



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE SPECIAL WARFARE OFFICERS



DIGITAL EDITION



LEADING FROM THE FRONT

WORLDWIDE ENEMY THREATS

You and your team just got the call to deploy on a moment's notice to an unnamed hostile location. This is not an exercise! The enemy threat is real! Your mission is to thwart attacks against U.S. forces. Every hour and every minute is critical in preventing combat casualties. As an Air Force Special Warfare (AFSPECWAR) Officer, the Department of Defense relies on you to plan and lead your team in engaging and destroying enemy targets through precision strikes and rescuing friendly forces through personnel recovery missions.

AFSPECWAR includes Special Tactics Officers (STO), Tactical Air Control Party Officers (TACPO) and Combat Rescue Officers (CRO), along with enlisted operators — Pararescuemen, Combat Controllers, Special Reconnaissance and TACPs. As direct combatants, they lead ground forces in Special Tactics, Guardian Angel, and Air Support Operations squadrons, across Air Force Special Operations Command and Air Combat Command.

AFSPECWAR Officers ensure their teams are organized, trained and equipped to perform critical missions around the globe. They include combat search and rescue, precision strike, global access, special reconnaissance, personnel and material recovery, hostage rescue, counter-terrorism, counterinsurgency, command and control, security force assistance, countering weapons of mass destruction, unconventional warfare, theater security cooperation and foreign internal defense.

CHALLENGING CAREER PATH

The path to becoming an AFSPECWAR officer is extremely challenging, physically and mentally. The training can take 15 months to complete as it's designed to ensure those officers are thoroughly screened and developed to lead complex mission sets; "Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime" is more than a motto, it's a commitment to our nation and its allies and fulfill the AFSPECWAR mission 24/7.

(Note: Due to the extensive training and needs of the Air Force, Special Warfare Officers incur a six- year service commitment.)

SPECIAL TACTICS OFFICER

Special Tactics Officers lead Special Tactics Teams during combat and contingencies, working alongside joint and coalition special operations forces to execute global access, strike and recovery operations.

STOs are responsible for delivering specialized and unconventional capabilities involving the integration of air, space and cyber assets with ground and maritime special operations forces to enable force projection. Missions include seizing and controlling airstrips, conducting special reconnaissance, guiding precision strikes and strategic attack, executing combat rescue and providing battlefield trauma care.

STOs are highly skilled in planning, executing, commanding and controlling military operations, to include leading teams in all phases of intelligence collection and dissemination.

TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY OFFICER

Tactical Air Control Party Officers and their teams train, deploy and serve alongside Army, Navy, Marines, Special Operations and Partner-Nation forces in some of the harshest environments in the world.

TACPOs are responsible for planning and leading teams that integrate airpower into the ground scheme of maneuver. TACPOs specialize in precision strike, joint fires integration, and joint all-domain command and control systems to synchronize surface-to-surface and air-to-surface fires.

During mission execution, TACPOs stand shoulder to shoulder with ground forces; embedded with forces on the battlefield, in tactical operations centers, and theater-wide command and control headquarters worldwide.

COMBAT RESCUE OFFICER

Combat Rescue are highly skilled expert mission planners with extensive command and control experience responsible for rescue missions. They lead Pararescuemen, SERE Specialists, and work alongside joint and coalition forces to execute rescue and recovery operations worldwide.

They employ rapid response capabilities from all domains to contact, treat and extract patients during combat and humanitarian relief missions, in any environment.

During mission execution, CROs lead complex operations requiring an array of skillsets such as trauma care, technical rescue, emergency close air support, and reintegration operations.



AIR FORCE QUALIFICATIONS

To be considered for an Air Force Special Warfare Officer specialty, you must meet these minimum qualifications:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be a graduate of the Air Force Academy or Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, or complete the Officer Training School if you already have a bachelor's degree
- Meet physical, psychological and moral standards
- Pass the Initial Fitness Test (IFT)
- Complete a current Single Scope Background Investigation
- Be 18-39 years of age

Your recruiter can provide you with a complete list of additional requirements that are specific to each of the Special Warfare Officer career fields.



INITIAL FITNESS TEST

As a Special Warfare Officer candidate, you'll be required to pass the IFT prior to entering the Air Force and then again during the Special Warfare Assessment and Selection Course. Your recruiter will provide you with the minimum required standards to complete each test component. However, you should aim to far exceed the IFT standards listed below.

- Two 25-meter underwater swim
- One 1500-meter surface swim (STO, CRO) / one 500-meter surface swim (TACPO)
- 3-mile run (STO, CRO and TACPO)
- Pull-ups in one minute (STO, CRO) / Pull-ups in two minutes (TACPO)
- Sit-ups in two minutes
- Push-ups in two minutes

BENEFITS

Here are a few of the many benefits you'll receive as a commissioned officer:

- 30 days of vacation with pay each year
- Comprehensive medical care
- Tax-free food and housing allowances
- Opportunities for advanced education with up to 100 percent tuition assistance and the Post 9/11 GI Bill
- Live, work and travel around the world
- Generous retirement system with the Thrift Savings Plan similar to a 401(k)

(Note: The above Air Force benefits are available to those serving full-time. Not all benefits are available for part-time service. See your recruiter for more details.)

MULTIPLE WAYS TO SERVE

You can choose one of several paths that allows you to serve your country either full-time or part-time. No matter which path you select, you'll become a member of our global Air Force family. For more information, contact a recruiter today.

AIRFORCE.COM

1-800-423-USAF

AFRESERVE.COM

1-800-257-1212

GOANG.COM

1-800-TO-GO-ANG



FIND A RECRUITER



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Information may have changed since publication.
Please check with your recruiter for updates.