WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME AN ARMY OFFICER IN FIVE EASY STEPS.

ARMY. CHALLENGE YOURSELF.

OFFICER HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

STEP ONE.
DECIDE IF THE ARMY'S
RIGHT FOR YOU.

When you become an officer in the Australian Army, you'll become part of a long and proud tradition. The Army has always been about teamwork, pride, courage and commitment to excellence. Today, the Army is also a dynamic, modern and sophisticated organisation that offers almost endless opportunities.

The next few pages will give you a brief idea of what life's like as an Army Officer. Have a read through and you'll start to find out why a career in the Australian Army really will give you the edge.

STEP 1. DECIDE IF THE ARMY'S RIGHT FOR YOU.

STEP 2. SELECT HOW YOU CAN BECOME AN OFFICER. P.6

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WHY BECOME AN OFFICER?

As an officer in the Army, you'll enjoy lots of terrific benefits. Like high-quality training, an attractive remuneration package, ongoing job security, travel, opportunity for career advancement and the challenge of leading Australian soldiers in a hands-on role.

But most importantly, you'll learn to get the best out of yourself, and out of others. Being an officer is about being a leader. It's about thinking quickly, making decisions, and motivating people. There's no better career for helping you to develop your leadership, management and personal skills.

There are many career paths that Army Officers can choose to follow. The Army is a large and complex organisation that offers an extensive range of opportunities and experiences you'd rarely encounter in civilian employment.

PAY AND OTHER BENEFITS

The Army's pay and conditions compare very favourably with a lot of civilian employers. How much you are paid depends upon your rank, length of service and chosen career. For more information visit **www.defencejobs.gov.au** or talk to a defence recruiter.

It's not all about salary, though. When assessing the sort of package you'll receive in the Army, you should always take into account the many other benefits you'll receive. For example, you'll be entitled to four weeks of annual leave, become part of the Army's excellent superannuation scheme, receive subsidised accommodation and have access to free dental and medical care.

MEALS AND ACCOMMODATION

There's a saying that an Army marches on its stomach. So if Army Officers are fed well they'll perform well. This is why the food you'll enjoy in the Army is varied, nutritious and tasty. What's more, there's plenty of it. The Army provides three meals a day, each serving up a choice of meals, with at least one vegetarian option. The Army can also cater to any other special dietary requirements as required.

When you're working on base, you'll eat in what's called a Mess. It's a bit like a cafeteria, boasting a modern kitchen overseen by a team of cooks and catering staff. They prepare a constant supply of hot and cold meals that change on a daily basis. There's one thing that can be said for life in the Army—no matter where you are and what you're doing, you'll never go hungry. As an Army Officer, you'll have the opportunity to attend formal dinners and functions in the Officers' Mess. On these occasions, you'll usually enjoy a three course meal, waiter service and entertainment.

The layout of Army accommodation can vary from base to base, but you'll always find your living quarters comfortable, practical and private. The living-in accommodation charges are very low and once all of your training is completed, single officers will have the option to live on or off base. Married officers can live with their families in subsidised rental accommodation.

SPORT/PHYSICAL TRAINING

If you're into sport, you've come to the right place. Sport promotes teamwork and fitness, so not surprisingly, it plays a big role in Army life. The Army has a long list of sporting clubs, representing just about every sport you could name. These clubs cater for both social and competitive sports. As well as all the usual team sports, there are also special interest clubs like rock climbing, golf, water skiing, scuba diving and sailing. If your chosen sport or activity isn't catered for, we'll encourage you to form your own club, or join a civilian one.

Most barracks have excellent sporting facilities. These usually include football, cricket and hockey fields, a gymnasium, basketball and tennis courts, a swimming pool, squash courts and a golf course.

In addition to your own sporting pursuits, the Army requires you to take part in organised physical training. Most Army units will begin each day with a one hour workout. It's not all running and push-ups—you'll do aerobics, sports training, circuits and endurance training. Most officers agree that it's a great way to start the day.

SOCIAL LIFE

Most people don't realise that working in the Army is, in many ways, just like a regular job. Once you've knocked off for the day, you can take off and enjoy yourself.

There are always plenty of opportunities to socialise on base. The Officers' Mess is the centre of social life for officers. It's a great place to meet up with your mates and relax over a drink.

Speaking of your fellow officers, you'll find that they're from all over the country, and from all sorts of different backgrounds. Many will have joined straight from school or university and others will have had jobs in the civilian workforce. Yet all officers in the Army share common attributes. They like a challenge, and they like to work hard. They enjoy leadership and working in a team, and they don't mind having a bit of fun.

Ask any officer what they like about the Army, and they're bound to say the mateship. You'll go through a lot with your fellow officers and soldiers. You'll eat, sleep, work, train and socialise right alongside them. So it's no wonder you make strong friendships. In fact, the friends you make in the Army will be your mates for life.

"THERE ARE NOT MANY JOBS THAT ALLOW YOU THE FREEDOM AND FLEXIBILITY THAT I HAVE AS AN OFFICER IN THE ARMY."

JASON SMALL,
ARMY OFFICER.

STEP TWO.
SELECT HOW YOU CAN BECOME AN OFFICER.

BECOMING AN OFFICER.

There are two different ways to become an officer in the Army. You can become a General Service Officer (GSO) with or without a degree qualification, working in such fields as communications, logistics and administration. If you're studying a specialist degree such as Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry or Engineering you can become a Specialist Service Officer (SSO). Once you've graduated from your degree you'll be employed in your relevant field.

Whether you choose to become a GSO or SSO, there are many methods of entry available to you including:

- Royal Military College (RMC) Duntroon
- Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA)
- Graduate Entry
- Undergraduate Entry
- Reserves

The following pages will explain these options in more detail allowing you to decide which one suits you best.

