LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN THE AIR AND IN SUPPORT

AIR FORCE OFFICER

AIR FORCE ACCOMPLISHED
DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR VARIETY, RESPONSIBILITY, EXCITING CHALLENGES AND REWARDING WORK? THEN YOU ALREADY HAVE THE MINDSET TO BECOME AN AIR FORCE OFFICER.

Ours is an incredibly diverse organisation, requiring leadership in areas such as engineering, healthcare, aviation, intelligence, human resources and law. If you are ambitious and resourceful, and keen to fulfil your potential, outstanding career opportunities await you in the Air Force.

As an Air Force Officer you’ll learn effective communication and leadership skills and develop the ability to guide those under your command. You’ll be an influential member of a world-class organisation, enjoying a unique blend of personal and vocational benefits.
This brochure provides an overview of the job opportunities open to you in the Air Force. Look out for the search symbol to access additional information online.
A WORLD-CLASS AIR FORCE
CAPABILITY
The Royal Australian Air Force is an internationally respected organisation equipped with some of the most advanced aircraft and air defence technology in use anywhere. Become a member of this formidable defensive force and you’ll join over 18,000 expertly trained personnel working in the air or in ground support roles.

ACTIVITY
The Air Force has a broad remit at home and overseas. Our core purpose is the defence of our nation, our people, our values and our way of life, through the provision of intelligence, strike capability and air mobility. We also support international security initiatives, carry out search and rescue missions and help communities affected by natural disasters.

DIVERSITY
All Australians are invited to consider Air Force careers, regardless of their gender, ethnic origin or cultural background. We believe this approach brings a unique blend of skills, strengths and knowledge to our operations.

EQUALITY
Women in the Air Force receive exactly the same salaries, training, vocational development and promotion opportunities as men. We recognise that recruitment, rewards and career advancement should be based on potential, effort and achievement, regardless of gender.

‘ABOUT THE AIR FORCE’
REASONS TO JOIN
CHALLENGING AND REWARDING WORK IN A VARIETY OF DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENTS IS JUST THE START. IN THE AIR FORCE YOU’LL ENJOY MANY OTHER BENEFITS TOO, SOME OF WHICH ARE RARELY FOUND IN COMPARABLE CIVILIAN ROLES.

**CAREER BENEFITS**

- Potential for degree sponsorship
- World-class management training
- Free flying training for aircrew roles
- Ongoing education and development

**FINANCIAL BENEFITS**

- A good salary plus allowances
- Generous superannuation
- Free medical and dental
- Subsidised accommodation

**LIFESTYLE BENEFITS**

- Good work / life balance
- Dynamic working environment
- Free sports and fitness facilities
- Travel and leave entitlements

All that plus memorable experiences such as participating in military exercises, humanitarian operations, peacekeeping initiatives and disaster-relief activities at home and overseas.

‘AIR FORCE BENEFITS’
FORGET THE TRADITIONAL NOTION OF A ‘WORKPLACE’. AIR FORCE BASES ARE PLACES OF EXCITEMENT, INNOVATION AND VARIETY, AND THEY OFFER A RANGE OF SOCIAL AND SPORTING FACILITIES TO HELP YOU RELAX AND ENJOY YOUR LIFE OUTSIDE OF WORKING HOURS.

A GOOD BALANCE

Whatever role you choose, your working hours can be much like those of any comparable civilian job. As you would expect, deployments require more flexibility and that’s part of their appeal. But in general, the Air Force seeks to provide all officers with a good balance between duties and personal life.

FREE SPORTS AND FITNESS FACILITIES

Being paid to stay fit is a real perk of Air Force life, and in work time rather than your own. Most air bases feature multi-code sports fields and excellent fitness facilities, and you'll be able to join teams playing just about anything you want to, along with clubs catering for a variety of hobbies.

SOCIAL FACILITIES

You and your friends are sure to spend plenty of your spare time in the Officers' Mess, the focal point of social activity on every air base. You'll find the food on base is excellent too, with wholesome and plentiful meals and special dietary needs happily catered for.

LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS

The team environment of the Air Force fosters amazing friendships, strengthened through exciting shared experiences. Your regular working hours will give you plenty of opportunity to get out and about with friends outside the Air Force too.

‘AIR FORCE LIFESTYLE’
I had a dream travelling to Alaska and Australia.
first year
Guam, Malaysia, throughout
YOU CAN BECOME AN AIR FORCE OFFICER A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WAYS:

- Join on completion of Year 12
- Apply while still at university
- Enter degree-qualified
- Join mid-career
ENTER WITHOUT A DEGREE

OFFICER ENTRY

Start your Air Force career with world-class management, leadership and military training at RAAF Base East Sale, VIC.

