2027 Citizen of the Year Awards
Nomination Guidelines & Criteria

Local Government Awards

The Citizen of the Year Awards are proudly presented by the Australia Day Council of South Australia and Mid Murray Council.

Each year, South Australia celebrates the achievements and contributions of outstanding members of their communities through the Citizen of the Year Awards. These individuals demonstrate extraordinary service every day within our communities so often invisible to most of us. This contribution builds the social and cultural fabric of our society, making a significant difference to the people of our state.

An outstanding member of our community could come from areas such as; education, health, fundraising, charitable and voluntary services, business, sport, arts, the environment, or any other area that contributes to the advancement and wellbeing of a community.

Award Categories

- **Citizen of the Year**
  The most outstanding Citizen for the Mid Murray Council area.
- **Young Citizen of the Year**
  The most outstanding Young Citizen for the Mid Murray Council area.
- **Community Event of the Year**
  A person or group who has staged the most outstanding community event.
- **Active Citizenship**
  A person or group delivering outstanding work on an event or project for the community during the past calendar year.
- **Mid Murray Youth Achievement Award**
  The most outstanding Young Citizen for the Mid Murray Council area.

Selection Criteria

In choosing the recipients of the Australia Day Citizen of the Year Awards, regard is given to the nominee's achievements in the year immediately prior to receiving the award, as well as their past achievements and ongoing contribution to the community.

An individual need only be nominated once to be considered. The number of nominations received per nominee bears no weight in their selection.

Citizen & Young Citizen of the Year:

- Significant contribution to the community above and beyond employment duties
- An inspirational role model for the Australian community
- The scope of impact the individual's contribution has on the Mid Murray Council area

Community Event of the Year:

- The quality of the work for the event
- The scope of impact the work has on the Mid Murray Council area
- The event's contribution to the community

Award for Active Citizenship:

- The person or group has demonstrated leadership in and for the community
- The person or group involvement in the community
- The scope of impact the person or groups work has on the community

It is not a requirement for the individual to reside in the Mid Murray Council area. The focus is on their specific contribution to the Mid Murray Council area or community (eg an individual may live in the neighbouring Council area but make a significant contribution to a community organisation within the Mid Murray Council area).

Selection panels will also consider the following in assessing and comparing nominations against the above criteria:

- Personal, academic and professional achievements
- Contribution in the relevant field (how has the nominee, event, or group 'gives back' to benefit others)
- Demonstrated leadership, innovation and creativity
- Contribution to development of regional community and/or economy
- Future goals and likely impact
- Degree of difficulty of the achievement and sacrifices made

- Previous awards and recognition
- Voluntary work beyond paid employment
- Nature and length of activity or service
- Achievements as an individual or as part of a group or organization
- Availability and commitment to promote community pride and active citizenship throughout the year of the recipient's appointment

Eligibility Criteria

- Nominees must be Australian Citizens (except for Award for Active Citizenship).
- Awards will not be granted posthumously.
- Self nominations will not be accepted.
- Nominees for Citizen of the Year must be aged 30 years or over on 26 January 2027**.**
- Nominees for Young Citizen of the Year must be at least 16 years of age, and under 30 on 26 January 2027.
- Sitting state and federal politicians, current vice-regal officers and current elected members of council are not eligible.
- Retired politicians, elected members and vice-regal officers will be considered for work undertaken in addition to their official duties.
- Unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated in subsequent years.
- Groups of people, organisations or couples will not normally be eligible for Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year, though in exceptional cases the selection panels reserve the right to consider such nominations.
- Both individuals and organisations should be considered for the Community Event of the Year as this recognises the organising body or committee responsible for the event.
- Absolutely NO weight is given to the number of times a person or organisation is nominated.
- Previous recipients of the award categories may receive the award in the future, however the work that this person or organisation made in receiving the original award may not be considered.

Mid Murray Youth Achievement Award

This Award is proudly presented by Mid Murray Council.

The Youth Achievement Award recognises and celebrates young individuals under the age of 16 who have made noteworthy contributions to the Mid Murray community.

To be eligible the individual must be an Australian Citizen and be at least 10 years of age and under the age of 16 on the 26 January 2027.

Nomination Forms

Please go to www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au

How to Submit Nomination Forms

- **Email** to postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au
- **Post** to Mid Murray Council, PO Box 28, MANNUM SA 5238
- **In Person** at any Mid Murray Council office in Mannum, Cambrai or Morgan

For more information please visit www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au or phone Mid Murray Council on (08)8569 0100.

Nominate Today!

Nominations Close 5pm Friday, 20 November 2026

Australia Day
Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Mid Murray Council