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICER.

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICER.

Entry into the Army as a GSO is only possible after completing military training at the Royal Military College (RMC) Duntroon. The Army will then assign you to a corps based on your own unique skills and abilities. You'll be given an opportunity to choose the corps you wish to join—most cadets get their first preference. The following pages will take you through the options on how to become a GSO.

Opportunities as a GSO on completion of military training at RMC include:

- Armoured Corps Officer
- Artillery Corps Officer
- Aviation Corps Officer
- Catering Corps Officer
- Education Corps Officer
- Electrical Corps Officer
- Electrical Mechanical Engineer Corps Officer
- Engineer Corps Officer
- Infantry Corps Officer
- Intelligence Corps Officer
- Medical Corps Officer
- Military Police Corps Officer
- Ordnance Corps Officer
- Signals Corps Officer
- Transport Corps Officer

DIRECT ENTRY.

"THE MOMENT YOU GRADUATE FROM DUNTROON AND MOVE TO YOUR BATTALION, YOU REALISE HOW MUCH YOU'VE LEARNED."

NIGEL EARNSHAW,
ARMY OFFICER.

The fast track option to becoming an Army Officer is Direct Entry. Direct Entry is open to people with or without a degree as you receive all your training at the Royal Military College Duntroon. Once the training is complete you'll then be commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Army and placed in a corps appropriate to your skills.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE

The Royal Military College (RMC) Duntroon is Australia's finest leadership college. It's famous for its long and proud tradition of training and developing some of our country's most accomplished leaders. To graduate from RMC Duntroon, you'll need dedication, commitment and ambition. It won't be easy, but the rewards will be great.

RMC is situated within magnificent grounds at Duntroon, Canberra. This is where you'll live and train for 18 months. When you've completed your training, you'll graduate with an Associate Diploma in Personnel Administration. Most importantly, you'll assume the rank of Lieutenant and begin your career as an officer in the Australian Army.

To be eligible for entry into RMC Duntroon you need to be between 17 and 53 years of age. Requirements can vary between states and territories. Speak to a Recruiting Officer or visit **www.defencejobs.gov.au** for more information. You'll be studying or have completed Year 12, with acceptable results in at least four subjects including English. After applying, you'll go through a three-part selection process which will assess your physical and mental fitness and your overall suitability to become an officer.

You don't need military experience, you just have to be willing to prove yourself. We will constantly challenge you to discover what kind of leader you'll make. We'll then train you to become an even better one. You'll learn everything from decision-making skills to handling personnel and project management. In short, we equip you with everything you need to become an Army Officer. Once you've graduated as a Lieutenant, you could be immediately put in charge of up to 30 troops.

LIFE AT RMC DUNTROON

Your 18 months at RMC Duntroon will be extremely challenging. However, if you thrive on an active lifestyle, you'll find that the rewards are great. You'll be involved in all sorts of military and social activities, and also have personal time to yourself.

Sport plays a huge role in Army life. RMC Duntroon boasts fantastic sporting facilities. You'll spend several hours a week training and playing sport, and there are any number of team and individual sports from which to choose. You'll also have the opportunity to get involved in adventure training activities like rock climbing, whitewater rafting and abseiling.

Your accommodation at RMC Duntroon will be comfortable, practical and private. You'll enjoy great food, with plenty of variety—enough to satisfy the biggest appetites. All in all, it won't take long for you to feel right at home.

Probably the best thing about life at RMC is the mateship. Over 18 months, you'll go through a lot with your fellow cadets. Without doubt, many of the friends you make at RMC Duntroon will be your mates for life.

THE RMC CHALLENGE

Courses at RMC Duntroon start in January and July each year. Your first nine weeks will consist of initial training. You'll take part in a rigorous schedule which will equip you with the core military skills. There's no denying that you'll find it demanding, both physically and mentally.

The course at RMC is divided into three 22-week terms, the first term is called Third Class. During this term, you'll cover topics like basic military skills, first aid, infantry minor tactics, navigation, weapons training, leadership, military history and communication skills.

Next, you'll move into Second Class. Here you'll focus on command and leadership skills at section and platoon levels. You'll also study military technology and science, battle tactics and basic administration.

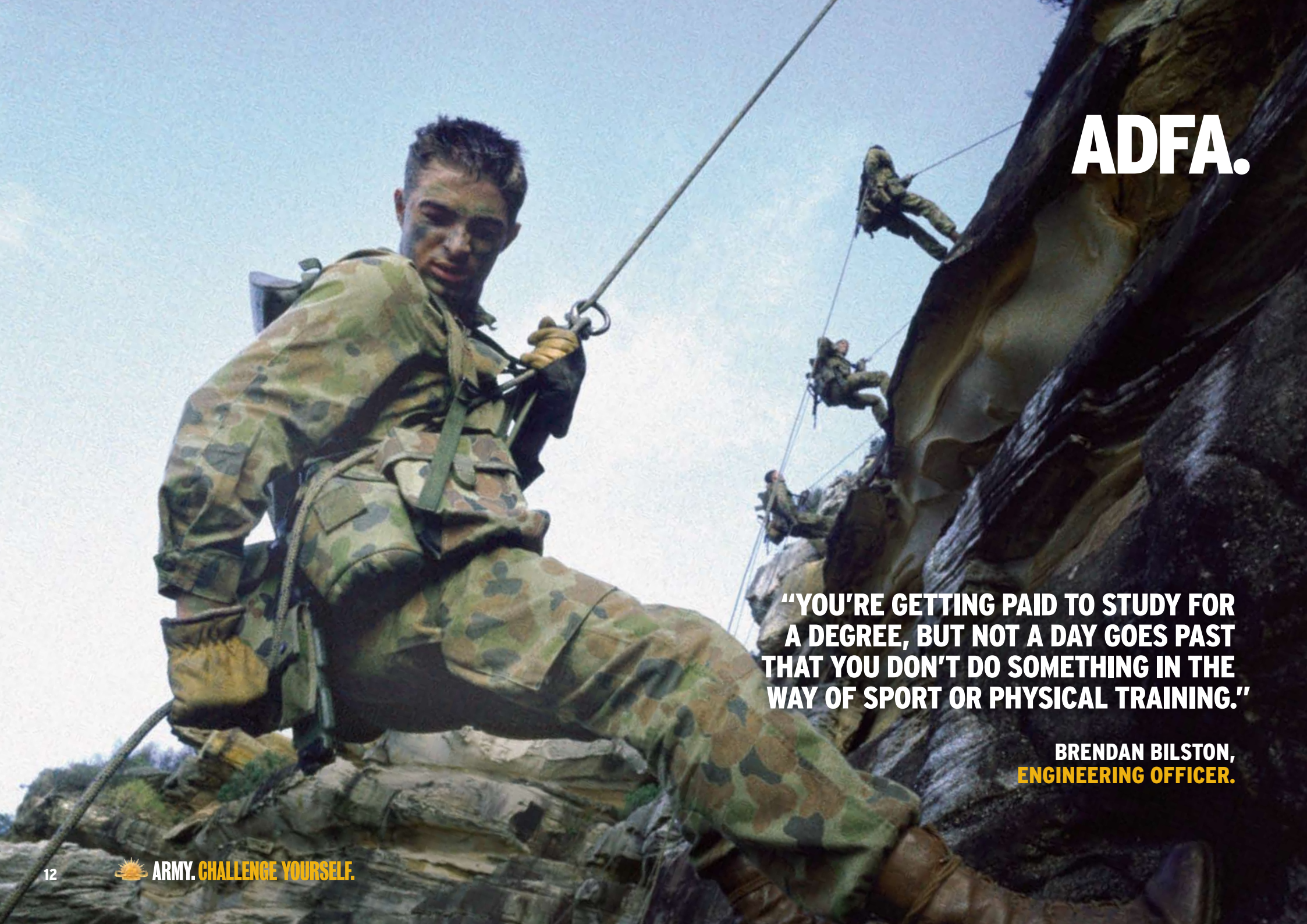
Your training will be completed with First Class, where you'll get more practice at leading troops at platoon level. You'll spend time on management and leadership training, as well as strategic studies. By the end of First Class, you'll have all the skills to command and lead a team of soldiers.

AFTER GRADUATION

Just prior to graduation, you'll be appointed to one of the Army's specialised branches, known as corps.

For example, the Transport Corps is responsible for transport of Army personnel and all kinds of equipment via land, air and sea. Corps allocation is based on your preference, competitiveness and availability of positions. Initially you'll be required to complete several weeks of in-service corps training and familiarisation.

You'll then be posted to your unit, where you may find yourself taking troops through field exercises, tactical assaults or managing any number of vital Army functions.


ADFA.
"YOU'RE GETTING PAID TO STUDY FOR A DEGREE, BUT NOT A DAY GOES PAST THAT YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING IN THE WAY OF SPORT OR PHYSICAL TRAINING."
BRENDAN BILSTON,
ENGINEERING OFFICER.

THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY.

Situated in Canberra, the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) is a university like no other in Australia. It's run jointly by the Army, Navy and Air Force, and offers you the chance to combine military and leadership training with a fully recognised degree from the University of New South Wales (UNSW). UNSW provides the academic training at ADFA and is called University College.

ADFA is the only university in Australia where you'll actually be paid to study. Your salary will start at approximately $21,200p.a. and increase annually (up to $33,750p.a.) until you graduate.

To be eligible for entry into ADFA, you should be between 17 and 50 for a three-year degree or between 17 and 49 for a four-year degree. You'll be studying or have completed Year 12 with results that qualify you for admission to the University of New South Wales. For more information about ADFA, visit **www.defence.gov.au/ADFA or call 13 19 01.**

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN AT ADFA

At ADFA, you can study Engineering (Aviation, Aeronautical, Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering) and Business, Science, Arts, Technology or IT (designated as a Science subject). The standard of teaching at ADFA is extremely high, with tutors and lecturers at the top of their fields. ADFA also has one of the best lecturer to student ratios in Australia. You'll have access to excellent study facilities, including an exceptional library, modern laboratories and lecture theatres, and the latest computer equipment.

There's more to ADFA than just academic studies. Throughout the year, you'll take part in military, employment, and Army-specific training. During military training periods, you'll learn basic military skills like navigation and first aid, as well as leadership techniques. You may also participate in adventure training activities like abseiling.

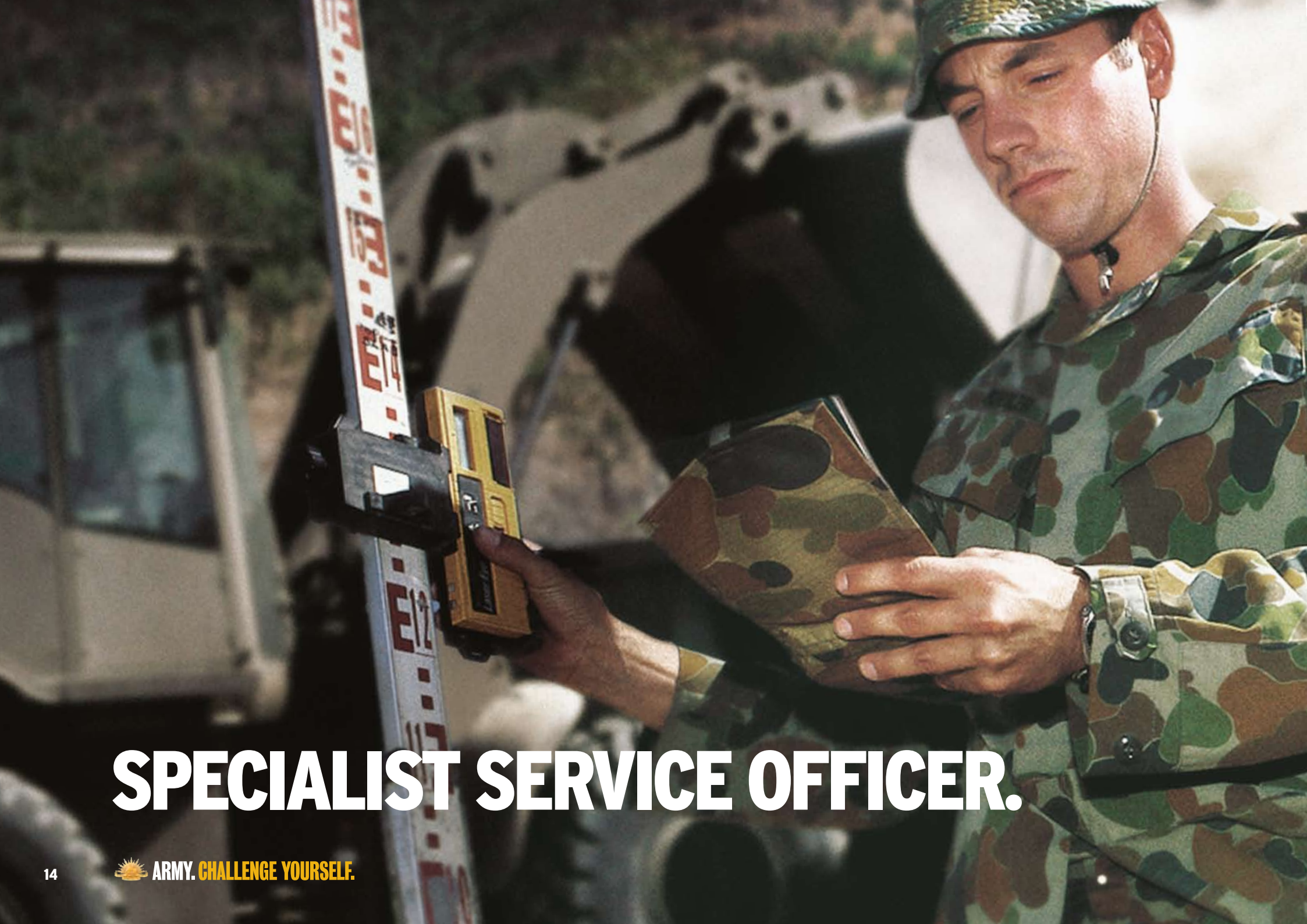
When you leave ADFA, you'll graduate with a fully recognised degree from UNSW. You'll then move to RMC Duntroon for 12 months, where you'll complete Second Class followed by First Class (see previous section on RMC). You'll graduate from RMC with the rank of Lieutenant, and your career as an officer will be up and running.

THE ADFA LIFESTYLE

If you like being busy, ADFA is the place for you. The course offers all sorts of exciting mental and physical challenges, and there's never a dull moment. You'll live, eat, study, socialise and relax with a big group of mates.

ADFA boasts a comprehensive sports program, allowing you to take part in just about any sport you can imagine. There are fantastic sporting facilities, with a state-of-the-art indoor sports centre which houses a gymnasium, weights room and swimming pool that you can use in your spare time.

The accommodation at ADFA provides everything you'll need to feel right at home. The rooms are comfortable and private, and there are common areas, lounges and the Cadets' Mess complex where you can relax and unwind. In short, ADFA offers a huge range of opportunities that you simply won't find at any other university. It's little wonder that most graduates say that the years they spent at ADFA were some of the best of their lives.



SPECIALIST SERVICE OFFICER.

SPECIALIST SERVICE OFFICER.

Entry into the Army as a SSO is possible if you're studying a specialist degree such as Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry or Engineering. Once you've graduated from your degree you'll be employed by the Army in your relevant field. The following pages will explain in more detail the different ways you can become a SSO.

Opportunities as a SSO after training include:

- Aeronautical Engineer Officer
- Aviation Force Preservation (OH&S) Officer
- Chaplain
- Civil Engineer Officer
- Communications Officer
- Dental Officer
- Electrical Engineer Officer
- Electrical/Mechatronic Engineer Officer
- Environmental Health Officer
- Finance Officer
- Legal Officer
- Mechanical Engineer Officer
- Medical Officer
- Nursing Officer
- Pharmaceutical Officer
- Physiotherapist
- Pilot – Specialist Service Officer
- Psychologist
- Public Relations Officer
- Radiographer
- Scientific Officer

GRADUATE AND
UNDERGRADUATE.

GRADUATE ENTRY

If you're a degree-qualified professional, the Army can offer you a career with a real difference. You'll enjoy the sort of excitement, challenges and job satisfaction that you'll rarely encounter in civilian life. The Army employs everyone from doctors to IT specialists. You'll find each of these jobs explained more fully in step three of this brochure. When you're appointed as a Graduate Officer, you'll complete your initial officer training at RMC Duntroon in Canberra. Usually, this course will be conducted in the first year of your appointment, depending on the date of your appointment and when the courses are conducted. The course is run over five weeks, and gives an introduction to the basics of being an officer in the Army.

If you are a degree-qualified professional that wants to pursue a job in the Army that is unrelated to your degree, you will then be required to undertake an 18 month course at RMC. You will then graduate from RMC as a General Service Officer (GSO) that will give you the option to be employed in a large variety of officer jobs throughout the Army. To be eligible for graduate entry, you should first have the appropriate degree qualification. You should also fall within the prescribed age limits, which vary according to position.

After applying, you'll go through a three-part selection process to assess your physical and mental fitness and your suitability to become an officer. Your initial appointment will usually be for a period of three years, with the first 18 months being probationary.

THE GRADUATE MEDICAL SCHEME

If you already hold an appropriate degree qualification, you could be sponsored by the Army to qualify as a medical practitioner. If you're accepted into the scheme, you'll do a four-year degree course at any Australian university that offers a graduate medical program. After completing two years residency at a teaching hospital of your choice, you'll begin your career as a Medical Officer in the Army.

While studying for your medical degree, you'll receive a generous salary as well as having all of your tuition fees paid for. In addition, all reasonable costs related to gaining admission to the course, including application fees and travel costs, can be reimbursed. When you graduate from the scheme, you'll incur a return of service obligation equal to the length of your university studies (but excluding periods of compulsory residency), plus 12 months.

UNDERGRADUATE SPONSORSHIP

The Army offers Undergraduate Sponsorship that allows you to study at the university of your choice throughout Australia. To be eligible, you must have successfully completed the first year of one of the following degrees – Medical, Dental, Nursing or Engineering. As an ADF Sponsored Undergraduate, you will receive enormous benefits that are hard to find in civilian life. For instance, instead of having to work part-time to support yourself at university, we will actually pay you up to $31,900p.a. to study for your degree, then upon graduation, we'll guarantee you a career in the Army in the profession you're qualified in. Plus we will pay your tuition fees, your prescribed textbooks, as well as your student union and library fees. Other benefits include free medical and dental care as well as subsidised meals and accommodation. While you complete university studies you will be required to complete part-time military training at a university regiment during semester breaks. On graduation from university you will then go on to complete six weeks of training at RMC Duntroon in Canberra where you'll graduate as a Specialist Service Officer.

RESERVES.

RESERVES.

In today's Army you can choose either to work full-time or part-time, depending on what you want. If you want full-time work there's the Regular Army, and if you're after part-time work, there's the Army Reserve. As with the Regular Army, there are two types of officers in the Army Reserve—GSO and SSO. General Service Officers are trained by the Australian Defence Force to operate and lead in one of the many Army corps and service areas, such as ordnance, armour, intelligence or signals to name just a few. Specialist Service Officers are men and women who are civilian specialists in fields such as legal, health, communications or finance. They then utilise these skills as officers within the Army Reserve.

FLEXIBILITY

The Army Reserve is a part-time job. You can work as few as 14 days, or as many as 150 days per year. Most people attend one night a week (usually Tuesday) and one weekend a month. They also attend a two-week training exercise once a year. We realise there will be times when your reserve's activities will clash with other commitments. The Army Reserve will try to work with you so you can continue to enjoy the life you lead now, as well as enjoy the opportunities and benefits the Army Reserve has to offer.

TRAINING

To become a part-time officer in the Army Reserve, you'll need to complete a First Appointment Course (FAC). The content and duration of this course is dependent on whether you are a GSO or SSO. For the majority of officers, their course is initially conducted in various locations throughout Australia before completion at the Royal Military College Duntroon, located in Canberra. The FAC is broken down into modules and usually runs part-time over a two-year period. If you join as a Specialist Service Officer you'll undertake a two-week course during your first posting in which you'll learn the military skills required of a specialist officer in the Army Reserve. This course is conducted either locally or at the Royal Military College Duntroon.

THE ARMY RESERVE IS LOCAL

While it's true you may get the chance to travel with the Reserves, the majority of Army reservists join for precisely the opposite reason—the Army Reserve is a great way to experience Army life without working far from home. In most cases, you'll find an Army Reserve unit close by in your local community.

DEPLOYMENTS

Deployments of Australian Defence Force personnel within Australia and overseas occur on a regular basis in response to events such as peacekeeping missions, planned exercises and natural disasters. In many cases, members are required to move at short notice to areas providing only basic amenities. Such deployments will result in separation of members from their families for the period concerned. Reservists are only deployed on a voluntary basis unless called-out by the Government.

TRAVEL

In the Army Reserve there's often the chance to travel within Australia, or overseas for training or operational service. The amount you travel really depends on the opportunities that arise, and your availability. Some of our reservists have even travelled to places like Asia and Hawaii.

TAX-FREE PAY

Army Reserve salaries (and allowances) are tax-free.

SOCIAL LIFE

Another major benefit with the Army Reserve is that you still have your current social life, plus you get to meet new people and make new friends.

OTHER BENEFITS

You'll get free accommodation and food whenever you're out training or on exercise. Your uniform and equipment are free, and any travel you need to do for initial or employment training is paid for.

EMPLOYER SUPPORT PAYMENT SCHEME

As a reservist, your availability for training in peacetime is crucial. Most employed reservists, at one time or another, face the challenge of balancing their civilian and military commitments. However, civilian and military employment need not conflict, because employers and the military can combine to accommodate each other's needs. Legislation that has recently been introduced means employers are not obligated to pay salaries, superannuation, workers compensation or entitlements during periods of military training or full-time service. However, employers are obligated to re-employ a member after military training or full-time service. Employers are also prohibited from making an employee use annual leave or long service leave; refusing to employ, disadvantage or dismiss an employee because they're a reservist; or restrict employees from serving in the reserve.

STEP THREE.
CHOOSE A CAREER.

There are over 30 different jobs you can do as an officer in the Army across a wide range of disciplines, so there's bound to be one that interests you. These include everything from logistics, transport and communications to intelligence and infantry and all are broken into individual specialisations or corps. The following pages will give you a brief insight into what's involved in all the GSO and SSO jobs available in the Army.

For a more detailed description of each job, visit **www.defencejobs.gov.au** or call **13 19 01.**

AERONAUTICAL ENGINEER OFFICER

Aircraft now make up a substantial part of the Army's equipment inventory. In fact, the Army is now the second largest aircraft fleet operator and the largest helicopter operator in Australia. As an Aeronautical Engineer Officer, you'll be in charge of a team of tradespeople that provides maintenance, modification and recovery support for the Army's airborne fleet.

ARMOURED CORPS OFFICER

As an Armoured Corps Officer, you'll join the Royal Australian Armoured Corps. You'll take command of armoured vehicles, which could be an Abrams Main Battle Tank, Armoured Personnel Carrier or Light Armoured Vehicle. It's an exciting job that calls for strong technical skills, thorough tactical knowledge and a lightning-fast ability to analyse and respond to complex and changing situations.

ARTILLERY OFFICER

As an officer in the Royal Australian Artillery (RAA) Corps, you'll play a vital role on the battlefield. You'll take command of your own team of soldiers, and support other elements of the Army by establishing firepower supremacy. You'll be involved not only in the use of a range of weapons including field guns and missile systems, but also in control of airspace and aircraft as well as locating enemy artillery and providing meteorological and survey data.

AVIATION FORCE PRESERVATION (OH&S) OFFICER

As an Aviation Force Preservation (OH&S) Officer, you'll be a member of the Australian Army Aviation Corps. The Army operates a fleet of both fixed wing aircraft and helicopters and it will be your job to ensure the safety of both personnel and aircraft whilst on the ground and in the air. Your primary role will also include, but is not limited to, the implementation of the Army Aviation Safety Management System across all units and workshops. You'll also evaluate personal protective equipment and when required, provide OH&S advice to accident investigation teams and perform research on OH&S issues.

AVIATION CORPS OFFICER

There are two specialisations with the Army Aviation Corps. You can apply for the Aviation Cadet Scheme to secure a position as a pilot. Or, you can apply to become a GSO and select 'Aviation Corps' as your preference to go into the non-pilot scheme.

As a pilot, you'll have a broad range of duties encompassing flying, non-flying and command positions. Your responsibilities will include tactical transport of infantry soldiers, search and rescue, medical evacuation and disaster relief.

As a non-pilot Aviation Officer you'll be involved in all aspects of the Army's aviation operations, including administration, training, OH&S and force preservation.

CATERING OFFICER

As a Catering Officer your role will be to provide specialist catering to the Australian Army to support Army personnel as part of brigade, task force, joint or combined operations, as well as a catering service to enhance ADF operations. You'll be responsible for the effective operation of the kitchen to ensure everything runs to schedule. You'll be reporting to upper management and be in charge of the day-to-day decision making relating to all aspects of Army catering.

CHAPLAIN

As an Army Chaplain, you'll remain an active member of your church as well as being a commissioned member of the Australian Defence Force. You'll be called upon to provide spiritual ministry to all Army officers and soldiers, regardless of faith or denomination. Many members of the Army community face stresses and pressures rarely encountered in civilian life. Your support to these people will be invaluable.

CIVIL ENGINEER OFFICER

As a Civil Engineer in the Royal Australian Engineers (RAE) Corps, your first posting is likely to be to a construction or combat engineering unit, where you'll command and manage a troop of tradespeople and field engineer soldiers. You may oversee construction, repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and airfields. Subsequently, your role may be broadened to include duties in the engineering design and facilities management fields.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

As a Communications Officer in the Royal Australian Signals (RASigs) Corps, your role will be to provide communications for military units and administrative installations. The Corps offers a wide variety of career paths. You may be posted to either strategic (permanent) or tactical (field) units, as well as filling engineering positions. You'll assist in providing commanders with the means of controlling the battlefield using road and air despatch services, radio, microwave and satellite links.

DENTAL OFFICER

As an Army Dentist, you'll enjoy the same modern technology, equipment, materials and assistance that you would as a civilian dentist. In addition, you'll be responsible for the training, welfare and discipline of the Army staff under your command. Depending on your unit, you may be required to perform in a clinical environment in the field, mobile hospitals, or in operational conditions.

EDUCATION OFFICER

You'll be offered a wide range of career opportunities as an Education Officer in the Army. Your role could include everything from technical direction and career management advice, to training systems development, production of technology-based training, distance education, instruction to Year 12, numeracy and literacy courses, staff cadet training and instruction in English as a second language (ESL)/foreign language (EFL).

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER OFFICER

Electrical Engineers are an essential element of the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME) Corps. As an Electrical Engineer Officer, you'll initially be employed as a platoon commander within a maintenance unit, where you'll be responsible for the technical and administrative needs of your tradespeople. Degree-qualified officers may become involved in project design and development roles.

ELECTRICAL/MECHATRONIC ENGINEER OFFICER

Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Corps (RAEME) is a technical Corps tasked with the maintenance of the Army's modern hardware and equipment. As an Electrical/Mechatronic Engineer, you will be employed as a platoon commander within a major maintenance unit where you will be responsible for the technical and administrative needs of your platoon of tradespersons. This could see you performing your duties on an Army base or deployed in the field in a mobile workshop where you'll have a thorough knowledge of tactics as well as an ability to quickly analyse complex and changing situations.

ENGINEER CORPS OFFICER

As an officer in the Royal Australian Engineers, your job will be to maintain the mobility of your own forces while denying similar mobility to the enemy. Your work will encompass structural, civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. This could include tasks like constructing and maintaining roads and airfields, demolishing bridges, and providing services such as water, power generation, fire-fighting and sewerage.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

The Army can offer you a challenging career path as an Environmental Health Officer. You'll be responsible for providing advice and services in a wide variety of different areas that range from water supplies and food hygiene to occupational health and safety. You'll also advise on issues like disaster support, and you may work with specialist authorities on nuclear, biological and chemical defence.

FINANCE OFFICER

As well as paying the troops, the Royal Australian Army Pay Corps provides financial advice to the Army. As a Finance Officer, your responsibilities will range from the preparation of budgets and financial statements through to accrual accounting and financial analysis. Throughout your career, you may be deployed as a financial adviser on a United Nations or other overseas military operation.

"TO HAVE MY OWN TEAM, GUIDE THEM AND BUILD THEM UP TO WHAT THEY CAN BE, THAT'S PROBABLY THE BEST THING."

DAVID RYAN,
ARMY OFFICER.

INFANTRY OFFICER

Seek out the enemy. Seize and hold ground. Repel attacks by day and by night. Fight on regardless of the season, the weather or the terrain. There's no doubt being an Infantry Officer is a major challenge, requiring high standards of mental and physical toughness. On graduation from the Royal Military College, you'll be appointed to the Royal Australian Infantry Corps and can expect to spend your first two years in an infantry battalion.

INTELLIGENCE CORPS OFFICER

As an Intelligence Corps Officer, you'll become an expert at providing strategic, operational and tactical intelligence. Your job will be to collect, process and analyse information, and you'll work closely with other intelligence personnel to have this information analysed before an operation can be carried out successfully. Later in your career, you'll have the opportunity to specialise in areas like combat, counter intelligence, imagery analysis and linguistics.

LEGAL OFFICER

If you're a qualified lawyer, there are few careers that can provide the variety that you'll find as a Legal Officer in the Army. You'll specialise in military legal practice, although the work of the Army's Legal Corps has a much broader scope. You can expect to be involved in a wide range of legal disciplines including public and international law, administrative law, operations law, civil law and legal aid.

ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEER OFFICER

As an Electrical and Mechanical Engineer Officer, you'll be responsible for maintaining the Army's fleet of modern hardware and equipment. You could be operating from mobile workshops on operations or in static workshops in support areas. Degree qualified officers may be employed in design and development roles.

MEDICAL CORPS OFFICER

As a General Service Officer in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps (RAAMC), you'll be involved in a broad range of responsibilities. Not only will you command and administer soldiers, you'll also be trained and employed in the coordination, collection, evacuation and treatment of sick and injured personnel. You'll be exposed to a wide variety of employment opportunities ranging from field deployed and static hospital environments to service in Joint and Army Headquarters.

MEDICAL OFFICER

The Army employs qualified doctors as Medical Officers in Army Hospitals and Medical Centres. You may also work in regional disaster relief operations and with the United Nations in peacekeeping roles. Your postings could include general practice, with an emphasis on sports medicine, trauma and rehabilitation; hospital medicine, in a modern mobile field hospital or in static facilities; preventative and occupational medicine; and tropical medicine.

MARLOW

MILITARY POLICE OFFICER

As a Military Police Officer, you'll carry out both military and civil duties, including assisting with local defence matters, controlling traffic, acting as security for military installations and convoys, escorting and protecting VIPs, presiding over detention centres and assisting in the evacuation of prisoners of war. You'll also be responsible for detecting and investigating crime.

NURSING OFFICER

With its wide array of medical services and hospitals, the Army needs Registered General Nurses to fill the positions of Nursing Officers. Most of your time will be spent with patients, but you'll also assist in general surgery; ear, nose and throat surgery; and a large amount of orthopaedic surgery. With a career in the Army, you'll enjoy the sort of variety, challenges and travel that you rarely get as a civilian nurse.

ORDNANCE CORPS OFFICER

As an Ordnance Corps Officer, your diverse list of responsibilities will include overseeing the provision, management, warehousing and issuing of all Army equipment. You may also specialise in demolition and disposal of explosives and coordinate the salvaging of battle-damaged equipment; the re-packing of parachutes; other logistic functions; and numerous associated support services.

PHARMACEUTICAL OFFICER

Being an Army Pharmacist, you'll be expected to handle a wide range of tasks, such as hospital dispensary duties, supervision of pharmaceutical accounts, ordering and stock policy management of pharmaceuticals, as well as management of medical equipment and related consumables. When posted to a field unit, you'll be responsible for medical logistics and may deploy with your unit into remote areas.

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

As an Army Physiotherapist, you'll be part of the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps. Your job can involve physiotherapy duties in static hospitals caring for pre- and post-operative cases, and physiotherapy for patients in field environments. You'll also be involved in rehabilitation of patients after surgery, illness and sports medicine physiotherapy. You may also be deployed with your unit to remote areas.

PSYCHOLOGIST

As an officer in the Army Psychological Corps, you can expect to be employed in a range of positions including selection interviewing, counselling trainers and trainees, occupational analysis, and critical incident and post-operational debriefing. With experience, your responsibilities may include supervision of junior psychologists or formulation of psychological corps policy.

