

Our President

Irish citizens over 18 years can elect our President when elections are held every 7 years. In order to go forward for election a candidate for President must be at least 35 years old. At the end of the seven year term the President can go forward to be elected for a second term.

Our President is Mary McAleese who has been President for almost 14 years. We will have an election for a new President in November 2011.

Our President does not take an active role in politics in Ireland.



The role of our President

- Represents the people of Ireland on state visits to other countries
- Welcomes heads of state of other countries to Ireland
- Is the commander of the Defence Forces
- Signs bills into law
- May refer a bill presented to the Council of State if it is felt that there may be a constitutional issue in signing it in to law