- Go straight to Initial Officer Training at Officers’ Training School
- Refer to individual job details online for minimum education requirements for entry

"AIR FORCE OFFICER ENTRY"

GAIN A DEGREE

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY

Gain military skills in parallel with a nationally-recognised degree, studying in Canberra alongside recruits from all three Services.

- Degree from the University of New South Wales
- Pays a salary while training and studying
- Leads to an officer role on graduation

"ADFA"

DEFENCE UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP

Apply for an officer role while studying at any accredited university, for the opportunity to have the rest of your studies sponsored.

- For those part way through a job-relevant degree course
- Pays a salary plus remaining course fees while completing studies
- Leads to an officer role on graduation

"UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP"
ENTER WITH A DEGREE

GRAD GRADUATE ENTRY

Bring your recognised degree in fields such as medicine, law, dentistry, nursing, engineering, business or IT (amongst others) to the Air Force, and hit the ground running in a varied and rewarding officer role.

- Requires a recognised job-relevant degree
- Open to recently graduated or mid-career
- Offers management training and postgraduate study
- Commences with 17 weeks of Initial Officer Training at Officers’ Training School

RES RESERVE

Find a fulfilling new outlet for your professional skills and qualifications, working part time alongside specialist members of the Air Force.

- Most roles require a recognised job-relevant degree
- Serve for at least 20 days each year
- Rewarding work and a flexible commitment
- Requires 17 weeks of training at RAAF Base East Sale, VIC, which can be split across five live-in phases over two years

ENTRY METHODS GUIDE
OVER 20 ROLES TO CHOOSE FROM

18 AVIATION
20 BUSINESS, ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION
24 COMBAT & SECURITY
26 COMMUNICATIONS, IT & INTELLIGENCE
30 ENGINEERING
34 HEALTHCARE, SCIENCE & CHAPLAINCY
40 LOGISTICS, HOSPITALITY & SUPPORT
MISSION AIRCREW

Operate some of the most sophisticated electronic systems and sensors in use today, making mission-critical command decisions in either an airborne or ground-based role.

Following training you’ll progress into one of three streams, employed in maritime operations (e.g. search and rescue), air battle management (e.g. surveillance and control), or the exhilarating world of fighter aircraft. You'll receive and interpret intelligence and work in parallel with Pilots to carry out a wide-variety of operational missions.

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER (MISSION CONTROLLER)

Command the skies, carrying out many of the responsibilities of a civilian Air Traffic Controller but with challenging extra dimensions unique to battlefield aerial environments.

You'll be in charge of the movements of both military and civilian aircraft in domestic environments. Then, in battlefield situations, your responsibilities will extend to ADF and coalition aircraft including unmanned aircraft. Using high-tech sensors and satellite technology you will conduct surveillance operations and shape defence missions.
PILOT

Upgrade your flying ambition to the Air Force, taking control of one of the fastest and most manoeuvrable aircraft in the world, transporting troops and supplies to disaster zones, or carrying out covert surveillance missions.

Whichever route you take, you’ll be fully trained in your role, paid to learn to fly, and achieve captaincy far faster than with civilian pilot training. You’ll enjoy an exceptionally exciting and highly responsible job and experience a wide variety of deployments flying advanced military aircraft.

The Graduate Pilot Scheme (GPS) is also available for women studying an Air Force recognised Bachelor of Aviation degree. If accepted, you will be reimbursed for tuition, textbook and training costs for up to $175,000.00 upon graduation from your course.
HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

Step up to a senior human resources role with a difference, supporting the delivery of air power through workforce management expertise, strategic communication and corporate support.

You’ll be responsible for our most valued assets – our people – from both a capability and a welfare perspective. You’ll specialise in human resources and case management, operational support, communication, workforce planning and organisational change, personnel management and training, or resource management – and be one of the first on the ground wherever personnel deploy.

ENTRY METHODS

LAWYER

Tackle new challenges, providing legal advice and support to Air Force and ADF personnel at all levels, from Commanding Officers to the Chief of the Defence Force.

You’ll work across the core areas of legal practice comprising discipline, administrative and operations laws. These areas will be used to advise and support commanders with the management of personnel and the application of the military justice system – to enable military operations in Australia and overseas that comply with Australia’s domestic and international legal obligations.

ENTRY METHODS

' AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE> '
LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Analyse, design, develop and manage the conduct and evaluation of training for Air Force personnel. You’ll work on base, consulting and coordinating training with military and civilian training staff, external contractors and students.

