

REWARD AND RECOGNITION SCHEMES

EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTOR

*Information regarding the National and State level Reward and Recognition Scheme
for the Emergency Services Sector*

NATIONAL AWARDS

Award Name
National Medal

Aim of Award

Recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised organisations that help the community during times of crisis.

It is Australia's most awarded civilian medal.

Year established

14 February 1975

Eligibility/Audience

To be eligible for the award the applicant must have served a period of 15 years qualifying service in one or more of the following -

- State Emergency Service (SES)/Civil Defence
- an Australian Police Force
- Australian Fire Service
- an Australian Ambulance Service
- an Australian Protective Service
- Australian Correctional Service
- Australian Defence Force
- Voluntary organisations such as lifesaving or search & rescue groups

Service may have been rendered on a full time basis whether paid or voluntary.

Categories/Criteria

Documentary evidence or a Statutory Declaration must be attached to each nomination for service other than in the SES/Civil Defence. A nomination cannot be processed without confirmatory evidence of service.

Award/Prize

Medal for 15 years of eligible service.

Clasp for each additional 10 year period.

Timeframes, e.g. annual initiative

Continuous process but normally two lists per year

Application checked for completeness and forwarded to Honours Secretariat, Canberra for approval and issue of Awards

Awards are presented or posted out to recipients

Agency Contact Person

Chief Officer

Medal Design



More information

It's an Honour website

www.itsanhonour.gov.au

NATIONAL AWARDS

Award Name
Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM)

Aim of Award

Recognises distinguished service by members of Australian fire services. It is awarded to paid and volunteer members.

Year Established

12 April 1988

Eligibility

Members of:

- a state or territory fire service
- a fire service of an agency of the Commonwealth; and
- the fire services of the External Territories of Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Island and Norfolk Island.

Categories/Criteria

Nominations for AFSM's collated and submitted to Committee. Recommendations forwarded to Chief Officer. Evidence must be provided to justify the member's receipt of the award.

How it is Awarded

The Australian Fire Service Medal is awarded by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the responsible Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers.

A person may only receive the AFSM medal once.

Award/Prize

Medal

Timeframes

Twice a year – for Queen's Birthday Honours List and Australia Day Honours List

Agency Contact Person

Chief Officer

Medal Design



More information

It's an Honour website

www.itsanhonour.gov.au

NATIONAL AWARDS

Award Name
Emergency Services Medal (ESM)

Aim of Award

Recognises distinguished service by members of an emergency service across Australia and people who are involved in emergency management, training or education

State emergency services and voluntary emergency organisations are eligible for the award.

Year Established

7 July 1999

Eligibility

Employees or volunteers involved in emergency management, training or education.

How it is Awarded

The Governor-General awards the Emergency Services Medal on the recommendation of the responsible Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers.

A person may only receive the ESM medal once.

Timeframes

Twice a year – for Queen's Birthday Honours List and Australia Day Honours List

Agency Contact Person

Chief Officer

Medal Design



More information

It's an Honour website
www.itsanhonour.gov.au

NATIONAL AWARDS

Award Name
Public Service Medal

Aim of Award

Recognises members of the Public Service who have consistently performed demanding jobs to the highest standards and have made a major contribution to the Australian Community.

Year Established

1989

Eligibility/Audience

All employees of the Australian Government and state, territory and local governments, except for members of the Defence Force and other uniformed services (police, fire services, ambulance services and emergency services) who are eligible for comparable awards*.

Categories/Criteria

Outstanding service shown through:

- service excellence to the public, or to external or internal clients;
- innovation in program, project or policy development;
- leadership, including as a member of a team; or
- the achievement of more efficient processes, improved productivity or better service delivery.

Award/Prize

Medal

A person may only receive the PSM medal once.

Timeframes

As part of the Australia Day (January 26) and Queens Birthday (June) Honours each year

Agency Contact Person

Chief Executive/Chief Officer

Medal Design



More information

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or

It's an Honour website
www.itsanhonour.gov.au

STATE AWARDS

Award Name *Emergency Services Medal (ES Medal) and Ministerial Commendation*

Aim of Award

These awards were created to recognise the tireless and extraordinary work of persons contributing to community safety through operational emergency service organisations and associated agencies.

About the Awards

The SA Emergency Services Medal (SAESM) is given to an individual who has demonstrated “distinguished and/or meritorious services of the highest order” in recognition of his or her significant contribution to the emergency services in South Australia.

The SAESM award is a full coin Medal set and framed certificate.

The Ministerial Commendation recognises significant effort, bravery or service and is awarded for “meritorious or courageous action”.

The commendation is a framed certificate and lapel pin.

Year Established

May 2001

Eligibility

All career staff and registered volunteers in the:

- SA Ambulance Service
- SA Country Fire Service
- SA Metropolitan Fire Service
- SA State Emergency Service
- SAFECOM
- Surf Lifesaving SA
- Volunteer Marine Rescue

Criteria for Awards

While it is recognised that most members of Emergency Services deserve recognition for their contributions, these Awards are intended for the few individuals who have gone even further than that “extra mile”.

Years of service alone is not normally sufficient justification for an Award. Their personal contribution should in some way be considered to be truly extraordinary.

Acts of bravery may be considered for either Award.

A person may only receive the SA Emergency Service Medal once.

