



Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant

P03998

Information sheet

Purpose

This Information sheet provides information about the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant and how to apply.

What is the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant?

The Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant encourages Australia to recognise and acknowledge the unique nature of military service, and support veterans and their families.

The purpose of the Covenant is for the Australian community to recognise the service and sacrifice of the men and women who commit to defend the nation, and pledge their commitment to support veterans and their families.

The Covenant is supported by the Veteran Card, Lapel Pin and Oath.

The Covenant provides employers, businesses, local community, veteran and sporting organisations the opportunity to commit to supporting veterans and their families.

Am I eligible?

You're eligible to apply for the Covenant (Veteran Card, Lapel Pin and Oath) if you have served in the ADF in a permanent, national service, or reserve capacity. Your service will determine the components of the Covenant for which you are eligible.

How do I apply?

You can apply for the Covenant using DVA's online portal, MyService, at dva.gov.au/myservice. If you need assistance please call 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) for help.

What is the Veteran Card?

The Veteran Card is a re-design of the existing DVA Health Cards (Gold, White and Orange). The new-look card will make it easier for Australians to recognise and respect the contribution that veterans

have made to Australia and for our veterans to connect with the broader Australian community.

If you already have a DVA Health Card

There are no changes to the DVA services and benefits that you receive with your current DVA Health Card. You can continue to use your existing DVA Health Card to gain access to health services and benefits until you are issued with a Veteran Card.

DVA Health Cards will gradually be replaced with the new-look Veteran Card, either when your current card expires or as part of the card replacement program, whichever occurs first. Please check that your postal address is up to date to ensure you receive the new card.

Examples of the new Veteran Gold, White and Orange cards



Example of current DVA Gold, White and Orange health cards



Continued from previous page...

I applied for the Veteran Card and received information for non-liability health care. What does this mean?

Under Non-Liability Health Care (NLHC) arrangements all veterans with at least one day of continuous full-time service in the ADF can gain access to DVA-funded mental health treatment, regardless of whether the condition is related to service. This means you can gain access to support if or when you need it.

Visit **dva.gov.au** for more information on Non-Liability Health Care.

Will the new Veteran Card affect my services, entitlements or service provider?

There will be no change for veteran service providers as a result of implementing the new Veteran Card. DVA clients will continue to receive the same benefits they are eligible for under their Gold, White or Orange card.

What is the Lapel Pin?

The Lapel Pin is a circular copper pin plated in 24ct gold and nickel-silver, and red and blue in colour incorporating the ADF tri-service emblem.

There will be two versions of the Lapel Pin – one for Veterans, and one for Reservists.

The Reservist Pin will be provided to Reservists who only have reserve service.

Lapel Pins will be sent with the Oath separately from the Veteran Card.



AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE VETERANS' COVENANT

*We, the people of Australia, respect and give thanks
to all who have served in our defence force and their families.*

*We acknowledge the unique nature of military service and the sacrifice
demanded of all who commit to defend our nation.*

*We undertake to preserve the memory and deeds of all who have served
and promise to welcome, embrace, and support
all military veterans as respected and valued members of our community.*

For what they have done, this we will do.

What is the Oath?

The Oath is a declaration on behalf of the Australian people recognising the valuable contribution that current and former members of the Australian Defence Force and their families make and have made for our country.

If you are eligible for the Lapel Pin, you will also receive a copy of the Oath which is printed on high-quality card with a full colour Commonwealth Coat of Arms. The Oath is sized at A4 and will fit in standard frames.

The Oath can be read aloud at commemorative events as a sign of respect and support.

More information

DVA general enquiries

Phone: **1800 VETERAN ***

Email: **GeneralEnquiries@dva.gov.au**

DVA Website: **www.dva.gov.au**

Factsheet Website: **www.dva.gov.au/factsheets**

* Calls from mobile phones and pay phones may incur additional charges.



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For what they have done, this we will do.

The Hon. Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister

The Hon. Darren Chester MP
**Minister for Veterans
and Defence Personnel**