

Australian Civilian Corps

Expression of Interest Information Kit

February 2011

AusAID is seeking highly motivated and experienced individuals to register with the Australian Civilian Corps.

1. ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN CIVILIAN CORPS

The Australian Civilian Corps has been established to enable the deployment of civilian specialists to countries experiencing or emerging from natural disaster or conflict. The Corps supports stabilisation, recovery and development planning. Following humanitarian responses, it will contribute to bilateral development efforts.

Ultimately, the Civilian Corps will comprise a register of 500 pre-screened and pre-trained civilian specialists, ready to respond to requests for assistance. Civilian specialists will be selected for their technical skills and ability to work in challenging overseas environments. They will come from both the Australian public sector and the broader Australian community, and will have a range of skills and experience.

Civilian specialists will:

- be Australian citizens
- have at least five years relevant experience
- have demonstrated ability to work in challenging overseas environments
- remain in regular employment until accepting a deployment
- be engaged as Commonwealth employees when deployed
- possess or be willing to obtain an Australian Government security clearance
- on an as required basis, be deployed for around 3 12 months to countries recovering from natural disaster or conflict.

Registration and Deployments

Members of the Australian Civilian Corps register will have the opportunity to nominate for a range of international deployments as representatives of the Australian Government. Australian Civilian Corps personnel may work in-line with host government officials to provide essential services, assist bilateral or multilateral recovery efforts, assist in the design of reconstruction programs. They may also be required to work with a range of stakeholders such as local beneficiaries, government officials, other donors and Australian or foreign military or police. As situations progress to state-building and reconstruction, work may include institutional capacity building, mentoring host government officials and assisting institutional reforms.

Joining the register requires:

- highly developed personal and professional skills
- successfully achieving prescribed standards of medical and deployment suitability and security screening
- completion of an in-depth training course.

Those who are successful in joining the register are eligible to nominate for deployments when they arise, but will only be deployed if and when their particular skills are required.

What can I expect?

Deployments will be varied and challenging, and suit team players who can perform well under pressure. Individuals will need to be physically and mentally fit and available to meet rapid deployment timeframes (within 28 days of a government decision to deploy the ACC). The standard of living and working conditions will also vary depending on the location and type of the deployment. In some circumstances register personnel may be housed with the military or a UN organisation in a tent or shipping container within a compound and in other cases it may be in a hotel or serviced apartment.

How long will I be deployed for?

The duration of deployments will depend on the complexity and severity of the crisis. Most deployments will be for less than 12 months and all will be on an unaccompanied basis (i.e. not accompanied by partner/dependants).

What happens to my regular employment?

Personnel accepted onto the register will remain in their normal employment. When the Government decides to deploy the Civilian Corps, expressions of interest will be sought from appropriately skilled individuals on the register. In order to accept a deployment register personnel will need to make arrangements with their employer; this could include taking a period of leave without pay from your current employer. AusAID will assist with negotiating release with employers. Upon accepting a deployment, personnel will be engaged by AusAID for a fixed term, for the duration of the deployment. Civilian specialists will be deployed as Australian Government Officials and will be expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct and act with the utmost professionalism at all times during their deployment.

Why do I need a security clearance?

ACC personnel, either prior to or while on deployment may need to use IT systems, or access information, or attend briefings classified at the Negative Vet 1 level (previously known as Secret level) or above. Not being able to do so may impact on your ability to perform the full range of your duties. It may also limit your access to classified information on the security situation in country. Misuse or mishandling of classified or sensitive information, whether deliberate or accidental, can have serious consequences for the Australian Government. The security clearance process is one of the mechanisms used to ensure classified material is only entrusted to suitable people who demonstrate a proper appreciation of their protective security responsibilities and obligations. These people must be willing to comply with Australian Government security procedures including ensuring that classified material cannot be accessed by anyone who is not authorised to do so.

If you are required to undertake a security clearance process you will need to provide your residential addresses and work history for the past ten years and provide true certified copies of your birth certificate, marriage certificate, change of name certificate, citizenship certificate and all current passports.

The security clearance process is intrusive by nature. However, the privacy and dignity of applicants is respected. The process is non-discriminatory and the principles of natural justice are observed.

2. REGISTER REQUIREMENTS

Specialist Sectors

AusAID is seeking expressions of interest from highly experienced individuals with specialist technical skills in the following sectors for inclusion on the ACC Register.

