

Australia Day Awards eligibility

- Nominees must reside within the Cairns Regional Council Local Government Area (LGA).
- Nominees may be paid or unpaid workers. If paid, the achievements or contributions to the community must be above the core duties of their paid role.
- Self-nominations will not be accepted.
- Sitting State and Federal Politicians, Council staff, and Councillors are not eligible for nomination.
- Nominations cannot be made by a member of the 2027 awards judging panel.
- Nominees must not have won an award in the same category within the past ten (10) years.
- Winners will be announced at Cairns Regional Council's Australia Day Awards Ceremony.

Award categories & criteria

Citizen of the Year (21 years and over)

- Open to individuals aged **21 years and over** who live, work, volunteer, or belong to a community group within the Cairns LGA.
- Contributes significantly to the Cairns community.
- Serves as an inspirational role model within the Cairns community.

Young Citizen of the Year (20 years and younger)

- Open to individuals aged **20 years and under** who live, work, volunteer, or belong to a community group within the Cairns LGA.
- Contributes significantly to the Cairns community.
- Serves as an inspirational role model within the Cairns community.

Volunteer of the Year (open to all ages)

- Open to individuals of all ages who live in the Cairns LGA or volunteer for a community group, sporting organisation, or event within the region.
- Makes a notable contribution to the Cairns community in a volunteer capacity.
- Serves as an inspirational role model within the Cairns Community through their volunteer work.

Terms & conditions

- Nominations must clearly address the **specific award criteria**.
- Please include as many relevant details about the nominee as possible. (A maximum of two pages of supporting information may be attached.)
- No school reports, personal documents etc. are to be submitted. Cairns Regional Council staff may contact the nominator for clarification or to obtain further information.
- Nominees cannot be nominated in multiple categories.
- Nominators may only submit **one nominee per award category**.
- Nominees have the right to decline participation in the 2027 Awards process.