Process

Nominations are evaluated against those from all Services by the SAFECOM Awards Committee and decisions are made about those to be recommended to the Minister for Emergency Services for an Award.

The awards are presented by the Minister for Emergency Services at a ceremony usually held late November/early December.

Timeframes

Annual initiative

Agency Contact Person

Executive Officer, SAFECOM

Medal Design



A CFS service certificate is issued at five yearly intervals between the issue of the CFS Service medal, beginning at five years service.

Eligibility/Audience

Available to CFS staff and volunteers

The CFS will issue the certificates yearly to eligible staff, Brigade Fire Fighters, Auxiliary or Cadet members with 5 years or greater registered service with any one or more SA Country Fire Service Brigade or as a member of staff.

Certificates of Appreciation

These certificates are available to individuals and/or groups for support to CFS. These certificates include:

- Employers Certificate
- Outstanding Service Certificate
- Training Excellence

Chief Officer's Certificate Of Appreciation

This certificate is awarded by the Chief Officer to an individual, groups of individuals, brigade, group or section of CFS or some other individual or body, in appreciation of diligent service, actions associated with some (usually non-operational) event, or where the Chief Officer wishes to formally acknowledge a contribution to CFS or its members.

The Certificate is a framed and signed by the Chief Officer.

Nominations for the award can be made by members of the public, members of other agencies or other members of CFS. In addition, the Chief Officer may identify specific actions that are worthy of the award without nomination.

Chief Officer's Certificate Of Service (50 Years)

A Chief Officer's Certificate of Service is designed to recognise the small number of members who reach the milestone of 50 years service to the CFS. This specially framed certificate will be issued in conjunction with a 50 year Service Medal.

A list will be generated every 12 months to be forwarded to Regions, Groups and Brigade for validation.

Chief Officer's Commendation

This certificate is a commendation awarded by the Chief Officer to an individual, groups of individuals, brigade, group or section of CFS or some other individual or body, for outstanding or exemplary service in operations or actions in operations. The commendation is a framed certificate signed by the Chief Officer.

Nominations for commendation can be made by members of the public, members of other agencies or other members of CFS. In addition, the Chief Officer may identify specific actions that are worthy of commendation and award a commendation without nomination.

Where possible nominations should be supported by at least two signatories.

Honorary Membership

A person who has been a member of the CFS for at least twenty years may be made an honorary member of a brigade. This is not an award, as such, but a status of membership, often given to those who are no longer active members. Where honorary membership is awarded, the Regional Office must be notified so that it can be recorded.

If a brigade decides to appoint honorary members, their rights should be incorporated into the constitution of the brigade.

Honorary membership does not require a formal application - it is an appointment within a brigade.

Life Membership

Life membership of the CFS may be awarded to volunteers who have completed a total of 20 years service in the CFS. Time served in more than one brigade is to be counted towards the eligibility for this award. This award should reflect a person's particular dedication or contribution to the Service.

A person who has been awarded Life Membership does not necessarily have to be a currently registered member of the CFS.

Life Membership is not to be confused with *Honorary Membership*, which is a status of membership defined in the Regulations to the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005*.

The brigade of which the person is currently (or most recently) a member must vote, at a general meeting, to approve the nomination of the award to the member.

INTERNAL AWARDS
[COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE \(CFS\)](#)

Award Name
CFS Service Medal

Service Medal

This Medal is in recognition of diligent active service with CFS.

The Service Medal was established in 2006.

Eligibility:

All CFS volunteers and staff who have completed 10 years of diligent and active service are eligible.

The Medal is based on the CFS insignia and a ribbon with gold, white and red colouring.

Medal is awarded only once.

Subsequent increments of ten years service entitle the recipient to receive the appropriate service clasp.

Timeframes

List generated every 12 months on the 1st September.

Medal Design



Agency Contact Person
Chief Officer, CFS

Certificates awarded to members of the MFS who display outstanding moral or physical courage, other exceptional performance or above average initiative or leadership.

Type of Awards

Certificates

- Commendation - displaying above average initiative or leadership.
- Special Mention - exceptional performance in the line of duty.
- Honorable Mention - outstanding Fire Service work involving physical or moral courage of a high order and which reflects great credit on the Fire Service.

Process

Awarded on recommendation by staff to the Chief Officer (through the MFS Awards Committee).

Agency Contact Person

Chief Officer, MFS

Five Year Meritorious Service Certificate

These certificates are presented by the Chief Officer or delegate in recognition of dedicated service by volunteer members of SES who have completed five years of continuous and diligent service.

Certificates of Appreciation

These certificates are presented by the Chief Officer to volunteers and staff, members of the public, businesses, charitable organisations, service clubs, employers and other benefactors to express the gratitude and appreciation of the Service for their support.

Chief Officer's Commendation

This commendation certificate is presented by the Chief Officer to a volunteer, staff member or team in recognition of their extraordinary contribution to an ongoing or one-off act, project or event that has had a significant impact on SES or the community.

Long Service Award

A Long Service Medal is awarded by the Chief Officer or delegate in recognition of the completion of 10 years continuous and diligent service entirely within SES by volunteer members and staff.

A Bar to the Medal may be awarded after the completion of each additional ten years of qualifying service.

Agency Contact Person

Robyn Faraguna, Executive Project Officer

Medal Design