- **Agriculture/Livelihood** to support the restoration and strengthening of rural livelihoods and food security in countries affected by conflict or natural disaster
- Donor Coordination to develop and implement strategic engagement and mobilisation of national and international donors, and facilitate coordination between donors and recipient governments and communities
- Education Administration to assist with the restoration of national and local education services
- **Engineering and Planning** to assess the infrastructure needs of host countries and assist with the restoration and improvement of infrastructure as required
- **Financial Management** to support financial, fiscal, revenue, macroeconomic and market policy development and implementation
- Health Administration to assist with the restoration of national and local health services
- **Legal and Judicial** to assist with establishing the rule of law and strengthening of governments and legal institutions
- Needs Assessment and Monitoring to identify and assess needs in a post-conflict or post-disaster environment to support effective stabilisation, recovery and development responses, and/or to monitor recovery and reconstruction progress against agreed objectives
- **Public Sector Management** to support the restoration and strengthening of national and local public sectors, and build local capacity to manage effective government operations
- Stabilisation and Recovery Management to harness and direct Australian civilian and military resources and work with the relevant country representatives in the assessment, planning and delivery of an integrated stabilisation plan

When expressing interest in joining the ACC register, sector/s of expertise should be clearly indicated. However, please note that expressions of interest could be considered for other sectors if that is deemed appropriate by assessors.

Eligibility requirements

All applicants must:

- be an Australian citizen
- have a minimum of five (5) years experience in the relevant specialist field; ten (10) years is preferred
- have relevant and substantial field experience working in post-conflict and/or post natural disaster situations in developing countries or in remote Australian communities
- have a current Australian Government security clearance to Negative Vet 1 or be willing to obtain one
- possess relevant tertiary qualifications and/or professional accreditation.

Supervision and Leadership Responsibilities

It is expected that all Civilian Corps personnel:

- will share skills and mentor local counterparts to build capacity;
- will be able to work autonomously with limited direction and supervision;
- may lead or participate in an assistance mission led by Australia, one in which Australia plays a major role as part of a coalition effort or where Australia makes a niche contribution in support of multilateral or bilateral efforts;
- may lead a team or be a member of a team; and
- will be required to engender respect and confidence and work effectively with colleagues and partners in wider teams in pursuit of objectives.

Professional and Personal Attributes

In addition to being a qualified technical expert in their chosen field, all Civilian Corps personnel must possess the following professional skills and personal attributes.

Professional skills

- Highly developed representational skills in order to effectively represent the Australian Government
- Experience in capacity building
- High level analytical skills
- High level strategy development
- Planning and project management
- Strong inter-agency liaison and coordination
- Strong leadership skills
- · Excellent team based skills

Personal attributes

- Adaptability, flexibility and perseverance
- Resourcefulness
- Sound judgement and common sense
- Resilience, stress tolerance and the ability to work under considerable pressure
- Ability to work effectively with others, particularly in a cross cultural and in a whole of government/international cooperation environment
- Robust physical and mental health
- Team players

The professional skills and personal attributes of people expressing an interest in joining the ACC may be confirmed with referees.

Remuneration on Deployment

Register personnel will be engaged for a fixed term by AusAID for the duration of any ACC deployment. It is expected that successful applicants will be at the Executive (\$86,011 - \$120,618) or Senior Executive Service Level (\$139,734 - \$171,280) or equivalent. In addition to salary, allowances and superannuation will be paid. Specific terms and conditions will be in place for each deployment. These will be dependent on the duration and location of deployment.

Assessment Criteria

- 1. Demonstrated ability and experience in one of the identified specialist areas, and the ability to apply your specialist skills to effectively contribute to the work of the Australian Civilian Corps. (300 words)
- 2. Demonstrated record of working effectively in post-crisis or equally challenging situations in developing countries or remote Australian communities. (300 words)
- 3. Proven capacity to work effectively in cross cultural situations/environments. (200 words)
- 4. Provide a brief explanation of why you are interested in joining the Australian Civilian Corps. (200 words)
- 5. Demonstrated professional skills and personal attributes identified as a requirement for the Australian Civilian Corps. (**Note:** This criterion will be assessed through referee comments, psychological assessment and medical examination. Applicants will <u>not</u> be required to submit a statement addressing this criterion.)

If this is not you...

If after reading this applicant information kit you determine that your skills and experience do not yet match those being sought by the Australian Civilian Corps you may wish to pursue opportunities with other aid related organisations, such as;

- Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development www.ausaid.gov.au/youtham
- Australian Volunteers International www.australianvolunteers.com
- Vida www.vidavolunteers.org.au

(Note: AusAID is developing a new volunteer program which will combine the above three organisations/programs. Further information on this initiative is available on the AusAID website at http://www.ausaid.gov.au/partner/volunteer.cfm).

- United Nations Volunteers <u>www.unv.org</u>
- ActionAID www.ActionAid.org.au
- RedR <u>www.redr.org.au</u>

3. HOW TO LODGE A DETAILED EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Providing your Expression of Interest

- 1. You can express an interest in a place on the Australian Civilian Corps register in one of the following ways:
 - Complete the on-line expression of interest form at www.ausaid.gov.au/acc which includes statements addressing the assessment criteria, your completed 'agreement to release form' or a statement outlining your particular employment circumstances (e.g. self employed, retired etc).and a detailed resume outlining all the skills and experience relevant to the sector/s you have nominated. You must include contact details of two referees who can attest to your technical and professional skills, personal attributes and experience working in post-conflict/post natural disaster situations. One of your referees must be your current supervisor.

(**Note:** If you answer **NO** to any of the eligibility requirements, the on-line system will prevent you from continuing with the expression of interest process.)

Email a completed expression of interest form (electronic copies available from Effective People – see box below), resume and a scanned copy of your completed 'agreement to release' form to acc@effectivepeople.com.au.

(**Note:** Your expression of interest will not be considered if you do not provide a completed signed release form or a statement of why this form is not relevant to your employment circumstances eg self employed, retired, volunteer etc.)

Receipt of your expression of interest will be confirmed by email.

2. You may nominate more than one specialist role provided you meet the technical requirements for each specialisation. You will need to provide separate statements addressing the selection criteria for additional specialist role(s). Space is provided in the on-line expression of interest form to do this.

If you experience any difficulties expressing interest on-line or have any queries relating to the process please contact Effective People on 02 6162 3530 or via email at acc@effectivepeople.com.au.

Addressing the Assessment Criteria

The purpose of the assessment criteria is to provide the framework for assessing your expression of interest and relative merit during the shortlisting process. When preparing your statements addressing the assessment criteria, the on-line expression of interest form will limit you to the number of words as specified against each criterion above.

Assessment Criterion 5 will be assessed through referee comments, psychological assessment and medical examination. You are <u>not</u> required to submit a statement addressing this criterion.

The Selection Process

Submissions of expressions of interest close at 10:00 am on Monday 7 March 2011. Expressions of interest will then be grouped by specialist sector and will be shortlisted sequentially in a priority order. If you are shortlisted, you will be required to:

- be available for interview (if required, most likely to be by phone) from 21 March 2011 (depending on when your sector shortlisting is completed);
- receive a clear police check (if not already in possession of an Australian Government security clearance);
- undertake a deployment suitability assessment, consisting of on-line questionnaires and interview and be found suitable for deployment into hardship locations, commencing from 28 March 2011;
- prepare for and attend a medical examination commencing 28 March 2011 and meet the minimum medical and physical requirements for deployment; and
- attend six (6) days of compulsory training during May or June 2011.

AusAID will meet the costs associated with the police checks, deployment suitability assessment and the initial medical examination.

It is anticipated that everyone who expresses an interest will be notified of the outcome of this process by the end of May 2011.

Training

The ACC Foundation Training Course will develop core competencies to enable personnel to perform effectively in challenging overseas environments. Key learning outcomes to be achieved through the training program will include:

- understanding of the Australian Civilian Corps and its role in delivering assistance;
- representing the Australian Government overseas;
- understanding of fragile states and peace building;
- development of cross cultural skills and behavioural awareness;
- ability to build capacity in cross cultural environments;
- understanding of personal security responsibilities in high threat environments;
- · ability to cope with stress and stressful situations; and
- understanding of civil-military interactions.

The ACC Foundation Training Course is held in Canberra. There is a two night residential component that all participants are required to attend. AusAID will engage participants for the duration of the course and meet the costs of those required to travel (within Australia or once you reach Australia) to attend the course. Courses are currently scheduled to be conducted on the following dates:

- $2^{nd} 7^{th}$ May 2011;
- 6th 11th June 2011; and
- 20th 25th June 2011.

In addition, personnel selected for deployment will be required to undertake deployment specific training or briefings immediately prior to deployment.

For detailed information about the Australian Civilian Corps please download the brochure at www.ausaid.gov.au/acc



Australian Civilian Corps

Agreement to release employee for training and deployments

Ι,	of	•
(Insert name of supervisor	·	(Insert name of organisation)
support the expression of interest of _		in joining
	(I	nsert name of employee)
the Australian Civilian Corps (ACC)	register. I agree that	, if selected, the employee will be released for six (6) days of
ACC foundation training in May/or Ju	une 2011. I understa	and that if accepted onto the ACC register, the employee may be
required to be released for: deployme	nt within 28 days of	a decision to deploy by the Australian Government; additional
training; and pre-deployment prepara	tions.	
Supervisors' Signature:		
Supervisor's Name:		.
Supervisor's Position title:		
Date:	/	/ .