"NO MATTER WHAT I DO WITH THE REST OF MY LIFE, NOTHING WILL REPLACE THE EXPERIENCE THE ARMY HAS GIVEN ME."
CHARLIE BARTON,
PILOT.

PILOT–SPECIALIST SERVICE OFFICER

Another way of becoming a pilot in the Army Aviation Corps is as a Specialist Service Officer (SSO). The SSO scheme generates short-term pilot appointments to operate the Army's rapidly growing fleet of helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. Your initial flying will be with helicopter units, but you may convert to fixed wing. You may also be selected to train as a Qualified Flying Instructor.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

The Army is no different from other large organisations that need to communicate with the media on all matters relating to their activities. As a Public Relations Officer, you'll need to be skilled in answering media enquiries, issuing media releases, managing PR photographers and responding positively to publicity. During operations, you'll gather material in the field and liaise with media in the area of operations to help keep the public informed.

RADIOGRAPHER

As a Radiographer, you'll enjoy modern, well-maintained and equipped facilities that feature the latest in diagnostic ultrasound units, mobile and fixed image intensifiers and at some bases, the latest generation radiographic casualty units. With such equipment now available in Sydney, Brisbane, Townsville and Darwin, Radiographers are able to perform a broad range of investigative procedures on military personnel no matter where they are stationed, both on base and in Mobile Field Hospitals. As a Radiographer, you may also have the opportunity to travel overseas in support of Defence Force personnel on combat deployments and peacekeeping missions. Or you may form part of a humanitarian operation or disaster relief program.

SCIENTIFIC OFFICER (PATHOLOGIST)

As a Scientific Officer, you'll be responsible for aiding medical practitioners in the diagnosis, monitoring and prevention of disease through the analysis of biological specimens. You'll also provide a range of pathology services in deployed and non-deployed pathology environments. This includes the management of laboratories to conduct routine biochemical, microbiological, haematological and blood transfusion testing of clinical pathology specimens.

SIGNALS CORPS OFFICER

As a Signals Corps Officer, you'll play an important role in the command and control of the battlespace through the delivery of a complete information service during times of peace, conflict and crisis. With your unique understanding of communications and information systems, you'll be equally at home transferring large volumes of high-speed data, or working on computer switched digital networks providing high-capacity secure communications.

TRANSPORT CORPS OFFICER

With the increasing sophistication of transport logistics, the Royal Australian Corps of Transport (RACT) has a growing need for officers to manage its fleet of vehicles and drivers as well as its computing and systems management. As a Transport Corps Officer, you'll be involved in all aspects of the Army's transport operations, including land, sea and air transport, cargo terminals, and special packing and despatch of supplies for air drops.

STEP FOUR.
READ THE FINE PRINT.

If you're still reading, you're obviously interested in becoming an officer in the Army. But before you apply, there are just a few things you should make sure you're clear on.

AGE LIMITS

To join the Army as an officer, you'll need to be at least 17 years of age (additional age guidelines apply). You'll need to produce your birth certificate as evidence of your date of birth. In special circumstances, proof by statutory declaration may also be acceptable. However, photocopies or reproductions of birth certificates (unless officially issued or certified) or District Registrar receipts are not acceptable. If you're under 18, you will need the written consent of your parents or legal guardian.

NATIONALITY

You'll also need to be an Australian citizen, or hold permanent residency status and be eligible for the grant of citizenship, or undertake to apply for citizenship when you are eligible to do so.

LENGTH OF SERVICE

As an Army Officer, you will initially sign up for a general period of 3-9 years depending on your chosen job. All officers sponsored through a university (ADFA or civilian) are required to commit to a minimum period of service that ensures the Army gains an acceptable return on the training it invests in its future members.

How does it work? For ADFA, the period of service will depend on the degree undertaken as well as the job chosen. For civilian university, please speak to your Defence Recruiter at your local Defence Force Recruiting Centre or call **13 19 01**. There is, however, no requirement to remain in the Army beyond the completion of your minimum period of service. There is a compulsory retiring age of 60.

Should you resign before completing this period of service, and are released by the Army, there may be a financial penalty imposed as compensation.

PHYSICAL FITNESS

If you have been recommended for appointment, you must undergo a Pre-enlistment Fitness Assessment (PFA) prior to entry including the Multistage Fitness Test (or shuttle run), to measure your aerobic capacity. As an Army candidate, you must also perform push-ups and sit-ups. The aim of the PFA is to determine if you are at a sufficient level of fitness to safely commence training. This assessment must be passed at some time during the eight weeks prior to appointment.

The required standards for the Army PFA are listed below:

MALE REQUIREMENT:

push-up: 15, sit-up: 45, shuttle run: 7.5

FEMALE REQUIREMENT:

push-up: 8, sit-up: 45, shuttle run 7.5

"I WAS A PLATOON COMMANDER IN EAST TIMOR. I HAD FORTY-ONE PEOPLE UNDER MY COMMAND WHICH WAS VERY REWARDING AND CHALLENGING."

MICHELLE WYNN,
CIVIL ENGINEER.

Hopefully, this brochure has given you a good insight into what life's like as an officer in the Army, and what you need to do to become one.

If you'd like more information, call 13 19 01 or visit www.defencejobs.gov.au

CD ROM

The new officer CD ROM will also give you detailed information on all the different ways you can become an officer—with videos, training profiles, virtual tours of military bases and multimedia downloads. Everything you need to figure out if you're Army Officer material. Call **13 19 01** or log on to **www.defencejobs.gov.au** to order your free interactive officer CD ROM now.
It could be the lead you're looking for.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

CALL 13 19 01
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ARMY. CHALLENGE YOURSELF.

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