



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

## Medal of the Order of Australia

In the Australian honours system appointments to the Order of Australia confer recognition for outstanding achievement and service.

The Medal of the Order of Australia is awarded for service worthy of particular recognition.

Recipients of the Order of Australia are from many fields of endeavour and all walks of life.

### About the award

The Order of Australia has five levels:

- Knight/Dame of the Order (AK/AD)
- Companion of the Order (AC)
- Officer of the Order (AO)
- Member of the Order (AM), and
- Medal of the Order (OAM).

### How it is awarded

The Order of Australia is the pre-eminent way Australians recognise the achievements and service of their fellow citizens.

Except for Knights and Dames, nominations for awards in the General Division of the Order of Australia come directly from the community.

Once a nomination is submitted, the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat at Government House in Canberra conducts further research and contacts referees.

Nominations are considered by the Council of the Order of Australia which makes recommendations direct to the Governor-General.

Appointments in the Order of Australia are not made posthumously. However, a nomination will be considered if the person is alive when the nomination form is received by the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat at Government House in Canberra.

Awards in the Order of Australia are generally announced on Australia Day (26 January) and the Queen's Birthday public holiday (June).

### Past recipient story

Sister Margaret Culhane OAM was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australian in 2012 for her service to the international community, particularly refugees from Asia and Africa, to women, and as an educator.



### Medal design

The Medal of the Order of Australia is a badge with a gold-plated silver insignia of the Order in the centre. The central insignia is inscribed with the word 'Australia'. The circle also contains two gold sprigs of mimosa. The insignia is ensigned with the Crown of St Edward.

### Fast facts

#### POST NOMINAL:

OAM

#### INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1976

#### NOMINATIONS:

For more information or a nomination form for the Order of Australia contact:

The Secretary  
Order of Australia  
Government House  
Canberra, ACT 2600  
Ph: 1800 552 275

### More information

IT'S AN HONOUR WEBSITE: [www.itsanhonour.gov.au](http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au)