

Open Arms Eligibility Matrix

The matrix below may be used to determine eligibility³ for Open Arms services. An individual may be eligible on the basis of more than one group. Eligibility in any single group is sufficient.

Group	Individual	Son or daughter (up to 25)	Son or daughter (over 25)	Partner	Former partner ¹	Parent	Sibling
Current or former serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) members (permanent or reserve forces) who have or are:							
DVA Gold Card	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
1 day Continuous Full Time Service (CFTS) including basic training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Pre Vietnam service (including World War II, Malaya, Korea)	✓	✓ See table footnote 2	✗ See table footnote 4	✓	✗	✗	✗
Vietnam War service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Other operational service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Peacekeeping service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Hazardous service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
British Nuclear Test Defence service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Border protection service (see table footnote 5)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Australian and overseas disaster zone service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Submariner service (see table footnote 6)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Involvement in a service-related training accident resulting in serious injury to any person	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Medically discharged from the ADF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Participation in the Veterans' Vocational Rehabilitation Scheme	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Reservist with CFTS service (SERVOP C)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Reservist with border protection, disaster zone or other hazardous service; or involved in a serious service-related incident	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Died in service-related incidents (MRCA/SRCA)	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Died by suicide or suspected suicide	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DVA White Card for accepted service-related mental health conditions (may include Commonwealth or other allied veterans under reciprocal healthcare arrangements)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
DVA White Card (non-liability healthcare) for all mental health conditions (includes reservists and participants in the Defence Indigenous Development Program)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Eligible to receive a reparation payment from the Defence Abuse Response Taskforce (DART) or Defence Force Ombudsman	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

F-111 cohort through the SHOAMP scheme (Study of Health Outcomes in Aircraft Maintenance Personnel) (see table footnote 7)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Certain United Nations/Australian police approved personnel (listings available on the DVA intranet)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
War widow(er) (VEA definition)	✓	✓ See table footnote 2	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

1 Former partners are eligible within five years of separation or while co-parenting a child under 18 years of age with a member listed above.

2 Sons and daughters in this category must be dependants as defined by s 92(1)(a)(i) of the VEA.

3 Open Arms takes a beneficial approach and ineligible people in immediate need of support will be provided a limited service (see Section 5 below). The Repatriation Commission may also approve a class of persons that is not specified here.

4 Sons or daughters (of any age) of living Gold Card holders from any conflict/operation are eligible. This includes half, fostered and adopted siblings.

5 Border protection service means service rendered by a member of the Australian Defence Force in an area in or outside Australia that, in the opinion of the Commission, had the purpose of securing Australia's borders against a potential or real threat by a State, person or persons.

6 This is limited to submariner service rendered by an ADF member as part of the crew of a submarine of the Australian Navy.

7 Group 1 (primary participants) or Group 2 (family member or an ex-partner).

8. CFTS means full-time service as a permanent member of the ADF. Most regular ADF members are appointed on this basis. Reservists can render periods of CFTS as Service Option C (SERVOP C).

Key

Eligible for Open Arms services	✓
Not eligible	✗