

## A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

*Patron of The Order of Australia Association*

“The Australian Honours and Awards system provides the people of Australia the opportunity to recognise and say ‘thank you’ to those whose efforts make our communities and our nation a better place.



His Excellency General  
the Honourable  
David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)

Through the Order of Australia, Bravery Decorations and other awards, we recognise and celebrate outstanding Australians – ordinary people who do extraordinary things for their local community and for Australia.

Perhaps the best part of the Australian system is that it is 100% nomination based. All people that receive awards have been nominated by their peers. This means that it doesn’t matter who you are, where you are from or whether you’re known to millions or just a few. If you have constantly put others ahead of yourself, served tirelessly and made a difference you can be nominated and recognised by a grateful nation.”



Please remember diversity of age, gender and culture when nominating.

**Go ahead! Nominate someone today!**

Further information:

It’s An Honour: Dept. of Prime Minister & Cabinet

[www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour](http://www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour)

Australian Honours and Awards

[www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards](http://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards)

The Order Of Australia Association

[www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au)

*Produced by:*



**THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA  
ASSOCIATION**

*It is important to note that The Order of Australia Association is not involved with the selection process of Honours awarded.*

CURRENT AS AT 1 DECEMBER 2019

INTRODUCING THE

## Order of Australia

“Recognising **outstanding service** and **exceptional achievement** of citizens in our communities.”



## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

The Order of Australia recognises Australians who have demonstrated outstanding service or exceptional achievement.

Recipients come from right across Australia and from all walks of life.

There are four levels of award. The Order of Australia also has a Military Division (awards in this division are recommended to the Governor-General by the Minister for Defence).

Anyone (individuals or groups) can nominate a member of the community for an award in the Order of Australia.

Up to four strong referees, including people and community leaders well known to the nominee, are required for each nomination.

Once a nomination has been submitted,

the Australian Honours Secretariat at Government House in Canberra conducts further research.

The Council of the Order of Australia, comprising nineteen Australians and the Official Secretary, supported by case officers, then considers the nominations. The Council makes recommendations, **independent of Government**, direct to the Governor-General.

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

Nominating someone is a chance to recognise a peer for their hard-work, service and dedication. It is an opportunity to celebrate those inspiring people who make our nation what it is.

## NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who goes the extra mile in your community, an outstanding citizen in their chosen field or vocation who deserves recognition?

Any Australian can nominate someone for an award. Consider diversity of age, gender and culture when nominating worthy achievers.

Nominations are researched by the Honours and Awards Secretariat, considered by the Council of the Order of Australia before recommendations are made to the Governor-General.

To complete a nomination you will need:

- Their name, age and contact details;
- A short case of why/who you are nominating, including: examples of how they have demonstrated outstanding qualities; what they have done to make things better for others; the role(s) or area(s) in which they have excelled; the period of time, or dates of service (if known); and evidence of other awards or recognition received by the nominee; and
- To provide details of up to four referees to support the nomination.

You can nominate someone by accessing the online form, or downloading an offline version via:

[www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/forms/](http://www.theorderofaustralia.asn.au/forms/)

**Please Note:** Nominations are confidential. It is preferable that the nominee not be made aware of this nomination.

## GRADES OF AWARD WITHIN THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA



Individuals are appointed a **Companion of the Order of Australia (AC)** for eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree in service to Australia or to humanity at large.



Individuals are appointed an **Officer of the Order of Australia (AO)** for distinguished service of a high degree to Australia or to humanity at large.



Individuals are appointed a **Member of the Order of Australia (AM)** for service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.



The **Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)** is awarded for service worthy of particular recognition.

The Order of Australia also has a Military Division (awards in this division are recommended to the Governor-General by the Minister for Defence).