Directorate of Honours and Awards

Unissued Service Awards of Deceased Members

Unissued awards are those that a member is entitled to receive but the member dies before the award can be issued. This can occur when a member dies in service before an award is processed, or when a medal is introduced that has retrospective entitlement provisions. For example, the Australian Defence Medal (pictured right) was introduced in 2006 and could be awarded to those who rendered qualifying service after 2 September 1945.



Granting unissued service awards to other persons

While the entitlement to an award exists only for the original member who rendered the service for which the medals are awarded, unissued awards may be granted (or gifted) to an approved claimant as a gesture of respect to the deceased member.

Persons listed below in the immediate family of the deceased member are entitled to apply to be granted unissued awards. This list is in descending priority of entitlement.

- Spouse/defacto spouse (relationship to the member at time of death)
- Child
- Grand child
- Parent
- Sibling

In exception cases, unissued medals may be granted to other relatives or institutions. These will be considered by the approving authority on a case by case basis.

How do I apply?

Go to www.defence.gov.au/medals/ and complete the Defence Medals Online Application Form selecting Full Medal Assessment as the application type.

How do I purchase replica medals?

Replica medals are available from medal dealers or commercial military memorabilia outlets. Many of these replicas are high quality and can be difficult to distinguish from the originals.

To request a list of your relative's entitled awards, please go to www.defence.gov.au/medals/ and complete the Defence Medals Online Application Form, selecting **List of Previous Awards** as the application type.

For further information on matters relating to honours and awards, please contact 1800 DEFENCE (1800 333 362).

