



The Governor of Queensland

Role of the Governor

Queensland's system of Government is a constitutional monarchy. The Queensland Constitution Acts specifically recognise that the Parliament of Queensland consists of the Sovereign (expressed as the Crown) and the Legislative Assembly. The Governor is the personal representative of the Sovereign in the State.

The Governor is appointed by the Sovereign, by Commission, on the advice tendered by the Premier. The appointment is for an unlimited term, but the accepted convention is a term of five years.

The powers of the Governor are derived from his/her Commission, the Australia Acts, the *Constitution (Office of Governor) Act 1987*, the *Constitution Act 1867* and also by Acts which provide for approval by the Governor in Council. The Governor in Council is a title used when the Governor is acting by and with the advice of the Executive Council. This Council is constituted under Section 6 of the Constitution (Office of Governor) Act and is comprised of all members of the Ministry.

As the representative of the Sovereign, the Governor must always remain apolitical. The Crown represents the interests of all people. It is incumbent upon the Governor to ensure the people of Queensland enjoy a continuance of stable government.

The duties of the Governor include:

- granting Royal Assent to Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly, thus an Act of Parliament becomes the law of the land;
- summoning, proroguing and dissolving Parliament on the advice of the Premier;

- recommending by a message to the Legislative Assembly, the passing of the Appropriation Bill(s) prior to their introduction in the House;
- having the discretionary powers concerning the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly and the appointment and dismissal of Ministers in the event of a change of Government;
- swearing-in the new Ministry at Government House;
- presiding over meetings of, and taking the advice of, the Executive Council, which is comprised of all members of the Ministry. In this role the Governor is titled Governor in Council;
- issuing writs for the election of Queensland Senate representatives in Canberra;
- on the advice of the Government, issuing writs for State elections; and
- granting a pardon, commuting a sentence, or relieving the execution of a sentence.

Present Governor of Queensland

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland

The Governor was born in Sydney in 1963, the eldest daughter of Dr David Young and Mrs Lilly Young.

Dr Young graduated from the University of Sydney in 1986 with a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery. She started her medical career at Westmead Hospital in western Sydney. During her time at Westmead, she transitioned to medical management and completed a Master of Business Administration at Macquarie University.

In 1994, Dr Young was appointed Director of Medical Services at Rockhampton Hospital.



In 1999, she became Executive Director of Medical Services at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane.

In August 2005, Dr Young was appointed Chief Health Officer for Queensland. In January 2020, after the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a pandemic, she was appointed State Health Incident Controller.

The Governor is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators, and a Fellow by Distinction of the Faculty of Public Health of the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom, and has been awarded numerous other fellowships. The Governor has received honorary doctorates from Griffith University in 2015 and the Queensland University of Technology in 2017. She has also received an Australia Day Achievement Medal and a Public Service Medal.



Queensland Governor, Her Excellency Hon Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM

Dr Young was sworn in as the 27th Governor of Queensland on 1 November 2021.

Governors of Queensland, 1859-present

10.12.1859 - 04.01.1868	Sir George Ferguson Bowen GCMG
14.08.1868 - 02.01.1871	Colonel Samuel Wensley Blackall
12.08.1871 - 12.11.1874	The Most Noble George Augustus Constantine Phipps Marquis of Normanby GCB GCMG
23.01.1875 - 14.03.1877	William Wellington Cairns CMG
20.07.1877 - 02.05.1883	Sir Arthur Edward Kennedy GCMB CB
06.11.1883 - 09.11.1888	Sir Anthony Musgrave GCMG
01.05.1889 - 31.12.1895	General Sir Henry Wylie Norman GCB GCMG CIE
09.04.1896 - 19.12.1901	Rt Hon Charles Wallace Alexander Napier Cochrane Baillie Baron Lamington GCMG
24.03.1902 - 10.10.1904	Major-General Sir Herbert Charles Chermiside GCMGCB
30.11.1905 - 26.05.1909	Rt Hon Frederic John Napier Baron Chelmsford GCMG GCSI GCIE GBE
02.12.1909 - 16.07.1914	Sir William MacGregor GCMG CB
15.04.1915 - 03.02.1920	Major Sir Hamilton John Gould-Adams GCMG CB
03.12.1920 - 17.09.1925	Rt Hon Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Matthew Nathan GCMG
13.06.1927 - 07.04.1932	Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Herbert John Chapman Goodwin KCB CMG DSO
13.06.1932 - 24.04.1946	Colonel Sir Leslie Orme Wilson GCMG GCSI GCIE DSO
01.10.1946 - 04.12.1957	Lieutenant-General Sir John Dudley Lavarack KCMG KCVO KBE CB DSO - First Queensland-born Governor
18.03.1958 - 18.03.1966	Colonel Sir Henry Abel Smith KCMG KCVO DSO
21.03.1966 - 21.03.1972	Hon Sir Allan James Mansfield KCMG KCVO
21.03.1972 - 21.03.1977	Air Marshal Sir Colin Thomas Hannah KCMG KCVO KBE CB
22.04.1977 - 22.07.1985	Commodore Sir James Ramsay KCMG KCVO CBE DSC
22.07.1985 - 29.07.1992	Hon Sir Walter Benjamin Campbell AC QC
29.07.1992 - 29.07.1997	Mrs Leneen Forde AC (first female Governor)
29.07.1997 - 29.07.2003	Major-General Peter Arnison AO
29.07.2003 - 29.07.2008	Ms Quentin Bryce AC
29.07.2008 - 29.07.2014	Ms Penelope Wensley AC
29.07.2014 - 01.11.2021	Hon Paul de Jersey AC
01.11.2021 -	Hon Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM