: In up to 500 words, outline the impact the nominee has had on your organisation during the 2025 calendar year. Tell us what outcomes the nominee was intending to achieve, what role the nominee played in planning and undertaking them, and how success was measured. Please include any relevant information about the role of HR in the broader organisation and in delivering success, and any other relevant context. If you are entering the HR30 as an independent consultant, please relate your entry to your work with one organisation and include a testimonial from a senior leader in that organisation.

Additional Documents:

- Upload a recent photo of the nominee for publicity purposes if selected.
- Attach up to two supporting documents, which may include relevant data, evidence of success, or testimonials. Files must be high resolution (300dpi) in JPEG, PNG, or EPS format.

Queries

Please contact cipdevents.tickets@haymarket.com with any questions.

Withdrawing a Nomination

To withdraw a nomination, email cipdevents.tickets@haymarket.com with your submission ID.