The Materiel Cadetship Scheme (MCS) was established in 2007 to attract, recruit, develop and retain engineering undergraduates in specific disciplines, to meet anticipated Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) skills shortages.

In 2008 the Scheme will be expanded to include Accounting, IT and Logistics.

The objectives of the scheme are:

- to ensure the DMO has access to skills in Engineering, Accounting, IT and Logistics disciplines identified as areas of critical skills shortages;
- to profile the DMO as an employer of choice for graduates; and
- to provide a mechanism for DMO to build relationships with key universities.

**The Scheme**

In 2008, the Scheme will:

- Offer up to 25 full-time study cadetships to eligible undergraduates. Undergraduates will join the Scheme in January prior to the commencement of their final two years of study.

- Recruit up to ten Engineering (electrical, electronic, mechanical, mechatronic, software, systems or naval architecture), five Accounting, five IT and five Logistics cadets for work experience placements of six weeks during the summer vacation (from 10 January – 22 February 2008).

- Be used as a mechanism to develop closer links with universities and for working with key universities to attract students into tertiary courses related to areas of critical skills shortages.

During the six weeks work experience, cadets will work in small groups to research, design and develop solutions to discipline specific problems identified through the acquisition and sustainment activities for major pieces of military equipment. Cadets will work in a controlled environment to research, design and develop innovative solutions on project issues. Structured supervision and mentoring will be provided by experienced professionals.

At the end of the six week work experience program the cadets will present reports outlining the solutions they have developed to a member of the DMO Executive responsible for their specific discipline within the organisation. Awards will be presented for the best solution.
**Applicant Eligibility**

To be eligible for a DMO cadetship, undergraduates must:

- be commencing their final two years of study in an Engineering (electrical, electronic, mechanical, mechatronic, software, systems or naval architecture), Accounting, IT or Logistics degree; and
- be an Australian citizen.

**Applications close on 12 August 2007.**

**What we offer**

Benefits of the cadetship include:

- being paid over $25,000 per year during your last two years at university;
- financial support for textbooks;
- a guarantee of employment in a dynamic project delivery organisation on successful completion;
- a minimum of six weeks of professionally recognised real-world work experience each year (during Jan – Feb 08); and
- a dedicated support team to help you through these years of your study.

**Employment in the DMO**

All undergraduates who have successfully completed MCS will be offered a place on the Materiel Graduate Scheme with a starting salary of at least $50,495.

Successful completion of a Materiel Cadetship will be based on:

- successfully completing their tertiary studies; and
- being recommended for future employment within DMO by their work placement supervisor at the completion of their cadetship.

**Termination of the Cadetship**

Cadetships will be subject to review at the end of each semester and after the completion of each work experience program. Cadetships may be terminated if the cadet:

- receives an unsatisfactory report at the end of their work experience program;
- discontinues full time studies;
- transfers to an engineering degree which is not accredited by Engineers Australia;
- transfers to an engineering degree which is not identified as a DMO critical skills shortage;
- transfers to an accounting degree which is ineligible for either the Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) Australia or Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia (ICAA) programs; or
- does not successfully complete their tertiary studies.

**Further information**