

## Who is eligible to claim higher level ESPS payments?

An employer of a medical, dental, nursing or allied health officer in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Reserves or a self-employed reservist, who is within a specified health discipline and is undertaking an eligible type of defence service.

A full listing of eligible health disciplines can be found at [www.reserveemployersupport.gov.au](http://www.reserveemployersupport.gov.au).

In some circumstances, higher level ESPS payments may be approved when the medical, dental, nursing or allied health officer's discipline is not listed.

## Multiple employment arrangements

If a reservist is employed in multiple employment arrangements and the defence service is eligible for higher level ESPS payments, all employers can claim.



## How do I make a claim?

All claims must be made within six months of the first day of defence service seeking to be claimed. ESPS claims can be made through the ADFRES website.

In order to make a claim, you will need to use your Digital Identity and Relationship Authorisation Manager tool. Digital Identity includes myGovID (which is different to myGov).

For more information:

[www.digitalidentity.gov.au](http://www.digitalidentity.gov.au)

## How much would be paid?

Prior to receiving higher level ESPS payments, an annual two week Qualifying Period must be satisfied. Once the Qualifying Period is completed, payments will be backdated to the first day of eligible defence service.

Payments vary, depending on the discipline of the reservist. Payments are updated annually and can be found at our website.

## More information

 [1800 DEFENCE \(1800 333 362\)](tel:1800333362)

 [YourCustomer.Service@defence.gov.au](mailto:YourCustomer.Service@defence.gov.au)

 [www.reserveemployersupport.gov.au](http://www.reserveemployersupport.gov.au)



AUSTRALIAN  
DEFENCE FORCE



AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE  
RESERVES AND EMPLOYER SUPPORT

## THE EMPLOYER SUPPORT PAYMENT SCHEME

Higher level Employer Support Payments for service by  
Reserve Health Professionals



**1800 DEFENCE**

[www.reserveemployersupport.gov.au](http://www.reserveemployersupport.gov.au)

## What is the Employer Support Payment Scheme?



The Employer Support Payment Scheme (ESPS) provides financial assistance to employers of reservists and to self-employed reservists, when the reservist is away from their civilian workplace on eligible periods of defence service.

The Chief of the Defence Force (CDF) has approved higher level ESPS payments for employers of Reserve Health Officers and self-employed Reserve Health Officers

A pro-rata payment amount may be made for a part-time employee.

Typically, casual employment is not eligible for ESPS payments, but may be treated as part-time employment if demonstrably regular and reliable.

ESPS is administered by the Australian Defence Force Reserves and Employer Support (ADFRES) team.

## What service is eligible for higher level ESPS payments?

Types of defence service that are eligible for higher level ESPS payments include service:

- on an ADF operation
- undertaking pre-deployment training for an ADF operation
- on a training exercise or training course
- related to an Aero-Medical Evacuation (AME)
- on a naval ship deployment
- as part of the Return to Australia Psychologist Screening (RTAPS) or Post Operation Psychologist Screening (POPS) programs
- as part of the Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Program (AACAP)
- rendering civil aid, humanitarian assistance or disaster relief
- as a Health Officer required for duty on an Australian Navy, Army or Air Force Cadet camp or training, or
- other service which has been authorised by a Service Chief (or delegate)



## Requirements

The defence service must be a minimum of 5 consecutive days however, for defence service on pre-deployment training and Aero-Medical Evacuation, this is reduced to 3 consecutive days.

The reservist must also be released and absent from their workplace. If the reservist is on annual leave, long service leave or any other accrued leave with exception to military leave at the time service is undertaken, those days are not counted towards a period of defence service.

### For employers:

The reservist must have been employed for a minimum of 3 months prior to the defence service.

### For self-employed reservists:

The reservist must:

- have a bona fide functioning medical, dental or allied health practice, or
- be contracting as a registered health practitioner to a bona fide functioning medical, dental or allied health practice, or
- conduct a bona fide business which over 12 continuous months prior the defence service being claimed, has been operating and has provided the reservists Principal Source of Income or their Principal Source of Employment.