

Citizenship Ceremonies



Do I need to attend a Ceremony to receive my Certificate?

Yes. Candidates are required to attend a Citizenship Ceremony and to make their Pledge in order to validate their Citizenship and receive their Certificate. Provided you confirm your attendance by the reply date specified on your letter of invitation, you will receive your certificate at the Ceremony. The RSVP deadline is essential.

Do children need to attend Citizenship Ceremonies?

Children aged 16 years and over are legally required to attend a Ceremony and take the Citizenship pledge to become an Australian Citizen. Children under the age of 16 are not legally required to take the pledge, however, they are welcome to attend and are encouraged to take the pledge with their parents/guardian if possible.

What if I can't attend the next scheduled Ceremony?

Notify us of your unavailability and we will include you in the next available Ceremony.

Where are the Citizenship Ceremonies held and how long do they take?

Ceremonies are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 232 Bolsover Street (please refer to map on back page) and generally take about 40 minutes with time for photo opportunities at the end. We request you arrive 30 minutes prior to the ceremony start time. There is parking directly outside City Hall.

What do I need to bring with me to the Ceremony?

You are required to bring with you photographic identification - a current driver's licence or passport is sufficient. These documents are required as proof of identification to take part in the Ceremony and for completion of an Electoral Enrolment Form (more information visit the Australian Electoral Commission)

What Pledge am I taking? What is the difference between Pledge 1 (under God) and Pledge 2 (without God)?

Pledge 1 is taken 'under God' and Pledge 2 is not. You would have nominated which Pledge you are making when you filled out your application form with the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP).

The DIBP has advised us of your nominated Pledge and you will receive your nominated Pledge card at the Ceremony. If you are taking Pledge 1 (under God), you are welcome to bring a holy book to make your Pledge on.

Can I take photographs?

Guests and candidates are invited to bring their own camera or video recorder and are welcome to take photographs during and after the Ceremony. We will have a photographer present on the day who will take a photograph of you being presented with your certificate by the Mayor (or presiding officer). For privacy reasons, our staff will ask you to complete a Photograph Release Form at your Ceremony which gives us permission to take your photograph on the day. If you do not wish your photograph to appear in a public forum (eg Facebook or RRC website) please tell the staff on the day. If you wish to obtain a digital copy of the photograph please email citizenship@rrc.qld.gov.au. Photographs will be available on the Monday following your Ceremony.

I have lost my Citizenship Certificate, what should I do?

You will need to contact the DIBP on 131 880 to arrange a replacement Certificate. Further information is available via the DIBP web link www.citizenship.gov.au.

When can I apply for an Australian passport?

You must attend your Ceremony and receive your Citizenship Certificate before you can apply for an Australian passport. The original Certificate will be needed when applying for the passport. For more information about Australian passports, please visit www.passports.gov.au or call the Australian Passport Office on 131 232.

Questions?

Please contact us.

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Phone: 07 4932 9000

Email: enquiries@rrc.qld.gov.au



City Hall232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton, QLD, 4700