Additionally, you’ll be responsible for identifying and analysing training needs, designing training courses, and facilitating the development and conduct of training. You’ll also provide advice on appropriate training technology, including e-learning and other digital training methods.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Protect and enhance the public profile of the Air Force in this rewarding part-time role, managing communications with the media, government and community.

Supporting military operations in Australia and overseas, you’ll be responsible for the development and implementation of integrated communication campaigns. This includes media liaison, social media engagement, developing media product, attending events and ceremonies and being part of crises response teams. You’ll also act as an advisor to senior personnel on all communication matters and assist in the preparation of spokespersons for media engagements.
COMBAT & SECURITY
GROUND DEFENCE OFFICER

Use your leadership skills, endurance and resourcefulness to command a highly trained team that may deploy anywhere in the world, defending air bases during times of increased threat.

You’ll be tasked with the defence of Air Force airfields, assets and personnel from ground attack on deployed operations. The role involves conducting operations and training exercises, learning to use a variety of weapons and vehicles, and maintaining a high level of fitness.

ENTRY METHODS

MILITARY POLICE OFFICER

Take command of the military police and security personnel who protect some of Australia’s most technologically-advanced and highly classified aircraft and air defence facilities.

In this critical leadership role, you’ll be responsible for running security operations, security planning, managing risks, enforcing military laws, and handling investigations. You’ll also manage the emergency response to major incidents such as aircraft crashes and physical threats to your air base.

ENTRY METHODS

‘AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE>’
COMMUNICATIONS, IT & INTELLIGENCE
CYBER WARFARE OFFICER

Be at the heart of the Air Force’s emerging cyber warfare capability, leading a team of technical experts responsible for protecting our networks, data and information systems.

As a Cyber Warfare Officer, you’ll take command of small tactical teams through a range of missions and functions such as incident response, discovery and counter-infiltration, cyberspace operations planning and threat emulation.

ENTRY METHODS

INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

Operate in sensitive and highly classified environments, managing the provision of intelligence input support to Air Force operations and international security initiatives.

Deployed with an operational squadron, you’ll be trained to interpret intelligence data, prepare and present intelligence briefs and conduct debriefs. You'll also lead teams conducting signals, counterintelligence and weapon systems analysis; and perform intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance duties.

ENTRY METHODS

‘AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE>’
Life in the Air Force is fantastic, there's always something different.
SANDY, ELECTRONICS ENGINEER
ENGINEERING

AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER

Apply your aeronautical engineering skills to some of the most technologically-advanced aircraft in Australian skies, working at the leading edge of your profession.

You’ll be responsible for aircraft structures, propulsion systems and mechanical systems, as well as ground support equipment. In command of a team of technicians, your highly varied role will cover regulation and governance, project management, logistics support and maintenance management.

ENTRY METHODS

OE ADFA DUS GRAD RES

AIRFIELD ENGINEER

Apply and broaden your engineering and project management skills, working on civil engineering projects that provide critical support to Air Force and ADF operations.

Using your specialist military and technical civil engineering expertise, you’ll work with a diverse team of engineers, tradespeople and contractors on an exciting variety of tasks. These may include developing and maintaining infrastructure on military bases, surveying airfields and establishing temporary runways in remote locations in Australia and overseas for use by military aircraft.

ENTRY METHODS

OE ADFA DUS GRAD RES

‘AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE>’
ARMAMENT ENGINEER

Manage and maintain the technologically advanced weapon systems deployed on our fighter aircraft, reinforcing the formidable air defence capability of the Air Force.

You’ll be responsible for ensuring the integrity of missiles, bombs, mounted guns, torpedoes and other weapons, as well as the computer systems that control them and associated test equipment. In command of a team of technicians, your highly varied role will cover regulation, design, project management, logistics support and technical maintenance.

ENTRY METHODS

ELECTRONICS ENGINEER

Tackle an exciting and rewarding electronics engineering role, providing logistics support, managing the sophisticated systems of advanced military aircraft, and maintaining communications and air traffic control equipment.

In command of an expertly trained team of technicians, you’ll be responsible for designing, managing and maintaining power generation, navigation, avionics and ancillary systems and technical equipment – as well as high-tech combat support systems such as radar, sonar and communication networks.

ENTRY METHODS

'AF<JOB TITLE>'
HEALTHCARE, SCIENCE & CHAPLAINCY
CHAPLAIN

Enjoy a highly fulfilling vocation with varied and rewarding challenges, looking after the spiritual and emotional needs of members of the Air Force and their families.

Your ministry will be without borders as you work with a small team of Chaplains from various denominations, providing pastoral support to those engaged in air defence and other demanding activities. As an officer you’ll also adopt an important leadership, counselling and mentoring role.