Australian Civilian Corps

Expression of Interest Form

February 2011

Pre-Submission Questions	
Are you an Australian Citizen?	Y 🗆 N 🗆
Do you possess relevant tertiary qualifications and/or professional accreditation?	Y N
Do you have relevant and substantial field experience working in post conflict and/or post natural disaster situations in developing countries or relevant field experience working in remote Australian communities?	Y 🗆 N 🗆
Do you have a minimum of five (5) years experience in the relevant specialist field?	Y 🗆 N 🗆
If you have answered 'NO' to any of these questions you are ineligible for the ACC as you do not meet the minim	um requirements.

1.	1. Personal Details											
Title:		Gender:		1	First name:			Surname:				
Email:								Alternate Ema	ail:			
Phone (v	vork):				Phone (mol	bile):			Phon	e (home):		
Address:							_					
Suburb:							State:	Please select.		Postcode:		
Postal A	ddress:											
Suburb:							State:	Please select		Postcode:		
Country/ies of citizenship:												
Are you	Are you currently residing in Australia? Y \(\subseteq N \subseteq \) If no, please state country of residence:											
	nave an nn Governr clearance?	ment Y		If so, what level?	Please sele	ect	Expiry Date:			Issuing Authority:		
If you re	quire a pol	ice check,	is ther	e any rea	ison why you r	nay not be	cleared?				Y 🗌 N 🗍	

2. Areas of Expertise and Skills	
Area of Expertise (select a maximum of 2)	Skills (select 2 specialist skills, for each of the two areas of expertise)
	Assessment of livelihood needs
Agriculture/Livelihood	Coordination with government
Agriculture/Livermood	Program/project design and procurement
	Sector plans and budgets
	Coordination with host government
	Coordination with local and international NGOs
☐ Donor Coordination	Coordination with the UN and multilateral banks
	Coordination with donor government
	Design and planning of recovery activities
	Financial and budget planning of relief funds
	Assess/prioritise education requirements Coordination with government
☐ Education Administration	Program/project design and procurement
	Sector plans and budgets
	Coordination with government
	Damage/needs assessment post conflict/disaster
	Management of projects
	Management of stakeholders
Engineering and Planning	Planning and design
	Procurement
	Quality assurance
	Sector and donor coordination
	Anti-corruption and public accountability
	☐ Budget processes
	☐ Fiscal control
	Fiscal policy and reform
Financial Management	Manage public financial assets
I manetar ivianagement	Policies for procurement
	Private sector development
	Promote well functioning markets
	Re-establish payment systems
	Sector and donor coordination
	Assess/prioritise health requirements
☐ Health Administration	Coordination with government
	Program/project design and procurement Sector plans and budgets
	Anti-corruption
	Establish/manage legal service unit
	International criminal law
	International human rights law
	Legal aid
	Legal proceeding advice
	Legal reform
Legal and Judicial	Legislative drafting
_	Plans and budgets
	Procedural fairness and legal rights
	Promoting judiciary independence
	Rule of law programs
	Traditional or tribal justice
	Training legal officers
	☐ Transitional justice programs

2. Areas of Expertise and Skills (cor	nt.)				
☐ Needs Assessment & Monitoring	Conflict ea Damage ar Develop fr Establish n Identify pr	iorities and oppo alysis ogram effective	eds assessment sessment sponse evaluation frameworks ortunities		
☐ Public Sector Management	☐ Contribute to strategies and plans ☐ Develop contacts ☐ Develop governance strategies ☐ Develop methodologies for sustainability ☐ Develop people management policies ☐ Information collection and research ☐ Prioritise and monitor progress ☐ Project preparation including procurement ☐ Public sector frameworks ☐ Public sector needs assessment ☐ Strategic human capital planning				
☐ Stabilisation and Recovery	Context an Engage ho Engage loc Knowledge Manage re Monitor pr	alysis st government cal representativ e transfer sources cogress	es		
3. Current Employment					
Name of Organisation:			Position / Title:		
If APS, substantive level or equivalent: Employer other: (If applicable) Please ensure you provide a detailed summary of your responsibilities of your employment in your resume.				Please select	
4. Referee Details					
Name: (current supervisor) Nam		Name:	Name:		
Department/Organisation: Depart			ent/Organisation:		
Position: Pos			Position:		
Phone number:		Phone nu	Phone number:		
Email address: Email a			dress:		

5. Education and Training

Please list your professional and vocational training, including professional memberships and affiliations. Please also indicate the highest level of academic qualification gained.

