

FAQS FOR AUSTRALIA DAY CHANGES

GENERAL CHANGES

Q: Why is Council making changes to Australia Day celebrations?

A: We are making the changes to streamline nominations from 12 categories across 10 events where 100 awards were given out. Over the years, less people are nominating and fitting in 10 events on a public holiday has stretched Council's resources for several years. Making a change to five nomination categories to one ceremony annually will enhance the significance and prestige of receiving an Australia Day award.

Q: What are the changes?

A: **1. Award Nominations:** We are streamlining the process by reducing the categories from 12 across 10 events to 5 categories in one annual ceremony. This change aims to increase the significance and prestige of the awards. The single award ceremony will be held in the town of the previous Citizen of the Year winner, with Moranbah hosting in 2025. Nominations close on 30 November 2024.

2. Community Event Sponsorship: Council is introducing a \$14,000 Australia Day Event Sponsorship Program for not-for-profits and community groups to apply for funding to host Australia Day events. Each of our 17 unique communities can apply for up to \$1,000 to enhance their local celebrations. The funding pool closes on 30 November 2024.

Q: What aspects of Australia Day will remain the same?

A: The triathlon, free pool entry and activities, and Council-supported event initiatives will remain unchanged.

Q: How will the changes impact the community?

A: The changes aim to reduce the corporate side of the celebrations and focus more on community involvement and celebration of Australia Day without the formalities.

NOMINATIONS AND AWARD CEREMONY

Q: How have the nomination categories changed?

A: The number of categories has been reduced to make it easier to fill out nominations and to avoid empty categories.

Q: What is the benefit of reducing nomination categories?

A: Streamlining the nomination categories eases the burden of identifying numerous nominees for different categories and enhances the significance and prestige of receiving an Australia Day award. Nominations close 30 November 2024.

Q: What are the award categories?

A: Citizen of the Year (age 27+), Young Citizen of the Year (aged 16-26), Community Event of the Year, Corporate Community Contribution of the Year, Spirit of Isaac Award (selected, not nominated), Community Champion Award, Mayor's Award (selected, not nominated).

Q: Where will the award ceremony be held?

A: The award ceremony will be hosted in the town of the previous Citizen of the Year. For 2025, it will be in Moranbah, as Amanda Raymond was the 2024 Citizen of the Year.

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Q: Will there be transportation to the award ceremony?

A: Yes, there will be free transport to the ceremony with details of the times and where to book will be shared early January 2025.

Q: How can I nominate someone for an award?

A: Nomination forms are available online at www.isaac.qld.gov.au/Australia-Day or collect a hard copy form at any council office or library. You need to complete the relevant information, include your (the nominator) contact details and your nominees full name, address, email and phone number, and a minimum 100 words as to why the nominee deserves to win that category award. Nominations close on 30 November 2024.

Q: How are all the award categories evaluated and selected?

A: The applications will be evaluated based on their eligibility and response to each nomination. Council staff, in consultation with the CEO, will provide all the nominations to the Mayor and all Divisional Councillors to review the applications. Through each criteria, the elected arm will decide on the winners who will be announced every Australia Day Eve, 25 January each year in the previous Citizen of the Year's hometown.

AUSTRALIA DAY EVENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Q: What is the Australia Day Event Sponsorship Program?

A: A fund of \$14,000 for community groups to apply for hosting Australia Day events in their locality.

Q: How much can each group apply for?

A: Each group can apply for up to \$1,000.

Q: What are the requirements for applying for the sponsorship?

A: Applicants must demonstrate that their event does not detract from established Australia Day activities, have the capacity to spend the requested money, have public liability insurance, and provide anticipated attendee numbers.

Q: What are the criteria for eligibility for the Australia Day Event Sponsorship Program?

- Applicants may submit only one sponsorship application per project, event, or activity.
- Applicants must be a not-for-profit entity as recognised by the Australian Taxation Office, including incorporated associations, registered charities, or bodies exempt from incorporation under other legislation, or be auspiced by a qualifying entity on their behalf.
- Applicants must hold a current public liability insurance certificate with a coverage value of not less than \$20 million.
- Applicants must be located in the Isaac region.
- Applicants must undertake an Australia Day-themed event or activity in the public interest that celebrates Aussie culture, brings people together, and promotes mateship.
- Applicants must acknowledge the Isaac Regional Council on any promotional or marketing items.
- There are no co-funding requirements, and there are no acquittal requirements other than submitting up to five images to the Council for use on social media after the event or activity.

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Q: What is required to complete the Australia Day Event Sponsorship Program application?

- Read the application guidelines and check eligibility.
- A fully completed application submitted to communitygrants@isaac.qld.gov.au or via the online submission portal available at www.isaac.qld.gov.au/Australia-Day
- A copy of the applicant's Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance of no less than \$20 million.
- A basic budget which illustrates how the grant funds will be spent.

Q: What dates can the event or activity be held on to be eligible?

A: The event or activity must be held on either Australia Day, 26 January 2025, or the public holiday, 27 January 2025.

Q: When do applications for the Australia Day Event Sponsorship Program open and close?

A: Applications will open **1 November 2024 and will close on 30 November 2024**. It's best to apply early, as this allows for quicker review and potential fund distribution by the Council. Late applications might miss out on funding if the sponsorship fund is depleted.

Q: How will the applications for the Australia Day Event Sponsorship Program be evaluated and selected?

A: The applications will be evaluated based on their eligibility and response to how the event or activity celebrates Aussie culture, brings people together, and promotes mateship. Council staff, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer, Mayor, and the relevant Divisional Councillor will review the applications and decide on funds distribution, considering the need to spread the funds across the entire region.

Q: What is the acquittal process?

A: There is no acquittal report required. Just recognise Isaac Regional Council as a sponsor and send through up to 5 images that Council can add to social media after the activity. Details on what to do and how to send the images will be available on your acceptance letter.

Q: What is the process for distributing the fund to eligible applicants?

A: Like the community grants process, once approved the applicant will receive a funding letter outlining the obligations and the money will be transferred to the nominated bank at the next pay run. Please note, this make take up to 10 days.

Q: What if I have more questions or need assistance?

A: Please contact the Council's Community Engagement Team for further information and assistance on 1300 ISAACS (1300 472 227).