



# Ministry of Defence

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Jacob Slace  
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11 December 2020

Dear Mr Slace,

Thank you for your email of 15 November in which you requested the following information:

*I would like to know how many applicants were there for the Army Officer Scholarship Scheme (AOSS) for this year (from 1st September 2019 to the current date, incl. applications made in 2019 due to COVID pandemic) and from these applicants how many were awarded the scholarship?*  
*I would also like clarification on whether Scholars hold the rank of Officer Cadet (OCdt)?*

Your request has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that the MOD holds the information within the scope of your enquiry. I have split your request into three questions, as shown below with the responses.

1. *How many applicants were there for the Army Officer Scholarship Scheme (AOSS) for this year (from 1st September 2019 to the current date, incl. applications made in 2019 due to COVID pandemic)*

A: For the current recruiting year (01 April 2020 – 31 March 2021) 816 applications were received. This will include some that were found to be not eligible.

The total number of applications for a specific scheme is not retained once the recruiting year is complete and places have been awarded.

2. *From these applicants how many were awarded the scholarship?*

59 scholarships were awarded in the 2019/20 recruiting year.

67 awarded so far during the 2020/21 recruiting year, with one remaining Board in December.

*I would also like clarification on*

*3. whether Scholars hold the rank of Officer Cadet (OCdt)?*

Scholars are civilians and still at school when they apply, so they are not awarded a rank at this stage. Once the scholars attend University they join a UOTC and become Officer Cadets, at which point they are awarded the Standard Undergraduate Bursary.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, if you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

A Stewart  
Manning Team, Army Secretariat