TAKE YOUR TRADE FURTHER IN THE AIR FORCE

It may come as a surprise to you but the Air Force has a lot to offer tradies in a vast variety of jobs. This brochure has been put together so you can get a bit of an overview of what you can expect and what might be the right career move for you into one of Australia’s most dynamic and advanced organisations - the Air Force. No matter which role you choose, you’ll find yourself accomplishing more than you may have ever dreamed. From delivering humanitarian aid overseas, to building mobile disaster relief facilities after a cyclone, to working on some of the most amazing aircraft in the world, there’s constant opportunities for excitement.

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

It’s safe to say that most trade jobs have their fair share of same-old same-old. Not here. There are various qualified and unqualified jobs within the Air Force, most of which are not probably what you’d expect. And rest assured, as an Air Force tradie there is never a dull moment.

So whether you enter the Air Force with a trade qualification, or want to undertake one of our traineeships, there are loads of Air Force jobs to choose from.

Here’s a quick look at the different types of Air Force jobs.

CONSTRUCTION TRADES
- Carpenter
- Plumber
- Electrician

TECHNICAL TRADES
- Motor Mechanic (Ground Support Equipment Technician)
- Fitter & Turner (Ground Mechanical Engineering Fitter)
- Communication Electronic Technician

AVIATION TRADES
- Aircraft Life Support Fitter
- Aircraft Armament Technician
- Aircraft Spray Painter
- Aircraft Structural Technician
- Aircraft Technician
- Avionics Technician
LEAVE YOUR MARK

Job satisfaction is a funny thing, and it’s often not something that involves massive pay packets and doing the same thing for the same people every day. The Air Force will open your eyes to situations and people in ways you’d never expect. You could find yourself using your sought-after skills as part of a natural disaster relief effort; or, putting in infrastructure for remote communities. More often than not you’ll get to finish a working day being able to tell yourself that you, and what you do so well, made a difference.

A WORKDAY LESS ORDINARY

The Air Force provides a working environment where you’ll be challenged and have the opportunity to gain new skills, or further the ones you already have, using the most sophisticated and up-to-date equipment. You’ll work as part of a team of similarly focused people who you’ll soon call mates.
STOP CHASING CHEQUES

A downside to job hunting or working for yourself is living with the constant hassle of ‘when and where could my next pay cheque be coming from.’ Trade jobs in the Air Force provide that sense of financial security you need for yourself, your family and most importantly, your future.

You’ll also be paid while you’re training and receive free healthcare and subsidised accommodation. Once you complete your training, you’ll find the starting salary package pretty attractive.

While you train to become a tradie in the Air Force your salary will increase as you complete the various stages of your training right through to you being fully qualified. As you gain more experience as a qualified tradesperson, you have opportunities for promotion, more responsibility and salary increases.

Information is correct at time of printing and is subject to change. For the latest information, call 13 19 01 or visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

THE TRAINING YOU’LL NEED

We’re looking for people of all ages and levels of work experience. If you’re qualified, your civilian skills may transfer directly into the Air Force with minimum on-the-job training. If you’re unqualified, there are many traineeship positions available such as Motor Mechanic (Ground Support Equipment Technician), Communication Electronic Technician (CETECH) and Aircraft Technician where you’ll start from scratch with Air Force providing all the relevant training needed to become fully qualified.

Whether you’re entering as a trainee or fully qualified tradie, your first stop will be initial military training at Number 1 Recruit Training Unit (1RTU) at RAAF Base Wagga, New South Wales. You’ll receive training over 10-weeks that will give you the foundation on which to build a successful career. You’ll cover subjects like basic military skills, physical training, drill, first aid, personal organisation skills, weapons handling and how to be a productive team member.

On graduation from your recruit training, you’ll undergo your Initial Employment Training.

This is where you’ll learn your trade or post graduate training if you are already trade qualified.
Depending on which trade you’ve chosen and any previous qualifications you hold, Initial Employment Training typically takes between 12-18 months to complete. For some trades, it may only take a couple of months. On completion of your Initial Employment Training, you’ll then be posted to a RAAF Base or Defence Establishment where you’ll continue with on-the-job training for a further 12-24 months.

If you’re keen to develop your skills further, we’ll help you undertake additional training relevant to your trade – in most cases training is paid for and takes place during working hours – not your hours!

All Air Force trade traineeships come with nationally accredited TAFE equivalent qualifications. They also guarantee you a job on completion of your specialist training.

**LIVING THE LIFE**

As with most good jobs, you need to be able to strike the proper work/life balance. The standard working week for a tradie in the Air Force is approximately 40 hours after which you’re free to spend your after-hours and weekends doing as you please. Naturally, as a Defence organisation, there will be occasions where you will be needed to assist in activities that fall outside of the ‘normal’ definition of a working week; however, the rewards are usually well worth the effort.

There are plenty of clubs and sporting teams you can join in the Air Force, plus you’ll get the opportunity to travel within Australia and possibly overseas on deployment. You get subsidised rent and low interest rate loans, free healthcare and 18% super. It’s a good life.

**AIR FORCE RESERVE**

If you’re looking for a part-time job you actually enjoy, that’s worthwhile to you and to the community, then why not put your skills to work in the Air Force Reserves. Our reservists are a vital part of our organisation. Whilst you serve on a part-time basis, the contribution you make to the Air Force as a whole will be highly valued. It’s a great way to give some real purpose to your spare time.

The Reserve offers flexible job options that give you the opportunity to work in a unique environment that’s in complete contrast to your everyday job. There are a range of part-time jobs that have full-time Air Force equivalents, whilst some jobs are unique to the Reserve. Just like full-time personnel you have the opportunity to travel on exercises and may even apply for operational service as they come up.
Trade jobs available in the Air Force Reserve include:

- Carpenter (qualified)
- Electrician (qualified)
- Plumber (qualified)

To find out more about joining the Air Force Reserves, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce/reserves
QUALIFIED TRADES

AIRCRAFT SPRAY PAINTER

CARPENTER

PLUMBER

ELECTRICIAN

FITTER & TURNER (GROUND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FITTER)
WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING
This is probably the most interesting and expensive piece of hardware you’ll ever paint. You’re probably already an expert on spray painting cars, so imagine now applying that passion to some of the most powerful and advanced aircraft in the country – from the huge Hercules to the smaller, multi-million dollar fighter jet. You will have a wide range of duties so an ability to prioritise work is a must. Expect to be painting metallic and composite aircraft surfaces, and preparing and using aircraft support equipment. You’ll also be involved in stencilling, and the application of tapes and decals. Best of all – there are plenty of opportunities to travel throughout Australia and around the world.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE
You will have to undergo recruit training at 1RTU before you start working your trade in the Air Force. After recruit training, you’ll be posted to our major repaint facility (currently at RAAF Base Williamtown, near Newcastle, NSW) as an Aircraft Spray Painter where you’ll need to complete up to 35-weeks on-the-job training before being posted to a field unit.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID
Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

WHAT YOU NEED
You must have a Certificate III Automotive Engineering (Automotive Body Refinishing).

“ALL QUALIFICATIONS GAINED IN THE AIR FORCE ARE CIVILIAN RECOGNISED NATIONWIDE.”

AIRCRAFT SPRAY PAINTER
WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING

As a Carpenter in the Air Force, you’ll be going places. Literally. You’ll get the opportunity to do what you do best all round Australia, even the world. You’ll be an important member of the Airfield Engineering Organisation and bring a high level of trade skill, adaptability and technical creativity to the design, construction and repair of building works. There’s great job security, you’ll work with the best equipment and there’s always the bonus of furthering your skills.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE

You will have to undergo recruit training at 1RTU before you start working your trade in the Air Force. You will also undertake specific training at RAAF Security & Fire School – RAAF Base Amberley for approximately 10-weeks. After completion of all training you can get posted to a field unit at either Williamtown, Townsville or Richmond. After developing your skills and progression within the Air Force, other positions at various locations will become available. If you show a particular aptitude after training, opportunities exist for further specialist training and supervisory courses, such as Construction Foreman Training. There are also opportunities to move into more senior roles such as Works Supervisor and follow a career path up to Warrant Officer – a position for senior airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

WHAT YOU NEED

You need to have successfully completed an apprenticeship or traineeship in Carpentry and hold one of the following qualifications:

- Certificate III in Building General Construction (Carpentry) BCG30203; or
- Approved dated equivalents - Certificate Carpentry and Joinery, or Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship Carpenter and Joiner.

Driver’s Licence – You must hold a current unrestricted Australian Class 1 (or equivalent) Motor Vehicle licence (a ‘P2’ Provisional Licence is acceptable) and be proficient with manual transmission. The holder of the licence must be free of traffic infringements that may cause future cancellation or suspension of the licence. Where a current Provisional (P2) Licence is held, the holder must have had a minimum of 12 months (P1 & P2 combined) driving experience.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID

FULL TIME

Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution.

Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

RESERVE

Members of the Reserve are paid at a daily rate of pay, which is tax-free. In addition, you’ll receive a generous Service Allowance, free meals, uniforms and accommodation. To find out more, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce/reserve

“...IN THE AIR FORCE WE GET TO DO A LOT OF DIFFERENT THINGS AND GO TO A LOT OF DIFFERENT PLACES WHERE YOUR EVERYDAY JOB WOULDN’T TAKE YOU.”
WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING

You’re a long way from the day-to-day grind of a regular plumbing job when you take up a position in the Air Force. Imagine being part of a team responsible for setting up running water to a temporary airbase during a natural disaster. As a Plumber in the Air Force you’ll be installing and repairing water reticulation and treatment systems and other plumbing equipment in many different locations: think Air Force bases, temporary airfields, to defence construction sites all over the world.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE

You will have to undergo recruit training at 1RTU before you start working your trade in the Air Force. You will also undertake specific training at RAAF Security & Fire School – RAAF Base Amberley for approximately 10-weeks. After completion of all training you can get posted to a field unit at either Townsville or Richmond. After developing your skills and progression within the Air Force, other positions at various locations will become available.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Certificate III in Plumbing; and a
- Current unrestricted Plumbers licence or registered Plumbers licence; or

Holding a current Gas Fitter’s licence is an advantage. However, if you don’t, Service arrangements will be made to meet licensing requirements.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID

FULL TIME

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QUALIFIED TRADES

“IT’S A GREAT LIFESTYLE IN THE AIR FORCE; YOU GET A LOT OF SPARE TIME WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.”

Driver’s Licence – You must hold a current unrestricted Australian Class 1 (or equivalent) Motor Vehicle licence (a ‘P2’ Provisional Licence is acceptable) and be proficient with manual transmission. The holder of the licence must be free of traffic infringements that may cause future cancellation or suspension of the licence. Where a current Provisional (P2) Licence is held, the holder must have had a minimum of 12 months (P1 & P2 combined) driving experience.
WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING
Leave the everyday sparkie world behind. This is your opportunity to apply your trade in the most rewarding way. As an Electrician in the Airfield Engineering Organisation you help power the Air Force, in Australia and around the world, and you’ll always have the best equipment at your disposal. You’ll find yourself installing and repairing power and lighting systems, and other electrical equipment on a scale that’s bigger than you ever imagined: how about installing runway lighting on a temporary airstrip in the middle of the desert? The adventure starts now.

WHAT YOU NEED
• Certificate III in Electrotechnology Systems (Electrician); or
• Dated equivalent - Trade Certificate in Electrical Mechanical (321ECG), Certificate in Electrical Mechanical, Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship Electrician; and
• It is essential to hold a current unrestricted electricians licence; or current equivalent, endorsed by the Electricity Supply Association of Australia Regulatory Authorities Licensing Committee; and
• Completed 12 months productive employment in the trade after training.

Driver’s Licence – You must hold a current unrestricted Australian Class 1 (or equivalent) Motor Vehicle licence (a ‘P2’ Provisional Licence is acceptable) and be proficient with manual transmission. The holder of the licence must be free of traffic infringements that may cause future cancellation or suspension of the licence. Where a current Provisional (P2) Licence is held, the holder must have had a minimum of 12 months (P1 & P2 combined) driving experience.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID
FULL TIME
Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

RESERVE
Members of the Reserve are paid at a daily rate of pay, which is tax-free. In addition, you’ll receive a generous Service Allowance, free meals, uniforms and accommodation. To find out more, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce/reserve

“MY ROLE VARIES FROM WORKING ON THE AIRFIELD, RUNWAY LIGHTING TO REFURBISHING BUILDINGS OVERSEAS.”
“THE MAIN REASON I JOINED WAS JOB SECURITY AND JOB DIVERSITY. YOU DON’T REALLY DO THE SAME THING FROM DAY TO DAY.”

FITTER & TURNER (GROUND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FITTER)

WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING

Think you’re a jack-of-all-trades? That’s what’s required for this position. As a Fitter & Turner (Ground Mechanical Engineering Fitter), you’ll be getting your hands dirty with the repair, modification and refurbishment of Ground Support Equipment (GSE), aircraft arrestor systems and small arms weapons. There’s a lot going on so you’ll quickly get to gain broad expertise across a range of mechanical areas, including the manufacture of GSE, tools, jigs, dies, fixtures, and gauges and the repair and modification of selected motor transport components.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE

You will have to undergo recruit training at 1RTU before you start working your trade in the Air Force. After your recruit training, you’ll be posted to a RAAF base to begin your 12 months on-the-job training. From here, your career progression is based on further training and/or periods of employment, such as completing an Advanced Aircraft Machining course, with the ability to advance through the ranks to Warrant Officer – a position for senior airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

WHAT YOU NEED

Certificate Level III in the Engineering-Mechanical Trade or equivalent aligned to the MERSITAB National Metal and Engineering Industry Competency Standards.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID

Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce
TRAINEESHIPS

AIRCRAFT ARMAMENT TECHNICIAN

AVIONICS TECHNICIAN

COMMUNICATION ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN

AIRCRAFT LIFE SUPPORT FITTER

AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL TECHNICIAN

AIRCRAFT TECHNICIAN

MOTOR MECHANIC (GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN)
WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING

Definitely a job for a steady hand. As an Armament Technician you’re part of a team and it’s your job to look after the running and repair of aircraft weapons systems and equipment – and that includes everything from the computers on board the aircraft through to the actual missiles and bombs. In this job you’ll also work on the ejection seats and aircraft fire extinguishing systems. There’s scope to move too with the opportunity to become a Demolition Operator, and from there you’ll learn all about Improvised Explosive Device Disposal and explosive ordnance disposal.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE

After recruit training, you will attend the RAAF School of Technical Training at RAAF Base Wagga, NSW for a period of 48 weeks where you will undergo your initial trade training. After graduation you will be posted to a RAAF Base for employment as an Armament Fitter, where you will undergo on-the-job training required for completion of a skills log. Following a minimum of 24 months and successful completion of the skills log you will be issued an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Level IV Certificate in Aeroskills (Armament) and be regraded to technician status. Career progression opportunities such as supervisory roles and promotions exist for airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

WHAT YOU NEED

You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science (with a Physics component).

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID

Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce
“YOU’RE GIVEN EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR JOB EASIER.”

AIRCRAFT LIFE SUPPORT FITTER

WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING

How’s your attention to detail? Pretty good? This is a job that requires a strong focus on safety as you’ll be responsible for keeping aircraft and aircrew safe and survival equipment in top condition. It’s a big job - your duties will include removal, installation, inspection and repair of aircraft rescue and survival equipment. You’ll test emergency locator beacons, order aircraft spares, prepare and pack technical equipment for transportation and maintain technical publications. All the survival and emergency equipment is in your hands too.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE

After recruit training, you will attend the RAAF School of Technical Training at RAAF Base Wagga, NSW for a period of 29 weeks where you will undergo your Aircraft Life Support course. After graduation you will be posted to a RAAF Base for employment as an Aircraft Life Support Fitter, where you will undergo on-the-job training required for completion of a skills log. Following a minimum of 24 months and successful completion of the skills log and Aircraft Life Support Systems Skills Course you will be regraded to Advanced Aircraft Life Support Fitter status. Career progression opportunities such as supervisory roles and promotions exist for airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

WHAT YOU NEED

You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID

Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce
WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING
If you enjoy pulling things apart and putting them back together, here’s your ultimate challenge. As an Aircraft Structural Technician, you’ll be stripping down multi-million dollar aircraft from the F/A-18 Hornet to the C-17 Globemaster. You’ll be responsible for the inspection, servicing, manufacture, assembly, removal and installation of the aircrafts’ structure and associated equipment. You’ll also be trained to work with a wide range of materials and tools that you’ll use on all aircraft across the entire fleet.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE
After recruit training, you will attend the RAAF School of Technical Training at RAAF Base Wagga, NSW for a period of 44 weeks where you will undergo your initial trade training. After graduation you will be posted to a RAAF Base for employment as an Aircraft Structural Fitter, where you will undergo on-the-job training required for completion of a skills log. Following a minimum of 24 months and successful completion of the skills log you will be issued an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Level IV Certificate in Aeroskills (Structures) and be regraded to technician status. Career progression opportunities such as supervisory roles and promotions exist for airmen andairwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

WHAT YOU NEED
You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID
Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce
"YOU HAVE A VERY DIVERSE TRADE IN THE AIR FORCE BECAUSE WE DO SO MANY DIFFERENT THINGS WHICH YOU DON’T GET TO DO IN THE CIVILIAN WORLD."

AIRCRAFT TECHNICIAN

WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING

As an Aircraft Technician you’ll be across all aspects of the aircraft in the fleet, so if you’re technically minded and have an interest in aircraft, this could be the gig for you. You’ll be working on aircraft, airframe systems (air conditioning, pressurisation, fuel and hydraulics), engines and engine systems on the flightline and at the workshop. You’ll never get bored as you will always have a variety of duties such as: aircraft oxygen replenishment; inspection, removal and installation of aircraft components and disassembly and reassembly of aircraft components. This job also involves the preparation and use of aircraft support equipment; identification of aircraft spares; preparation and packaging of technical equipment for transportation and amendment and maintenance of technical publications.

The Weapon Systems you will be working on:
- Fighter (F/A-18, Hawk, PC9)
- Maritime (AP-3C Orion)
- Strike (F/A-18 Super Hornet); and
- Transport (C-130 Hercules, C-17 Globemaster, A330)

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE

After recruit training, you will attend the RAAF School of Technical Training at RAAF Base Wagga, NSW for a period of 47 weeks where you will undergo your initial trade training. After graduation you will be posted to a RAAF Base for employment as an Aircraft Fitter, where you will undergo on-the-job training required for completion of a skills log. Following a minimum of 24 months and successful completion of the skills log you will be issued an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Level IV Certificate in Aeroskills (Mechanical) and be regraded to technician status. Career progression opportunities such as supervisory roles and promotions exist for airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

WHAT YOU NEED

You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science (with a Physics component).

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID

Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce
Traineeships

**WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING**

Take your electronics career up a notch. As an Avionics Technician in the Air Force, you’ll have one of the most critical roles of keeping avionic systems and equipment working, at either flightline or workshop level.

Avionics Technicians are employed in duties which include aircraft flight line handling and replenishment; aircraft oxygen replenishment and inspection; removal and installation of aircraft components; fault diagnosis and testing of electrical power generation and distribution systems; communications; and navigation system components.

During the course of duty, you may also be required to handle classified documents and equipment. It’s a big responsibility, but has great rewards as Avionics Technicians are employed (almost exclusively) within one of the following world renowned Weapon Systems:

- Fighter (F/A-18, Hawk, PC9);
- Maritime (AP-3C Orion);
- Strike (F/A-18 Super Hornet); and
- Transport (C-130 Hercules, C-17 Globemaster, A330).

**HOW YOU’LL GET THERE**

After recruit training, you will attend the RAAF School of Technical Training at RAAF Base Wagga, NSW for a period of 60.6 weeks where you will undergo your initial trade training.

After graduation you will be posted to a RAAF Base for employment as an Avionics Fitter, where you will undergo on-the-job training required for completion of a skills log. Following a minimum of 24 months and successful completion of the skills log you will be issued an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Level IV Certificate in Aeroskills (Avionics) and be regraded to technician status. Career progression opportunities such as supervisory roles and promotions exist for airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

**WHAT YOU NEED**

You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science (with a Physics component).

**WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID**

Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce.
“I joined with no qualifications and everything I know now is through the Air Force training which has granted me a Cert III in Electronics.”

**Communication Electronic Technician**

**WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING**

There’s probably no more perfect place for an electronics expert to be working than in the Air Force, amongst the most sophisticated ground-based telecommunications and electronic systems getting around. You’ll learn how to repair, install, test and diagnose faults in all kinds of electronic systems, from radar, radios and computer systems to radio networks and satellite communications. Obviously a strong attention to detail is required as well as the ability to work within a team. Then the sky’s the limit.

**HOW YOU’LL GET THERE**

After recruit training, you will attend HMAS Cerberus at Crib Point, VIC for a period of 38 weeks where you will undergo your initial trade training. After graduation you will be posted to a RAAF Base for employment as a Communication Electronic Fitter, where you will undergo on-the-job training required for completion of a skills log. Following a minimum of 24 months and successful completion of the skills log you will be issued an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Level III Certificate in Electronics and Communications and be regraded to technician status. Career progression opportunities such as supervisory roles and promotions exist for airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

**WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID**

Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

**WHAT YOU NEED**

You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science. Completion of a Basic Electronics Certificate would be an advantage.

Alternatively, if you hold a Certificate III in Engineering (Electrical/Electronics) with achievements in Air Force recognised competencies you may be able to enlist as a qualified entrant.

You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science. Completion of a Basic Electronics Certificate would be an advantage.

Alternatively, if you hold a Certificate III in Engineering (Electrical/Electronics) with achievements in Air Force recognised competencies you may be able to enlist as a qualified entrant.
WHAT YOU’LL BE DOING
So you know your way around under the bonnet of a family wagon. In the Air Force you get to flex your mechanical muscle on some of the biggest and best vehicles and equipment around. As a mechanic in the Air Force, also known as a Ground Support Equipment Technician, you’ll be looking after the ongoing repairs and modifications to transport vehicles, ground support equipment, aircraft arrestor systems, excavators, front end loaders, quad bikes, and fuel trucks. Ongoing training will see you advance your skills beyond anything you could have achieved fixing the family car.

HOW YOU’LL GET THERE
After recruit training, you will attend the Army Logistics Training Centre (ALTC) at Bonegilla, NSW for approximately 18 months to undergo your Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Course. After graduation you will be posted to a RAAF Base for employment as a Ground Support Equipment Technician, where you will undergo on-the-job training required for completion of a skills log. Following a minimum of 24 months and successful completion of the skills log you will be issued an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Level III Certificate in Automotive Mechanical Technology and be regraded to technician status. Career progression opportunities such as supervisory roles and promotions exist for airmen and airwomen who demonstrate expertise in their field.

WHAT YOU NEED
You need to have successfully completed Year 10 with passes in English, Maths and Science.
Alternatively, if you have completed a motor mechanic apprenticeship/traineeship with the Automotive Training Australia (ATA) Automotive Industry Retail, Service and Repair Certificate Level III in Automotive (Mechanical Heavy Vehicle) you may be able to enlist as a qualified entrant. Partially qualified (provisional entry) candidates need to provide formal documentation proving that they have 80% of the competencies for this trade.

Driver’s Licence – You must hold a current unrestricted Australian Class 1 (or equivalent) Motor Vehicle licence (a ‘P2’ Provisional Licence is acceptable) and be proficient with manual transmission. The holder of the licence must be free of traffic infringements that may cause future cancellation or suspension of the licence. Where a current Provisional (P2) Licence is held, the holder must have had a minimum of 12 months (P1 & P2 combined) driving experience.

WHAT YOU’LL BE PAID
FULL TIME
Upon completion of your recruit training, you’ll receive a starting competitive salary package that includes free healthcare, subsidised accommodation and a generous 18% super contribution. Pay scales are updated on a regular basis. For the most recent changes, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce

RESERVE
Members of the Reserve are paid at a daily rate of pay, which is tax-free. In addition, you’ll receive a generous Service Allowance, free meals, uniforms and accommodation. To find out more, visit defencejobs.gov.au/airforce/reserve

“THERE’S ALWAYS COURSES AVAILABLE TO US TO MAKE US MORE EMPLOYABLE.”

Motor mechanic (Ground Support Equipment Technician)

“There’s always courses available to us to make us more employable.”
If you're currently in or about to enter years 11 or 12 at high school, and are considering a Technical Trade in the Air Force, than you should apply for a Defence Technical Scholarship.

For more information on a Defence Technical Scholarship, visit defencejobs.gov.au/DTS or speak to your school principal.

NEXT STEPS - HOW TO GET INVOLVED

So you've chosen the trades career that best suits you, and like the sound of life in the Air Force. Now it's time to take the next step and get involved.

CALL 13 19 01 OR VISIT DEFENCEJOBS.GOV.AU/AIRFORCE