



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Australian Antarctic Division



AUSTRALIAN
ANTARCTIC
PROGRAM

Expeditioner Band 2.3 (APS 5) – Senior Communications Operator

Classification	Expeditioner Band 2.3 (APS 5) - \$89,311 pa
Total Remuneration	\$157,265 pa (When in Antarctica/sub-Antarctic, inclusive of Antarctic Allowances)
Division	Australian Antarctic Division
Branch	Operations and Logistics
Section	Station and Field Operations
Location	Kingston, Tasmania and Antarctic/sub-Antarctic deployment
Employment Status	Non-Ongoing (temporary)
Hours	Full-time (37.5 hours per week)
Security Clearance	Not Required

WHO WE ARE – Australian Antarctic Division (AAD)

The AAD is part of the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). As primary agency for Australia's Antarctic Program (AAP), the AAD is responsible for achieving the Australian Government's Antarctic goals to:

- maintain the Antarctic Treaty System and enhance Australia's influence within it
- protect the Antarctic environment
- understand the role of Antarctica in the global climate system
- undertake scientific work of practical, economic and national significance.

THE JOB

As a Senior Communications Operator you will coordinate and operate the Communications Centre on a station and/or voyage to ensure the safety of personnel travelling by air, sea and in the field. You will mentor and train Communications Operators. You will assist with the training of other expeditioners in the use of communications devices on station.

You may assist telecommunications technical staff in the administration of communications devices and equipment. You may assist other expeditioners with minor computer problems.

Senior Communications Operators are employed in summer jobs primarily at Casey and Davis stations and on some round-trip voyages.

You should apply for this role if you have the appropriate knowledge, skills and experience and an interest in the challenge of living and working in a small community in a remote environment. Applicants will be assessed and if successful placed in a role for training and deployment, or a merit pool that will be used for future seasons.

Key duties will include, but are not limited to:

- Operate HF, VHF and satellite equipment for communication with fixed and rotary winged aircraft, ships and other watercraft, and field parties and field camps
- Keep a continuous log and full air-ground plot when working with fixed and rotary-winged aircraft associated with station programs
- Maintain appropriate radio logs and check sheets in a timely and accurate manner
- Liaise with AAD staff, international Antarctic program staff, military and civil program participants via email, phone, radio, and in person in a professional manner
- Initiate emergency response procedures as required
- Supervise, train and lead Communications Operators
- Coordinate rosters and ensure adequate operational coverage
- Provide advice to the Operations Coordinator regarding radio operations
- Train personnel on station in radio operations
- Demonstrate sensitivity for privacy and security requirements

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR - ESSENTIAL

Required Identification/Qualification/Licence/Ticket	When you need to provide evidence	
	Provide copy with application	obtained prior to job commencement
Aeronautical Radio Operators Certificate (AROC) or equivalent	✓	
Driver's licence – Current, unrestricted “C” class (manual) Australian driver's licence	✓	
Citizenship - In accordance with the PS Act 1999, APS employees are required to be Australian citizens. Persons who are not Australian citizens will generally only be considered where there are no suitable Australian applicants, with next considerations being Australian residents with work rights and New Zealand citizens.	✓	
Valid Passport - The expiry date of the passport (and any relevant visa) must be at least 6 months beyond the planned end date of your intended stay in the Antarctic or sub-Antarctic		✓
Provide First Aid (HLTAID011) must be valid for at least 18 months beyond the date of AAD commencement.		✓
Provide CPR (HLTAID009) must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of AAD commencement		✓

Knowledge and experience: (within the last 5 years)

- Hands-on operation of radio communications equipment (VHF and HF experience preferred)
- Air-ground-air radio operations experience

- Radio communication experience with remote field parties, for example outback travellers or vessels at sea.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR – DESIRABLE

These are not essential to the role however, to be suitable you will need to have at least some of these. We encourage you to apply even if you do not fit 100% of the requirements.

Qualifications/Licences:

- A Long-Range Operator Certificate of Proficiency (LROCP) or equivalent
- Certificate IV in Training and Assessment or equivalent
- Other relevant radio communications qualifications or licences
- A current Coxswain 1 certificate

Knowledge and experience: (within the last 5 years)

- Demonstrated capability in communications operations in a major public, private or defence network
- Experience with handheld GPS tracking devices such as InReach systems, SPOT trackers, and NAL Shout Nanos
- Experience with emergency communication devices such as PLBs, ELTs, and EPIRBs
- Working knowledge of HF radio propagation, frequency selection, and tools to assist with planning
- Demonstrated experience in training adults

ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Personal Qualities:

During the recruitment selection process, the AAD assesses individual personal qualities required to successfully live and work in an isolated Antarctic/sub-Antarctic community. Successful candidates need to demonstrate the personal qualities detailed [here](#).

Pre-employment check:

Your suitability for employment will be assessed through pre-employment screening including National Police Check, referee checks, pre-employment medical assessment, specified mandatory qualification(s) validation and completion of required probation period.

Work Health and Safety Obligations:

All employees have a duty to take reasonable care of their own health and safety while at work, to ensure their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons in line with any reasonable instruction given to comply with the Work Health and Safety legislation.

RecruitAbility:

Under the [APS \(Australian Public Service\) RecruitAbility scheme](#) you will be invited to participate in further assessment for the vacancy if you choose to apply under the scheme; declare you have a disability; AND meet the minimum requirements for the position.

HOW TO APPLY

Information about how to apply can be found [here](#), including further information about AAD jobs.