

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.

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

It's safe to say that most trade jobs have their fair share of same-old same-old. And you might be ready for a change of scenery. Applying your trade in the Air Force will not only rejuvenate you and give your career a much-needed kick-start, it will also open you up to a range of unique experiences.

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 unique working environment where you'll be challenged and have the opportunity to further your skills using the most sophisticated and latest equipment. You'll work as a part of a team of similarly focussed people who you'll soon call mates, and most of all do what you do best – your trade.

STOP CHASING CHEQUES

When you're working for yourself or contracting, you live with the constant hassle of 'when and where could my next payday 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. The chasing cheques days are behind you.

THE TRAINING YOU'LL NEED

We're looking for people of all ages and levels of work experience. Most jobs are qualified entry only, which means you need to be a tradie already. In most cases your civilian skills will transfer directly into the Air Force with only minimum on-the-job training required. If you're unqualified, there are traineeship positions available for Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Technician (also known as a Heavy Vehicle Motor Mechanic) or Communication

Electronic Technician (CET), where you'll start from scratch with Air Force providing all the relevant training needed to become fully qualified. 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!

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 approx 40 hours after which you're free to spend your nights 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. You get subsidised rent and low interest rate loans, free healthcare and 18% super. It's a good life.

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.

You can do this by either phoning **13 19 01** or visiting **www.defencejobs.gov.au/airforce**

TRADE UP TO A BETTER CAREER



Work your trade with purpose in the Air Force.

AIR FORCE ACCOMPLISHED

AIR FORCE MECHANIC

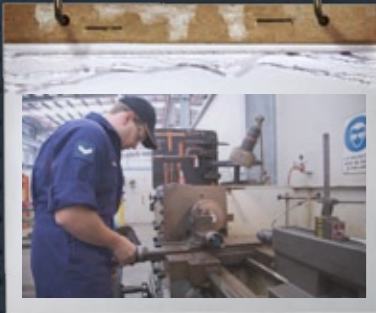
So you know your way under the bonnet of a family wagon. In the Air Force you get to flex your mechanical muscle on some of the biggest and best vehicles and equipment around. As a Mechanic in the Air Force, also known as a Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Technician, you'll be looking after the ongoing 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 in industry.



AIR FORCE FITTER AND TURNER

Think you're a jack-of-all-trades? That's what's required for this position. As a Fitter and Turner, known in the Air Force as a Ground

Mechanical Engineering (GME) 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. This includes the manufacture of GSE, tools, jigs, dies, fixtures and the repair and modification of selected motor transport components.



AIR FORCE COMMUNICATION ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN

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. You'll be challenged, keeping military specific equipment working and will develop pride in keeping Australia's Air Defence and Air Traffic Control systems in tip-top condition. Obviously a strong attention to detail is required as well as the ability to work within a team. Then, 'the sky's the limit.'



AIR FORCE ELECTRICIAN

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'll help

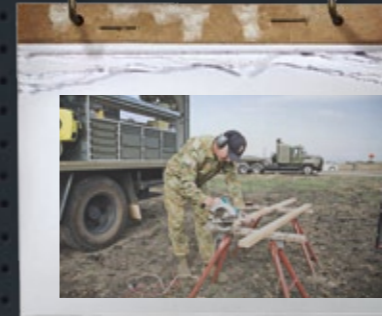
power the Air Force, in Australia and around the world, and you'll always have the best equipment at your disposal. Some of the equipment you can expect to work with includes generators, switchboards and lighting systems. You'll find yourself installing and repairing power and lighting systems and other 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.



AIR FORCE CARPENTER

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 around 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 perform tasks ranging from target construction, roof and wall framing work to temporary camp construction and there's always the bonus of furthering your skills.



AIR FORCE PLUMBER

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 working on other plumbing equipment including reverse osmosis water purification machines, water storage, reticulation and effluent treatment systems. You'll get to apply your skills in lots of different locations: think Air Force bases, temporary Air Force airfields, to defence construction sites all over the world.



A JOB TO SUIT EVERYONE.

What we've given you is a quick overview of some of the trade jobs available in the Air Force. There are literally stacks of jobs that may suit your skills; from Aircraft Spray Painters and Aircraft Life Support Fitters to Aircraft Technicians (Aircraft, Armament, Avionic and Structural) and many, many more. And a number of these careers are also offered as part-time roles in the Air Force Reserve.

ALL THE GOOD BITS

Here's a quick look at what you can expect as a tradie in the Air Force:

- Nationally recognised qualifications
- Guaranteed job security
- Diverse work duties
- Promotion opportunities
- Subsidised rent and low interest loans
- Free healthcare and 18% super