If you are willing to serve your country as a Reservist in the Australian Defence Force, as well as committing yourself to your studies, you deserve to be assisted and given special consideration.

There should be no conflict between your Reserve service and your studies, especially as the skills you gain as a Reservist will benefit you, the Australian Defence Force and your future civilian employer.

The policy, endorsed by the Australian Vice Chancellors Committee in 2007 and adopted by various educational institutions, provides assistance to student Reservists in terms of special consideration in exams, deferral of assessment, rescheduling of assessments, remittance of HECS and/or fees and other support when students are absent due to Reserve commitments.

What does the policy offer student Reservists?

A student who is a member of the Navy, Army or Air Force Reserves, and renders Defence service, may be granted special consideration with regard to attendance and assessment requirements.

Special consideration includes:

• Learning materials in alternative formats where possible
• Additional time to complete assessment requirements (upon application)
• Variation to due dates for assessment (upon application)
• Special consideration in end of unit examinations (upon application)
• Granting of special examinations (upon application)
• Special consideration to withdraw without academic penalty (upon application)
• Remission of fees if the student is compelled to withdraw consistent with the institution’s policy on fee refunds

If you are a student Reservist and receive payments from the Department of Human Services, your Reserve income should not impact on these payments.

Have you considered the benefits available to tertiary students who are also Reservists?

• Gain management/leadership skills to complement your study
• Get fit/have an adventure
• Travel and train at Defence locations around Australia
• Make new mates
• Tax-free pay
• Be given special consideration as a Defence Reservist and a tertiary student
• Reserve service may afford other financial benefits

Defence Force Reserve units are located in most major population centres. If you are interested in joining, contact your local unit directly, call 13 19 01 or visit www.defencejobs.gov.au.

In addition, the Army includes university regiments designed to cater for the needs of tertiary students by providing the opportunity for students to undertake Reserve service and train as an officer in the Army Reserve.

You can be studying at any tertiary institution and still join the university regiment in your local area. For example, you may be studying at Flinders University in South Australia and choose to join the Adelaide University Regiment.

“The flexibility of my university schedule provides me with the opportunity to get the most out of the Reserves. Likewise the skills I have acquired through my military career have been an asset to not only my studies, but also my civilian career.”

Gunner Adrian Orellana

How do I find out more information?

1800 803 485
www.defencereservessupport.gov.au

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[1] The university regiments (Sydney University Regiment, Western Australian University Regiment, University of New South Wales Regiment, Queensland University Regiment, Melbourne University Regiment and Monash University Regiment) through the Royal Military College of Australia conduct all part time officer training for the Army.