

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL 2026 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL



NOMINATION GUIDELINES

General information

Volunteers are an important part of the Glen Eira community and provide valuable contributions through their work with a wide variety of community groups and organisations.

Each year, Glen Eira City Council recognises local volunteers through our *Volunteer Recognition Program*, and celebrates their achievements at our annual *Volunteer Recognition Celebration* event held during *National Volunteers Week* beginning 18 May 2026.

Eligibility to nominate

Not-for-profit community groups and organisations providing community services that benefit Glen Eira residents can nominate volunteers for special recognition. They can nominate up to 15 volunteers each year.

All nominations must be endorsed by the organisation and recorded in minutes at a meeting prior to submission. To ensure compliance with Council's obligations under the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*, please ensure that you have obtained permission from the person you are nominating. The individual completing the nomination form must be in a position of responsibility (president, secretary or office bearer).

Nomination criteria

Nominations can be made in one of eight categories. Volunteers nominated must provide a service within Glen Eira for the benefit of residents in these categories:

- 500 hours of service;
- 1,000 hours of service;
- 2,000 hours of service; or
- special service – 10 years continuous service – 40 years continuous service
– 20 years continuous service – 50 years continuous service
– 30 years continuous service

Nomination requirements

Community groups and organisations must meet the following requirements:

- Complete Council's online *Volunteer Recognition Program* nomination form on the *Smartygrants* portal.
- One nomination form per organisation will be accepted.
- Obtain permission from the person being nominated.

- Nominate each volunteer for the relevant award category. Categories are cumulative. For example, a volunteer who receives a 500-hour award will be eligible to receive a 1,000-hour award next. Council reserves the right to determine whether an award will be granted.

Submitting nominations

The online nomination form is available at www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/national-volunteer-week. Nominations open Monday 16 February 2026 and close at 5pm on Friday 20 March 2026.

Acknowledgement of your nomination will be forwarded once the nomination has been received.

If you have any questions, please contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333 or email communityawards@gleneira.vic.gov.au

Volunteer Recognition Celebration 2026 event

Council will publicly celebrate and thank our volunteers at the *Volunteer Recognition Celebration* event held during *National Volunteer Week*, beginning 18 May 2026. Details about the event will be sent closer to the date. Organisations/groups will be required to coordinate attendance of their eligible volunteers. After the award event, all *Volunteer Recognition Program* recipients will be publicly acknowledged by Glen Eira City Council on our website. If nominees do not wish to be listed on our website, please contact communityawards@gleneira.vic.gov.au.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ONLINE APPLICATIONS

STARTING A NOMINATION FORM FOR YOUR ORGANISATION

1. Go to: gleneira.smartygrants.com.au
2. Click *Volunteer Recognition Program*.
3. Click 'log in' at the top of the page.
4. Register using your organisation's name, generic email address and password.
5. Click 'continue' to confirm your registration. **Note:** you should write down the registered email address and password in case it needs to be shared between other members who are completing nomination forms for your organisation.
6. Click 'start a submission'.
7. Fill in the form and save your progress regularly.

COMPLETING A NOMINATION FORM WITHIN A TEAM

1. A number of people can work on a nomination form using the same login details as long as only one person is working on it at a time.
2. If you wish to leave a partially completed nomination form, you must press 'save' and 'log out'.
3. To reopen your organisation's nomination form, go to gleneira.smartygrants.com.au and log in with the same details.
4. Click on the 'my submissions' link at the top of the page and click on *Volunteer Recognition Program* and continue where you left off.

SUBMITTING YOUR NOMINATION FORM

1. You will find a 'review' and 'submit' button at the bottom of the navigation panel. You should review your nomination form before you submit it.
2. Once the form has been submitted no further changes can be made.

