

**NAME**

mq\_getattr, mq\_setattr – get/set message queue attributes

**LIBRARY**

Real-time library (*librt*, *-lrt*)

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <mqueue.h>
```

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

**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   |
|---|---------------|---------|
| <b>mq_getattr()</b> , <b>mq_setattr()</b> | Thread safety | MT-Safe |

**STANDARDS**

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.

## EXAMPLES

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 <fcntl.h>
#include <mqueue.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <sys/stat.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, 0600, 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)**