

# Have you, or someone in your family, been a member of the Armed Forces?



The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly.

**As a reservist, veteran or a family member there is a range of local support available to you.**

We are working with forces friendly employers and partners to support the Armed Forces Covenant.

**Please let your work coach know if you or someone in your family has served in the Armed Forces.**

Your work coach has access to a local 'Armed Forces Champion' and can let you know what support there is available locally.



You can also find out more online. Please go to this address:

**[www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/](http://www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/)**

Or use the QR code.

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## About QR codes



These square barcodes open a specific website, saving you typing in long web addresses.

You can get a free app to scan QR codes on most smartphones.

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Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

## **Additional information if you are a reservist, veteran or a family member**

There is a local 'Armed Forces Champion' who can help you get the support you need from Jobcentre Plus.

Early access to specialist employment help may be available from the Work and Health Programme in England and Wales. In Scotland, you may be eligible for help from the Fair Start Scotland Programme.

If you are a reservist, unemployed and receiving Jobseeker's Allowance or Income Support you can keep the first £20 of any earnings as a reservist. You will not be excluded from Jobseeker's Allowance whilst engaged in your duties. You can train for up to 15 continuous days, 43 days during your first year, without ending your benefit claim. This also means you can keep 'passported' benefits such as Housing Benefit during this training.

If you are a reservist and claiming Universal Credit any taxable earnings need to be declared and will be taken into account. Your annual bounty will be disregarded from your earnings but will be treated as capital and you must declare this. You will not be required to search, or be available for work whilst engaged in your duties as a reservist.

If you have been seriously injured in the Armed Forces since 6 April 2005 the Armed Forces Independence Payment may be available.

If you are the spouse, or civil partner, of a member of the Armed Forces and have accompanied your service partner on postings outside the UK, you may be entitled to National Insurance credits to protect your future State Pension and eligibility to contributory benefits.

If you have served abroad you, your partner and your children aged up to 21, are exempt from the 3 month residence requirement for claims for income-based Jobseeker's Allowance on arrival in the UK.

If you receive Guaranteed Income Payments from the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, or War Pension Scheme payments you may be exempt from the benefit cap. Please check your entitlement with us.

If you receive Universal Credit and also receive a War Disablement Pension or Guaranteed Income Payments made under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme these will not be taken into account, but still need to be declared.

**To find out more, speak to your work coach. They will be able to give you more information and let you know about other support available locally.**