



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

Reserve Force Medal

The Reserve Force Medal was awarded to Reserve Force other ranks for 15 years efficient service.

About the award

The Reserve Force Medal is part of a long tradition of rewarding long service and good conduct by a member of a nation's armed forces.

Britain has the most developed system with the oldest Imperial award for naval long service introduced by King William IV in 1831.

The Defence Force Service Awards were established on 20 April 1982 by Letters Patent, providing distinctive Australian military long service honours.

The medal is one of three Defence Force Service Awards that recognised long-service. The other two awards were:

- Reserve Force Decoration
- Defence Force Service Medal

Between 1975 and 1982, defence force long service came under the arm of the National Medal, which is primarily now a solely civilian award. Prior to this, Australians in the defence and reserve forces were eligible for Imperial awards.

The Defence Force Service Awards were replaced by the Defence Long Service Medal in 1998.

How it is awarded

The Governor-General awarded the Reserve Force Medal on the recommendation of the Chief of the Defence Force Staff or his/her delegate. Members of philanthropic organisations serving with the Australian Defence Force were eligible for nomination.

Fifteen years efficient ADF service (that includes service as a member of the Reserve Forces for a period of not less than 12 years) commencing on or after 14 February 1975, which counted as qualifying service is required for the award of the Reserve Force Medal. Clasps are awarded for each additional five years.

Medal design

The Reserve Force Medal features the Joint Service Emblem on a rayed background. The oval,



cupro-nickel medal is ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward. On the back of the medal, the words 'For Efficient Service in the Reserve Forces' are inscribed.

Medal ribbon

The 32 millimetre-wide ribbon has a central azure-blue vertical band, which is edged with narrow vertical stripes of gold.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

There are no post-nominal entitlements

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1982

NOMINATIONS:

The Chief of the Defence Force put forward recommendations.

More information

Directorate of Honours and Awards
T-1-49
Department of Defence
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Ph: 1800 111 321

IT'S AN HONOUR WEBSITE: www.itsanhonour.gov.au