

Dear Client Contact Officer

I write to introduce the ADF Assistance Trust to you in your role caring for Defence members, veterans and their families in need.

The ADF Assistance Trust is a charity which may be able to assist your clients by providing emergency and non-emergency funding when financial hardship is exacerbating an already difficult time of life.

We provide financial assistance to current and former members of the ADF and their dependants following service-related death or severe wounding (mental or physical) particularly in recent conflicts.

We can provide assistance for:

- Essential living costs
- Tuition and school fees, retraining expenses, educational resources
- Health and medical expenses, mental health injury services, specialist equipment not covered by Defence or DVA
- Vehicle expenses (not covered by DVA), car payments, car insurance, registration
- Funds to facilitate a family member travelling to assist a Defence member in an emergency
- Childcare during illness or surgery
- Emergency dental expenses
- Carer's relief and assistance not covered by DVA

We cannot provide assistance for:

- Holidays, adventure tours, other forms of recreational travel
- Needs which can be met by Government agencies or other similar military trusts

We hope you will assist us by putting potential beneficiaries in contact with us. On your request we can work directly with your clients to ascertain eligibility and complete applications. We aim to work with you and/or your clients to ensure that the application process does not place additional stress on applicants.

Our eligibility requirements are summarised on the next page. For those eligible the ADF Assistance Trust has the flexibility to provide individualised support. The current turnaround time for applications is one month, though can be shorter in emergency situations.

For further information please visit our website at www.adfassistancetrust.org.au or contact us on ask@adfassistancetrust.org.au or by phone on **1300 652 103**.

Yours faithfully



Allison Stephens
Executive Officer



ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

The ADF Assistance Trust provides relief of financial hardship for current or former members of the ADF (and their families) who are struggling to meet financial commitments as a result of service-related incapacity, death or injury.

Specifically, the ADF Assistance Trust provides financial assistance to fill gaps in services available to:

- Current or former ADF members with a service-related permanent incapacity or who are otherwise permanently injured, and their dependents
- Current or former ADF members with a service-related mental health condition, and their dependants
- The dependants of those ADF members who have suffered a service-related death.

The ADF Assistance Trust can step in to help if financial assistance from the Commonwealth is not meeting an individual's needs.

In emergency situations financial assistance can be offered quite quickly.

Assistance cannot be provided to those already in receipt of similar support from a government agency or a similar trust which has been established for the purpose of providing similar relief of financial hardship to members from any particular section of the ADF and their dependants.

CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

Current members of the ADF with a service-related mental health condition, permanent physical incapacity or who are otherwise permanently injured may be eligible for assistance.

FORMER MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

ADF veterans with a service-related mental health condition, permanent physical incapacity or who are otherwise permanently injured may be eligible for assistance.

FAMILY MEMBERS

A partner (spouse or de facto spouse), child or dependant (under 25yrs old) of a member of the ADF who is killed during service or has a service-related mental health condition, permanent physical incapacity or who is otherwise permanently injured, may be eligible for assistance.