

Protect land and sea with Australian Border Force

The Australian Border Force (ABF) is encouraging people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds to apply as part of their latest employment offering.

Operating across Australia, it's an exciting opportunity to join a professional law enforcement agency and help protect land and sea. The ABF serves the community, protecting Australia's borders with officers working at airports and seaports, clearing travellers from all around the world. But that's not all they do – the ABF has specialist areas including a counter-terrorism unit, marine unit and of course the detector dogs.

Mark, an officer with the ABF got the call up to join last year and he hasn't looked back. He's a Kunalu man and while his career has been focused in Queensland one of the things that drew him to the ABF is that his career could take him anywhere across Australia, or even to an international posting.

"Being an Aboriginal officer in the ABF is quite exciting," said Mark. "What really attracted me was the range of diverse opportunities you can have within the organisation."

Mark's day might involve verifying the authenticity of the travel documents, matching the passenger's identity to the documents and dealing with any irregularities. Or he might be working in the baggage hall, inspecting passenger's luggage and conducting x-rays and testing to ensure they are not in possession of dangerous weapons, illicit substances or prohibited goods – things that put our community at risk.

The Border Force Officer Recruit Traineeship, which is currently open for applications, is the ABF's entry level programme. It's an intensive twelve-month training programme designed to equip you with the capabilities you need to build a career with the ABF. Recruits are paid to train, while they complete six months of classroom-based training at the Sydney ABF College then a further six months on the job. They will learn about legislation and powers, passenger processing, search, detection and seizure processes, then practice their skills in a supervised environment.

"The programme is a great challenge but there's a lot of support from your team and your trainers. There's also Indigenous mentors and a range of support mechanisms within the organisation," Mark said.

"I think it's important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to work in organisations like the ABF to embed our cultural values and be involved."

The ABF expects the best from officers – that they're dedicated and have a high level of integrity as their role is so integral to maintaining a safe community. In return recruits receive training that sets them up for a career for life – one that's exciting and diverse, and has plenty of opportunities.

This year the ABF is working with Onpoint 365, a 100 per cent Indigenous owned and managed company, to engage recruits.

Information sessions are being held across Australia. To find one near you go to Facebook and search @onpoint365 events.

Applications close on:

6 November at 11:00 am AEDT – don't miss this great opportunity!

To apply or find out more go to www.border.gov.au/abfcareers

Call 1300 IBFORT (1300 423 678) or email ibfort@onpoint365.com



Two Australian Border Force Officers, Mark and Cheyenne on duty at the airport.

visit www.border.gov.au/abfcareers