

Armed Forces into Allied Health Professions (AFIAH)

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Armed Forces into Allied Health Professions Project



Overview of project

- To explore the experiences of Armed Forces Personnel transitioning into Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
- To establish trends and themes in relation to positive and negative experiences.
- To gain better understanding of the qualifications and transferable skills of Armed Forces Personnel.
- To highlight where there is scope for improvement.

Project at University of Plymouth

To identify ways to support HEIs in promoting programmes to
Armed Forces Personnel

Initial survey



Survey results – n= 65

52% applied to one university

48% submitted applications at 2-6 universities

31% were **rejected** at admissions

68% stated that the armed forces qualifications that service leavers hold were not accepted by their chosen university

32% were advised to retrain and obtain further qualifications during the application process

“The transferable skills I learnt and used in the military I use daily in my AHP job”

“Armed Forces qualifications are vast and not everyone understands or appreciates that these are not always recognised as standards”

Project development



Mapping qualifications, Bridging module, National pathway and armed forces leavers experience.

Interviews with participants

Six interviews

5 male
1 female
Royal Navy Army
Royal Air Force
Royal Marines

Occupational Therapist = 2
ODP* = 1
Paramedic = 2
Physiotherapist = 1

*Operating Department Practitioner

Mapping: key findings and recommendations



Improve awareness of choice amongst AFP about AHP careers on leaving the military

AHP careers viewed as desirable & financially viable

AHP careers that are local

Using 'Step into Health'

HEI direct marketing

The diversity of the group

Accrediting prior and experiential learning at application

Recognising the potential credits from military qualifications

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

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All four reports are available on the web page below

https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/allied-health-professions/helping-ensure-essential-supply-ahps/making-step-health-case-studies?utm_source=LinkedIn&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Orlo

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