

**NAME**

`mq_getattr`, `mq_setattr` – get/set message queue attributes

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <mqqueue.h>
```

```
int mq_getattr(mqd_t mqdes, struct mq_attr *attr);
```

```
int mq_setattr(mqd_t mqdes, const struct mq_attr *newattr,
               struct mq_attr *oldattr);
```

Link with `-lrt`.

**DESCRIPTION**

`mq_getattr()` and `mq_setattr()` respectively retrieve and modify attributes of the message queue referred to by the message queue descriptor `mqdes`.

`mq_getattr()` returns an `mq_attr` structure in the buffer pointed by `attr`. This structure is defined as:

```
struct mq_attr {
    long mq_flags;           /* Flags: 0 or O_NONBLOCK */
    long mq_maxmsg;          /* Max. # of messages on queue */
    long mq_msgsize;         /* Max. message size (bytes) */
    long mq_curmsgs;         /* # of messages currently in queue */
};
```

The `mq_flags` field contains flags associated with the open message queue description. This field is initialized when the queue is created by `mq_open(3)`. The only flag that can appear in this field is **O\_NONBLOCK**.

The `mq_maxmsg` and `mq_msgsize` fields are set when the message queue is created by `mq_open(3)`. The `mq_maxmsg` field is an upper limit on the number of messages that may be placed on the queue using `mq_send(3)`. The `mq_msgsize` field is an upper limit on the size of messages that may be placed on the queue. Both of these fields must have a value greater than zero. Two `/proc` files that place ceilings on the values for these fields are described in `mq_overview(7)`.

The `mq_curmsgs` field returns the number of messages currently held in the queue.

`mq_setattr()` sets message queue attributes using information supplied in the `mq_attr` structure pointed to by `newattr`. The only attribute that can be modified is the setting of the **O\_NONBLOCK** flag in `mq_flags`. The other fields in `newattr` are ignored. If the `oldattr` field is not NULL, then the buffer that it points to is used to return an `mq_attr` structure that contains the same information that is returned by `mq_getattr()`.

**RETURN VALUE**

On success `mq_getattr()` and `mq_setattr()` return 0; on error, `-1` is returned, with `errno` set to indicate the error.

**ERRORS****EBADF**

The message queue descriptor specified in `mqdes` is invalid.

**EINVAL**

`newattr->mq_flags` contained set bits other than **O\_NONBLOCK**.

**ATTRIBUTES**

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see `attributes(7)`.

Interface	Attribute	Value
<code>mq_getattr()</code> , <code>mq_setattr()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

**CONFORMING TO**

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008.

**NOTES**

On Linux, **mq\_getattr()** and **mq\_setattr()** are library functions layered on top of the **mq\_getsetattr(2)** system call.

**EXAMPLE**

The program below can be used to show the default *mq\_maxmsg* and *mq\_msgsize* values that are assigned to a message queue that is created with a call to **mq\_open(3)** in which the *attr* argument is **NULL**. Here is an example run of the program:

```
$ ./a.out /testq
Maximum # of messages on queue:    10
Maximum message size:              8192
```

Since Linux 3.5, the following */proc* files (described in **mq\_overview(7)**) can be used to control the defaults:

```
$ uname -sr
Linux 3.8.0
$ cat /proc/sys/fs/mqueue/msg_default
10
$ cat /proc/sys/fs/mqueue/msgsize_default
8192
```

**Program source**

```
#include <mqueue.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>

#define errExit(msg)    do { perror(msg); exit(EXIT_FAILURE); \
                        } while (0)

int
main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    mqd_t mqd;
    struct mq_attr attr;

    if (argc != 2) {
        fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s mq-name\n", argv[0]);
        exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
    }

    mqd = mq_open(argv[1], O_CREAT | O_EXCL, S_IRUSR | S_IWUSR, NULL);
    if (mqd == (mqd_t) -1)
        errExit("mq_open");

    if (mq_getattr(mqd, &attr) == -1)
        errExit("mq_getattr");

    printf("Maximum # of messages on queue:    %ld\n", attr.mq_maxmsg);
    printf("Maximum message size:                  %ld\n", attr.mq_msgsize);

    if (mq_unlink(argv[1]) == -1)
```

```
        errExit("mq_unlink");  
  
    exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);  
}
```

**SEE ALSO**

**mq\_close(3), mq\_notify(3), mq\_open(3), mq\_receive(3), mq\_send(3), mq\_unlink(3), mq\_overview(7)**

**COLOPHON**

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