



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

## Australian Police Medal

The Australian Police Medal is awarded for distinguished service by a member of an Australian police force.

### About the award

In 1986 a distinctly Australian award, the Australian Police Medal, was created. The medal gives special recognition to members of Australian police forces for commendable service.

Prior to the creation of the Australian honours system members of Australian police forces were acknowledged by Imperial awards:

- Queen's Police Medal for Gallantry (awarded posthumously)
- Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service, and
- Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

The Australian Police Medal was established on 3 March 1986 by Letters Patent.

### How it is awarded

The Governor-General awards the Australian Police Medal on the recommendation of the responsible Commonwealth, state and territory ministers.

Each Australian police force may award one Australian Police Medal for every 1000 members, or part of 1000 members, in each calendar year. Only one award can be made to an individual.

The Australian Police Medal is announced on Australia Day (26 January) and the Queen's Birthday (June) of each year.

### Past recipient story

Superintendent Jennifer Hurst was awarded the Australian Police Medal for distinguished and dedicated service in 2004.

A 20-year frontline career with the Australian Federal Police led to the award. Superintendent Hurst played a critical role in the 'Avian' Drug Strike Team in Sydney. She also worked with the National Crime Authority, investigating crime gangs and money laundering.



Superintendent Hurst is now in another key role as Coordinator of Joint Counter-terrorism Teams in the Australian Federal Police's busy Sydney office.

### Medal design

The Australian Police Medal is a circular nickel-silver medal ensigned with the Crown of St Edward. The front of the medal displays the effigy of the Sovereign on a Federation Star, superimposed over a pattern of fluted rays.

The back of the medal is inscribed with the words 'Australian Police Medal' and 'For Distinguished Service'. The inscriptions are encircled by a wreath of the national floral emblem, the golden wattle.

### Medal ribbon

The 32 millimetre-wide ribbon features a central vertical stripe of dark blue flanked by two white stripes.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

APM

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1986

NOMINATIONS:

Nominations are made by the responsible minister.

### More information

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