



Exercise First Look: Indigenous Youth Placement - Soldier - Army Logistics Training Centre (October)

Reference number:	WEP/03747/25
Service:	Army
Placement Location:	Army Logistics Training Centre Gaza Ridge Barracks, Bandiana VIC 3694
Type of Placement/s:	Secondary
Start & End dates:	20 – 24 October 2025
Duration of Placement:	5 days, 4 nights (including travel time on 20 and 24 October 2025)
Placement Limits:	30
Contact Officer:	Navi Kaur vic.workexperience@defence.gov.au 0407 255 692
Closing Date:	11:30PM AEST, Sunday 7 September 2025

Overview of Placement

Exercise First Look is Army's Indigenous Flagship Work Experience Program. This program allows Indigenous students from across the country an opportunity to get a taste of life as an Army Soldier. Exercise First Look is a five-day residential program designed to give aspiring students aged 15-18 a comprehensive overview of life in the Army. During the program students will be exposed to the day-to-day activities of an Army Soldier, and will have the opportunity to experience Army lifestyle as a whole.

This dynamic program may include an overview of the roles available within the Army as well as practical activities such as:

- Physical Training
- Weapons demonstrations (no weapons handling)
- Field craft
- Team & Leadership skills
- Drills
- Information sessions about recruitment process, and a visit to 'The Home of the Soldier', Army Recruit Training Centre at Kapooka or Puckapunyal Military area.

Please Note: Army will book and pay for accommodation, airfares and food.

Special Conditions of Placement

1. This program is specifically for young people of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander heritage aged 15-18 (Years 10-12).
2. Placements can be changed, postponed and/or cancelled at short notice due to operational requirements.
3. In order to comply with the Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011(Cth), all participants are required to disclose any pre-existing medical conditions, illness or injuries as part of the selection process. Should you suffer an injury or illness (e.g. recent fracture or sprain) between the time of your application and any attendance on a program you are required to notify the Work Experience Manager as soon as possible.
4. By submitting an application, you acknowledge that you have read all items listed in the Special Conditions of Placement.
5. We highly encourage students from all regions to apply as this will be a great experience, for further questions please liaise with the contact officer listed above.
6. If you are successful in obtaining a position on this work experience placement, please note the following:
 - a. **Army will book and pay for transport from the closest transport hub from the participant's home location** to attend the activity. Travel will include one mode of transport from the participant's closest airport, train or bus station to the activity location and return. **Participants will be responsible for getting to and from the booked mode of transport; and organising food while travelling.**
 - b. Applicants must indicate that they and their parent/guardian understand all items listed in the Special Conditions of Placement. Failure to do so may result in this application being rejected, returned or not considered.

Assessment Criteria

You will be required to answer the following questions when completing your online application:

1. Have you considered a career in the Army? What are your career goals and/or areas of interest? **(Limit your response to no more than 250 words).**
2. What subjects are you currently studying at school and mention your favourite subject/s? **(Limit your response to no more than 250 words).**
3. This program can be physically demanding. Describe what sports and/or exercise you currently participate in? **(Limit your response to no more than 250 words).**
4. What do you most hope to gain from participating in this work experience placement? **(Limit your response to no more than 250 words).**
5. Please provide the contact details of your parent/guardian – name, phone number and email address.

Eligibility

This placement is specifically for **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander** youth living in Australia.

Applicants/candidates must be an Australian Citizen/Permanent Resident of Australia.

Age Group – Students participating in this Defence work experience placements must be 15-18 years of age at the time of the placement.

What Happens Next?

IMPORTANT: Applications must be submitted via the online application system prior to the placement closing date. Additional information on completing an online application can be found on the [Help page](#).

1. To make an application, you will need to [register](#) for an account. Use the email account that you access most regularly.
2. When completing an application for the Work Experience placement you will need to use a Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA). This is also required to accept an offer. MFA is an extra layer of security for your account that requires more than just a password to log in, making it much harder for someone else to access your account. The next time you login to your Defence Careers account, you will have to pick one of the following MFA methods to use:
 - Google Authenticator App
 - Alternate email address
3. You may be required to answer assessment criteria questions as part of the application process. Make sure all questions are answered and provide detailed responses.
4. Following the advertised closing date, an assessment of applications will commence.
5. The regional Work Experience Team will advise you of the outcome of your application.
6. If successful, you will receive a letter of offer containing information about the placement and a Defence Work Experience Placement Agreement. To accept the placement offer:
 - a. complete the Work Experience Agreement;
 - b. ensure all relevant sections are signed by yourself, your parent/guardian (if you are under the age of 18) and your Education Institution Representative (e.g. Careers Advisor or Vocational Education Teacher).
 - c. submit your completed Work Experience Placement Agreement through the online portal (see letter of offer for details)
7. You will receive a reminder email or SMS message before the placement start date. Check your email inbox regularly for updates.

If you are experiencing difficulties in submitting your application contact the Defence Work Experience Program: defence.workexperienceprogram@defence.gov.au.

Thank you for your interest in the Department of Defence