



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

Australian Defence Medal

The Australian Defence Medal recognises current and former Australian Defence Force personnel who completed an initial enlistment period, or four years service, whichever was the lesser.

About the award

The Australian Defence Medal was established on 20 March 2006 by Letters Patent.

It recognises qualifying efficient service of current and former Australian Defence Force (ADF) Regular and Reserve personnel, including National Servicemen, who have served since the end of World War II.

The eligibility criteria requires completion of an initial enlistment period or four years service, whichever is the lesser. The criteria also include those who could not serve the four-year qualifying period or complete an initial enlistment period for one or more of the following reasons:

- the death of the member during service;
- the discharge of the member as medically unfit due to a compensable impairment;
- the discharge of the member due to a prevailing discriminatory Defence policy, as determined by the Chief of the Defence Force or his or her delegate.

Regulations governing the award of the Medal were gazetted on 30 March 2006.

How it is awarded

The Governor-General (or his delegate) awards the Australian Defence Medal on the recommendation of the Chief of the Defence Force (or his delegate).

The application form can be downloaded from the Department of Defence site at: http://www.defence.gov.au/dpe/dpe_site/honours_awards/resources/forms/forms.htm

Application forms can also be obtained in writing from:

Directorate for Honours and Awards
T-1-49

Department of Defence
CANBERRA

Or phone the free-call number 1800 111 321

The Medal may be awarded posthumously.



Medal design

The Australian Defence Medal is a circular medal comprised of cupro-nickel. The obverse features the Commonwealth Coat of Arms with a sprig of wattle with the top outer edge inscribed with the words 'The Australian Defence Medal'. The reverse is ensigned with the Crown of St Edward and includes the words 'For Service', surrounded by a wreath of wattle.

Medal ribbon

The ribbon colours include the black and red colour of the Flanders poppy and two white stripes to divide the red into three segments to denote the three services of the Australian Defence Force.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL: There is no post-nominal for this medal

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM: 2006

APPLICATIONS: Nominations are put forward by the Chief of the Defence Force.

More information

ITS AN HONOUR WEBSITE: www.itsanhonour.gov.au

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE: www.defence.gov.au