ENTRY METHODS

DENTIST

Take your dentistry career in an exciting new direction looking after the dental health of Air Force personnel in locations across Australia and the world.

Working in modern, well-equipped clinics and supported by fully trained Dental Assistants, you’ll provide the full range of dental treatments and oral hygiene services. At times you’ll also enjoy the extra challenges and rewards of working in field dental units in Australia and overseas, on operations and exercises.

ENTRY METHODS

DOCTOR

Set yourself apart from civilian practitioners, helping Air Force personnel maintain their wellbeing and providing specialist healthcare in deployed environments.

You’ll provide occupational and preventative healthcare services to ADF personnel, ensuring their continued health and fitness. On deployment, you’ll apply your specialist skills in aeromedical evacuation and aerospace medicine, assisting both ADF personnel and civilians in need following major disasters. In time, you may take on a health leadership and management role.

ENTRY METHODS

'Air Force <Job Title>'
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGER

Join an essential ADF health protection element on air bases and deployments in Australia and overseas, where your specialist advice will be used to prevent injuries and illnesses.

You’ll plan, coordinate and conduct environmental health and occupational hygiene assessments of both permanent and temporary workplaces – and be responsible for food and water safety, occupational hygiene, waste management and emergency management, among other areas.

NURSE

Choose a nursing career with benefits beyond any civilian nursing role, looking after the varied medical needs of ADF personnel and helping communities in Australia and overseas.

You’ll enjoy vocational variety, working in both modern medical facilities and under canvas on deployment. You’ll provide leadership to your team, and in addition to your general nursing duties, provide specialist care in a range of scenarios, from attending to major disaster injuries to managing the aeromedical evacuation system. In time, you may take on health leadership and management roles.
PATHOLOGIST

Embark on a pathology career with fulfilling extra dimensions, working in well-equipped, multi-disciplinary hospital laboratories. You will be a part of the allied healthcare team, providing diagnostic support on deployments and exercises in a range of environments within Australia and overseas.

You’ll perform and supervise a range of common pathology tasks, advising clinicians on laboratory reports and further investigations. You’ll perform haematology investigations, serology, biochemistry and microbiological analysis while managing instrument maintenance, laboratory resources and the blood bank.

ENTRY METHODS

OE  ADFA  DUS  GRAD  RES

PHARMACIST

Become an integral member of the ADF healthcare team, providing a range of pharmacy and health logistics services.

You’ll enjoy varied work experience providing pharmacy services and professional advice, developing medication policies and instructing on health training programs. You’ll also manage the resourcing and deployment of temporary medical facilities in support of remote exercises and operations. In time, you may have the opportunity to travel and practice in an operationally deployed role.

ENTRY METHODS

OE  ADFA  DUS  GRAD  RES

‘AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE>’
PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Let your qualifications take you across Australia and even overseas in this rewarding part-time role, providing physiotherapy services to ADF personnel in a variety of environments.

On base in health facilities, and on deployments in field health environments, you’ll provide post-operative and outpatient care to Air Force personnel. You’ll help rehabilitate patients after extensive surgery or illness, manage inpatients, and work in the area of sports injury management and prevention.

ENTRY METHODS

| OE | ADFA | DUS | GRAD | RES |

PSYCHOLOGIST

Find a fulfilling new outlet for your psychology expertise, tackling rewarding professional challenges in support of a variety of Air Force needs.

Depending on your area of expertise, you’ll perform important tasks that range from organisational psychology and recruitment assessments to work that is specific to aviation human factors or clinical psychology. You may also get involved in personnel training across a variety of disciplines, post operation screening and clinical support.

ENTRY METHODS

| OE | ADFA | DUS | GRAD | RES |

RADIOGRAPHER

Use your radiography skills and expertise in exciting and diverse environments, as an integral member of the ADF medical team.

You’ll carry out duties similar to those practiced in the community, but with an operational focus. Using modern and well-maintained X-ray and ultrasound equipment, you’ll provide medical imaging services within Australia and overseas in support of multi-national operational and peacekeeping deployments.

ENTRY METHODS

| OE | ADFA | DUS | GRAD | RES |

AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE>
LOGISTICS, HOSPITALITY & SUPPORT
LOGISTICS MANAGER

Play a key role in ensuring the Air Force is prepared, fully equipped, resourced and operating at the highest level of readiness.

You’ll plan for and manage the transportation and delivery of everything from aeronautical components to catering supplies. As an officer, you may also be in command of a team that supports Air Force and joint units to operate within dynamic and challenging environments at home or overseas on operational deployments.

