



A PASSION FOR MINISTRY

Defence Force Chaplains provide spiritual ministry to serving personnel and help foster qualities of faith, character, conduct and courage. They are involved in various religious practices such as conducting regular denominational services of worship, including the sacraments of Holy Communion/Mass, occasional rites, plus the rites of Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Burial and other special services. Defence Force Chaplains also arrange and participate in important religious services marking special events in the life of the Defence community.

PASTORAL CARE AND SUPPORT

Defence Force Chaplains provide pastoral care to Navy, Army or Air Force personnel and their families in the work place, on exercises, and on operations. Chaplains aim to inspire a sense of personal strength and dignity as well as a commonality of purpose towards achieving the objectives of their commander. As a result, Chaplains are well respected and valued within the Defence Force.

CONSIDER A
MORE DIVERSE
MISSION

TO FIND OUT MORE
CALL 13 19 01 OR VISIT
[DEFENCEJOBS.GOV.AU](https://defencejobs.gov.au)

DEFENCE FORCE
CHAPLAIN
MUCH MORE THAN JUST
SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE



CONSIDER A
MORE DIVERSE
MISSION

DEFENCE FORCE
CHAPLAIN
MUCH MORE THAN JUST
SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE



IF YOU'RE INTERESTED
IN BROADENING YOUR
MINISTRY EXPERIENCE IN
A TRULY UNIQUE WAY,
CONSIDER BECOMING A
DEFENCE FORCE CHAPLAIN

DEFENCE FORCE CHAPLAINS CARE FOR MORE THAN JUST SPIRITUAL NEEDS

Chaplains have a unique role in the Defence Force. They minister and provide care, worship opportunities and support to Defence Force personnel and their families, regardless of their faith background. They provide pastoral care to all Navy, Army or Air Force personnel, provide advice to command and have important character development responsibilities.

HELP WITH CHARACTER TRAINING

Defence Force Chaplains share a responsibility for character development of Defence Force personnel. This training aims to develop personal characteristics and interpersonal skills, which motivate responsible moral judgments and behaviour benefiting the ADF and its members.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS

Defence Force Chaplains are important members of the personnel support team. As an adviser to commanders and staff on spiritual welfare and overall morale, the Chaplain supports the process of command at all levels and stands in a unique position to exercise judgment and offer advice.

WHAT DOES A CHAPLAIN DO?

- Attend to member and family religious matters.
- Assist in the development of leadership, character, ethics, morale, and resilience.
- Visit and support members who are hospitalised or in detention.
- Pastoral care for personnel and families.
- Provide spiritual support to all members of the Australian Defence Force, regardless of their faith or denomination.
- Work closely with commanders and, as their moral compass, provide advice and guidance.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

If you're interested in full-time chaplaincy, you can apply up to the age of 56 years. If you would prefer part-time chaplaincy, you can apply up to the age of 61. To put yourself forward for a Chaplain role in the ADF, you will need to meet certain criteria and are required to:

- Be from a denomination or faith group represented within the current religious diversity of ADF personnel. These denominations are currently the Anglican Church, Baptist Union of Australia, Catholic Church, Australian Christian Churches, Churches of Christ, Council of Australian Jewry, Lutheran Church, Uniting Church, Presbyterian Church and the Salvation Army.
- Hold an endorsed three-year theology degree or equivalent ministry training.
- Provide documented evidence of ordination or equivalent.
- Have endorsement and approval from your denomination.
- Be deemed suitable by the appropriate denominational Senior Chaplain and be endorsed by the appropriate member of the Religious Advisory Committee to the Services (RACS).
- Have at least two years pastoral experience (preferably five years); and satisfy the entry criteria applicable for ADF Officers.

BENEFITS & SUPPORT

As a Chaplain in the ADF you'll receive training through the Defence Force Chaplains' college in Canberra. This will give you the skills and training to become a leader and expert in the support of personnel and their families.

For part-time Chaplains, your ADF ministry can be seen as an extension of your parish ministry, and the experience, training and leadership skills you gain will positively benefit your parish.

Whether you're a full-time or part-time Chaplain, you'll get to put your skills and experience to good use and help make a positive difference in people's lives.

THE JOB.

A FAITH IN YOUR

ABILITY TO ADAPT

As a Navy, Army or Air Force Chaplain, your ministry extends beyond that of a civilian minister of religion.

You do remain an active member of your denominational church. In fact, you cannot practice without the endorsement of your Church. However, as a commissioned member of the Australian Defence Force, you'll provide spiritual ministry to all members of the Navy, Army or Air Force regardless of faith or denomination.

In stepping out of your civilian world and joining the Defence Force, you'll share the same cultural challenges that are common with all the Defence family. However, you'll have excellent support from Defence personnel and other Padres, along with challenging and broad chaplaincy training, which will all help to make your transition easier.