Qualification:	Qualification:	
Institution:	Institution:	
Year completed:	Year completed:	
Qualification:	Qualification:	1
Institution:	Institution:	
Year completed:	Year completed:	
Qualification:	Qualification:	
Institution:	Institution:	
Year completed:	Year completed:	

If you have additional information to include please provide the details in your resume.

6. Languages (other than English)				
Language:		Fluency Level:	Please select	
Language:		Fluency Level:	Please select	
Language:		Fluency Level:	Please select	
Language:		Fluency Level:	Please select	

Fluency Level Descriptors

Basic: basic courtesy statements and able to read isolated words and phrases

Intermediate: able to satisfy limited work requirements in familiar subject areas (both verbal and written)

Fluent: able to communicate effectively in a work environment (both verbal and written)

Country:		Country:	
Year:		Year:	
Threat level:	Please select	Threat level:	Please select
Length of assignment:		Length of assignment:	
Specialist field:		Specialist field:	
Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)		Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)	
Country:		Country:	
Year:		Year:	
Threat level:	Please select	Threat level:	Please select
Length of assignment:		Length of assignment:	
Specialist field:		Specialist field:	
Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)		Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)	
Country:		Country:	
Year:		Year:	
Threat level:	Please select	Threat level:	Please select
Length of assignment:		Length of assignment:	
Specialist field:		Specialist field:	
Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)		Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)	

Country:		Country:	
Year:		Year:	
Threat level:	Please select	Threat level:	Please select
Length of assignment:		Length of assignment:	
Specialist field:		Specialist field:	
Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)		Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)	
Country:		Country:	
Year:		Year:	
Threat level:	Please select	Threat level:	Please select
Length of assignment:		Length of assignment:	
Specialist field:		Specialist field:	
Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)		Key responsibilities: (50 word limit)	

	8. Assessment Criteria					
1.	Demonstrated ability and experience in your identified specialist area/s, and the ability to apply your specialist skills to effectively contribute to the work of the Australian Civilian Corps. (300 words)					
	Primary Specialist area					
	Secondary Specialist area (if applicable)					
2.	Demonstrated record of working effectively in post-crisis	or equally challenging situations in developing countries or in remote				
	Australian communities. (300 words)					
_	Durance conscitute would offertively in case cultivate it.	tions/anvisanments (000 words)				
3.	Proven capacity to work effectively in cross cultural situa	ttions/environments. (200 words)				
4.	Provide a brief explanation of why you are interested in j	oining the Australian Civilian Corps. (200 words)				
5.	Demonstrated possession of the identified professional sk	ills and personal attributes.				
	This criterion will be assessed through referee comments, more required to submit a statement addressing this criterion.	edical examination and suitability assessment. Applicants will not be				
	9. Known periods you are NOT available over	the coming 12 months				
Sta	rt date End date	Reason				
10. Countries you are NOT willing to deploy to						
Со	untry	Reason (optional)				

11. Duration of deployment you are willing to undertake					
Short term deployments (up to three months)	Short term deployments (up to three months) Longer term deployments (six to twelve months)				
☐ Medium term deployments (three to six months)	☐ Maximum term deploymen	nts (twelve to twenty four months)			
12. Declaration					
I have attached a detailed resume to this expression of interest.					
I have attached a completed 'Agreement to Release Employee F my particular employment circumstances (e.g. self employed, re		P			
I am aware that I will be required to undertake medical and suita required by AusAID.	bility checks and screening as				
I am aware that I will be required to undertake all police and secu AusAID.	urity checks required by				
I am aware that in order to obtain an Australian Government securequired to undertake a comprehensive background screening pro					
I am aware that, if selected for a deployment, I will be employed deployed under AusAID terms and conditions for the duration of					
I am aware that, if accepted onto the register, I may be called upon expected to be able to deploy on short notice (i.e. within 28 days)					
I am aware that acceptance onto the register is not a guarantee that					
Is there anything that could constrain your ability to deploy at she physically, psychologically or professionally difficult environme	Y 🗆 N 🗆				
If yes, please provide further details:					
Note: AusAID will retain the information that you provide through the expression of interest process for the purposes of creating and maintaining the Australian Civilian Corps register, and arranging Australian Civilian Corps training and deployments. This may involve sharing the information with contractors involved in recruitment, training, and supporting Australian Civilian Corps personnel. Should you be successful in gaining a position on the register AusAID will notify your employer.					
I declare that the information provided in this form and attached to this expression of interest is true and correct.					
Signature:					
Date:					