

Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal

as amended

made under

Letters Patent

This compilation was prepared in January 2023 taking into account amendments to the *Australian Fire Service Medal Regulations - 2021*.

Schedule

Short title [see note 1]

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Australian Fire Service Medal Regulations.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—
 - “Australian fire service” means a Commonwealth fire service or a fire service of a State or Territory of the Commonwealth.
 - “Commonwealth fire service” means a fire service of a Commonwealth agency (other than a fire service of the Australian Capital Territory).
 - “external Territory” means any of the Territories of Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Norfolk Island.
 - “Medal” means the Australian Fire Service Medal.
 - “responsible Minister” means—
 - (a) in the case of a fire service of a State—the Premier of that State or a Minister of the Crown of that State acting for and on behalf of the Premier;
 - (b) in the case of a fire service of the Northern Territory of Australia—the Chief Minister of that Territory or a Minister of that Territory acting for and on behalf of the Chief Minister;
 - (c) in the case of a fire service of the Australian Capital Territory—the Chief Minister of that Territory or a Minister of that Territory acting for and on behalf of the Chief Minister;
 - (d) in the case of a Commonwealth fire service, the Minister of State for the time being responsible for administering the relevant agency; and
 - (e) in the case of a fire service of an external Territory, the Minister of State for the time being responsible for administering that Territory.

Design of the Medal

3. The design of the Medal shall be as prescribed.

Conditions for award of the Medal

4. (1) The Medal shall be awarded only for distinguished service by a member of an Australian fire service.
 - (2) The Governor-General may determine, in writing, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, the number of awards of the Medal for each of the following:
 - (a) the Commonwealth in a calendar year;
 - (b) a State in a calendar year;
 - (c) the Australian Capital Territory in a calendar year;
 - (d) the Northern Territory in a calendar year;
 - (e) all of the external Territories in a calendar year.
 - (3) The Prime Minister must not make a recommendation under subregulation (2) in relation to the number of awards of the Medal unless:
 - (a) at least one Medal may be awarded for each calendar year to the Commonwealth; and
 - (b) for each of the States, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory—the number of awards for a calendar year is broadly proportionate to the State or Territory's share of the total number of members of the fire service, or combined fire services, across all of the States, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory; and
 - (c) at least one Medal may be awarded for each calendar year to all of the external Territories.

- (4) The number of awards of the Medal under this regulation for the Commonwealth, a State, a Territory or all of the external Territories for a calendar year must not exceed the number specified in, or worked out in accordance with, a determination under subregulation (2) in relation to the Commonwealth, State, Territory or all of the external Territories for that year.

Conditions for additional award of the Medal—COVID-19 pandemic

- 4A. (1) The Medal may be awarded for service in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic to a person eligible for the award of the Medal under regulation 4.
- (2) An award of the Medal in accordance with this regulation may only be made in the 5-year period commencing on 25 January 2020 or, if the Governor-General determines a further period, such further period.
- (3) The Governor-General may, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, determine a further period, not exceeding 3 years, for the purposes of subregulation (2).
- (4) The Governor-General may, under subregulation (3), determine a further period more than once. However, each period of extension must not exceed 3 years.
- (5) To avoid doubt, an award of the Medal in accordance with this regulation does not count towards a limit in subregulation 4(4).

Making of awards

5. (1) An award of the Medal shall be made by the Governor-General and notified in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*.
- (2) The Medal shall only be awarded upon the nomination of a responsible Minister.

Wearing of the Medal

6. The manner of wearing the Medal shall be as determined by the Governor-General.

Designation of holder of the Medal

7. Persons to whom the Medal has been awarded are entitled to have the letters “AFSM” placed after their names on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary.

Registrar of Awards

8. (1) There shall be a Registrar of Awards who shall be appointed by the Governor-General and shall maintain a Register of the names of persons to whom the Medal has been awarded.
- (2) The Registrar shall keep such other records relating to the award of the Medal as the Governor-General directs.

Cancellation and reinstatement

9. (1) The Governor-General may cancel the award of the Medal to a person and may reinstate an award so cancelled.
- (2) Where an award of the Medal is cancelled, the name of the person to whom the award was made shall be erased from the Register and the person shall return the Medal to the Registrar.
- (3) Where an award that has been cancelled is reinstated, the Registrar shall restore the entry in the Register that had been erased.

Notes to the Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal

Note 1

The *Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal* (in force under *Letters Patent*) as shown in this compilation is amended as indicated in the Tables below.

Table of Instruments

| Title | Date of notification in gazette | Date of commencement | Application, saving or transitional provisions |
|---|---|----------------------|--|
| Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal | 10 June 1988 (see <i>Gazette</i> 1988, No. S161) | 12 Apr 1988 | — |
| Amendments to the Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal - 1991 | 20 Dec 1991 (see <i>Gazette</i> 1991, No. S353) | 5 Dec 1991 | — |
| Amendments of the Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal - 1997 | 11 Aug 1998 (see <i>Gazette</i> 1998, No. S395) | 18 Dec 1997 | — |
| Amendments of the Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal - 2012 | 12 Oct 2012 (see <i>Gazette</i> 2012, No. C2012G00059) | 8 Aug 2012 | — |
| Amendments of the Regulations Governing the Award of the Australian Fire Service Medal - 2021 | 6 June 2022 (see <i>Gazette</i> 2022, No. C2022G00464) | 23 Dec 2021 | — |

Table of Amendments

ad. = added or inserted | am. = amended | rep. = repealed | rs. = repealed and substituted

| Provision affected | How affected |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| R. 2 | am. 1991 |
| R. 4 | am. 1997; 2012; 2021 |
| R. 4A | ad. 2021 |