U.S. AIR FORCE SPECIAL WARFARE

THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Our Special Operations Airmen are highly trained specialists capable of deploying in combat and hostile environments. These Airmen have some of the most demanding jobs in the U.S. Air Force. To become a part of this highly elite group, it requires dedication and endurance to withstand rigorous training that challenges an individual both physically and mentally.

Without assistance and insider knowledge many candidates were eliminated because they were not adequately prepared. In order to reduce this attrition rate, the Air Force and Air Force Recruiting Service partnered to create the Special Operations Developer Program.

Who are Developers and what do they do?

As part of the program professionally and technically experienced personnel, known as "developers," work with each recruit to improve their physical, mental and nutritional attributes; and to prepare them for their Course of Initial Entry into their specific career track. All developers have served within one of those career fields for a minimum of six years, many of them are retired and continue to serve their country in this important endeavor in order to pass on their knowledge and skill sets to generate the next generation of Air Force warriors.

Once accepted into the program developers will continue to provide customized workout regimens, nutritional counseling and provide self-directed homework to inform the candidate of their particular career field.

Our program is critical to the success of recruits because it sets the standards, and it gives them an idea of what the requirements are and how hard it's going to be. Easily put we make ensure they know the mechanics of what a pull-up looks like, what a push-up looks like, the sit-up requirements, basic operator swim technique, all while providing mentorship.

This real-time data provides real time data that allows us to identify the likelihood the candidate will success in the Assessment and Selection course following Basic Military Training.

How long will I be in Development?

Everyone progression is different but Special Warfare candidates are typically in development between four and six months, from pre-accession to BMT. Timeline are contingent on a candidate's dedication

and effort. During this early process, candidates undertake a 21-day "Pass the PAST" workout program aimed at preparing them to pass the Physical Abilities Stamina Test while also being taught subjects such as special warfare components, mission, and specialties.

After a candidate passes the PAST, they then compete for selection and get a recommendation from a developer before going to BMT at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Here, they are trained under the Air Force BMT curriculum, along with additional training for the Special Warfare Prep Course. Upon completion, their performance evaluation data is reviewed as they enter the Special Warfare Prep course and the candidates are then selected for Special Tactics and Guardian Angel, or the TACP courses of entry, according to the release.



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