



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

Public Service Medal

The Public Service Medal recognises outstanding service of employees across the Commonwealth, state, territory and local governments.

About the award

The sole criterion for the award of the Public Service Medal is outstanding public service.

'Outstanding service' could be shown through:

- ongoing service excellence to the public
- innovation in programme, project and policy development
- service above and beyond the normal requirements of the position, and
- a special achievement or success in the performance of duty in difficult or unusual circumstances.

The Public Service Medal was established on 18 October 1989 by Letters Patent.

How it is awarded

Nominations for Commonwealth employee's medal are formally sought twice a year. They are generally made by departments or agencies but any member of the public may put forward a nomination. However such a nomination would require the endorsement of the relevant department or agency head.

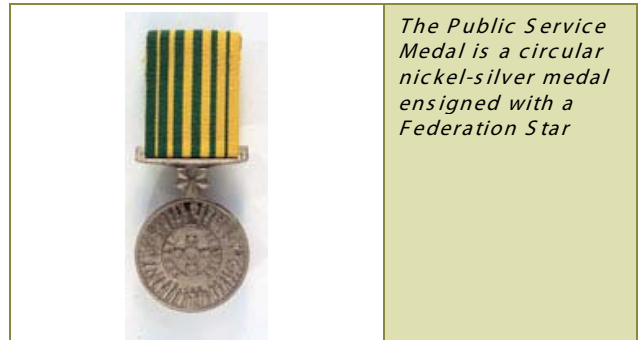
Commonwealth nominations are considered by the Public Service Medal Committee, which is chaired by the Public Service Commissioner. The Commissioner then advises the responsible minister on recommendations for awards. Next, the minister makes a formal recommendation to the Governor-General, who has the authority to approve awards.

There is an annual quota for each government public service with a total of 100 medals awarded every year. A person may only receive the Public Service Medal once.

The Commonwealth award is announced on Australia Day (January 26) and the Queens Birthday (June) each year.

Past recipient story

Mr Ross Quinn is one of 1272 recipients of the Public Service Medal. He received a medal for outstanding public service to broadcasting as a programme maker and manager and in the provision of services to the central Queensland community. His medal was awarded on 9 June 2003.



Medal design

The Public Service Medal is a circular nickel-silver medal ensigned with a Federation Star. It was designed by Mr Stuart Devlin AO CMG.

The front of the medal shows an inner circle with four planetary gears spaced equally around a sun gear. It is surrounded by the words 'Public Service'. An outer circle shows 36 human figures symbolising a range of occupations and activities.

The back of the medal displays a wreath of mimosa surrounding the inscription 'For Outstanding Service'.

Medal ribbon

The 32 millimetre-wide ribbon features the national colours of green and gold in a vertical striped pattern.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

PSM

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1989

NOMINATIONS:

For more information on the Commonwealth nomination process contact:

The Secretary
PSM Committee Secretariat
Awards and Culture Branch
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
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More information

IT'S AN HONOUR WEBSITE: www.itsanhonour.gov.au