ENTRY METHODS

OPERATIONS OFFICER

Work at the core of Air Force and ADF joint operations, using sophisticated battle management systems to plan, coordinate and monitor missions.

In support of joint operations, you’ll be trained to work with advanced computerised systems in high-tempo situations, and to manage multiple tasks in a rapidly changing operational environment. You will have opportunities to coordinate aircraft support to deployed units, manage air and land integration, oversee the safe coordination of employing air weapons, or organise airbase safety. You’ll have the chance to do these jobs in a tactical environment, both in Australia and overseas.

ENTRY METHODS

‘AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE>’
I've gained skills that I could never have learnt in a regular nursing role.
INITIAL OFFICER TRAINING

17 weeks

Officers’ Training School, RAAF Base East Sale, VIC

All new officers start their Air Force careers here, where we draw on your determination to turn you into a leader and mentor – infused with integrity, professionalism, loyalty, pride and dedication. In just a few months you’ll be transformed from civilian to Air Force officer, occupying a prestigious position and possessing skills, knowledge and experience that set you up for life.

- Prepare for life in the Air Force
- Develop management, leadership and teamwork skills
- Train in air power and ground defence
- Develop personal skills and physical ability
- Learn communication techniques
- Visit Air Force bases to contextualise what you’ve learnt

Following graduation, you'll undertake specialist employment training in your profession or category, or go straight to work.

NEVER STOP LEARNING

The Air Force offers many opportunities for academic study and specialist training. Throughout your career you’ll be encouraged to grow in your chosen field and branch out into new areas – while promotion courses will prepare you for higher rank and the responsibilities that go with it.
ELIGIBILITY CHECK

NATIONALITY
AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT (ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR CITIZENSHIP)

AGE
17+

EDUCATION
COMPLETION OF YEAR 12
EXACT PASSES AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED VARY BY JOB AND ENTRY METHOD

'AIR FORCE ELIGIBILITY'
THE ADF ACTIVE APP HELPS YOU ASSESS YOUR PRE-ENTRY FITNESS AND GUIDES YOU TO THE LEVELS YOU NEED FOR THE ASSESSMENT.
SEVEN STEPS TO BECOMING AN AIR FORCE OFFICER

1. CHOOSE A ROLE OR APPLY WITHOUT A SPECIFIC JOB IN MIND
   Find full details of each Air Force officer role at defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

2. APPLY ONLINE, CALL 13 19 01 OR VISIT YOUR LOCAL DEFENCE FORCE RECRUITING CENTRE
   You'll need to provide your contact details, academic achievements and job preferences.

3. ATTEND A YOUR OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED (YOU) SESSION
   Talk about the role(s) with a Career Coach at your local Defence Force Recruiting Centre, take an aptitude test and complete a medical questionnaire.

4. ATTEND AN ASSESSMENT SESSION
   Undertake a medical assessment and attend psychological and job interviews to have your general abilities and potential assessed.
TIPS FOR YOUR INTERVIEW

Find out more and access interview information and preparation tips:

'HOW TO JOIN THE AIR FORCE'

YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE AIR FORCE

Learn about the number of years of service expected for each job:

'AIR FORCE <JOB TITLE>'

ATTEND AN OFFICER SELECTION BOARD

Be interviewed by a panel of officers and a psychologist, and participate in group and individual activities to have your leadership, teamwork and other areas of potential assessed.

COMPLETE A PRE-ENTRY FITNESS ASSESSMENT

You’ll need to achieve 4 push-ups for females or 10 for males, 20 sit-ups, and a shuttle run score of 6.5.

ATTEND APPOINTMENT DAY

Have a final medical check, join family and friends for the welcome ceremony, then head straight to Initial Officer Training and an exciting new career in the Air Force.
It's taken me places I never thought I would go.
EMMA, INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

Learn more about the roles, lifestyle, opportunities and rewards on the Defence Jobs website: defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

VISIT A RECRUITING CENTRE

Defence Force Recruiting Centres are located across Australia. Find your nearest here: defencejobs.gov.au/centres

CHAT WITH A RECRUITER

Call 13 19 01

CONNECT WITH US

DEFENCE JOBS AUSTRALIA
DEFENCEJOBSAUST
DEFENCE JOBS AUSTRALIA
DEFENCE JOBS AUSTRALIA
@DEFENCEJOBSAUST

All information contained in this brochure is to the best of our knowledge accurate at the date of publication – but may be subject to change after publication without notice. Persons intending to act on any information contained within this brochure should first check with their local Defence Force Recruiting Centre whether or not the information is still correct and accurate.
CALL 13 19 01 OR VISIT

DEFENCEJOBS.GOV.AU/AIRFORCE