

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

SECURITY FORCES



DIGITAL **EDITION**

FRONT LINE DEFENSE

With a firm grip on your M4 rifle, you observe the hillside looking for any possible hint of enemy activity while securing your deployed unit's patrol. In the middle of the night, your Air Base Ground Defense team protects alert aircraft that are ready to depart on a moment's notice and unleash their lethal arsenals on enemy targets.

As an Air Force Security Forces Defender, you're responsible for nuclear security, defense of the air base, law enforcement on those bases, combat arms and handling military working dogs. You enable the Air Force to Fly, Fight and Win!

GLOBAL PROTECTION

As the largest career field in the Air Force (more than 43,000 Total Force Defenders), the Security Forces' mission is to "protect, defend and fight." This mission involves much more than checking ID cards at base entry gates; it also leverages cutting edge technology through cameras, sensors, biometric scanners and counter-drone detection systems to halt airborne incursions.

With evolving threats against the United States and its allies, Security Forces not only defends the homeland, we are also a combat expeditionary force supporting numerous worldwide contingencies. Defenders are deployed globally to secure Department of the Air Force, joint service, coalition forces and their bases and assets under their protection.





TECHNICAL TRAINING

The Security Forces career field is physically and mentally demanding. You'll undergo intensive training to become a highly skilled, critical-thinking battle-ready Defender, because it's up to you to protect your fellow Airmen.

After Basic Military training at Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA)-Lackland, Texas, you'll attend the Air Force Basic Defender Course. This 65-day technical school includes weapons training, combat skills, air base ground defense tactics, and survival tactics training.

At nearby JBSA-Camp Bullis, Texas, you'll participate in a culminating event that drills the tactics and capabilities provided throughout training. This exercise not only challenges you from an educational perspective it also tests your grit, perseverance and Defender ethos.

When you successfully complete technical school and graduate, you'll be recognized as a Defender, symbolized by the Security Forces blue beret, which displays the insignia "Defensor Fortis," which means "Defenders of the Force."









SPECIALIZED JOBS

As a Security Forces Defender, you'll be considered for regular promotions based on your performance.

Your experience and performance will also allow you to be considered for specialized Security Forces jobs such as a Military Working Dog (MWD) handler, Combat Arms (CA) instructor or Law Enforcement Officer (LEO).

- MWD handlers and their K-9 partners provide patrol, drug and explosive detection, and specialized mission functions for the Department of Defense and other federal government agencies.
- CA instructors operate firing ranges, conduct marksmanship training for all Air Force personnel, and perform maintenance on a wide array of weapons at their assigned bases and for deployments.
- LEOs focus on mitigating criminal threats that pose risk to the public safety on our bases and military communities through community policing, emergency response, investigations, and traffic enforcement. Our LEOs are Department of Defense Peace Officer Standards and Training-certified credentialed professionals.

OUALIFICATIONS

To become a Security Forces specialist, you must first meet these qualifications:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be between the ages of 17 and 39
- Be able to pass an Air Force physical
- Be able to speak English distinctly
- Be able to acquire a "secret" security clearance
- · Be qualified to carry weapons
- Have no history of personality disorder or criminal activity
- Have a valid and current state driver's license

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

As you progress through your career, you may be called upon to provide presidential security, nuclear missile and bomber protection and work with civilian or federal law enforcement agencies. The valuable skills you acquire in the Air Force will prepare you for your future. Below are some examples of assignments that you may receive as a Security Forces Defender.

You may have an opportunity to be assigned to the 820th Base Defense Group whose mission is to provide first in, highly capable, airborne/air assault, base defense and contingency response capabilities for expeditionary air forces anywhere, anytime. With that comes opportunities to attend joint service schools such as Ranger/Sniper/Airborne and Pathfinder.

Additionally, you may serve in one of three Contingency Response Groups in the United States, Europe and Pacific. These organizations are designed to quickly open airfields and establish, expand, sustain and coordinate air operations in austere and bare-base conditions.

With small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS) posing potential serious threats to our military installations, you may be chosen to be a member of a Defensive Base Operations Counter-Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (C-sUAS) team. You'll receive specialized training in the use of next generation C-sUAS, including counter-rocket, artillery and mortar technologies to conduct installation air defense operations.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Air Force takes your education seriously. From Day 1, your technical training, including BMT, earns college credit toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

By taking advantage of the Air Force Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), many Airmen find it easy to complete their degree requirements at little or no cost. TAP pays up to 100 percent of tuition and fees for courses taken off-duty at an accredited institution.

When you enlist in the Air Force not only will you have a guaranteed job, but your honorable service will also help guarantee future education opportunities for you and/or your dependents through the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The program provides up to 36 months of education benefits with no monetary contribution required. There's no deadline to use your benefits following your release from active duty.

QUALITY OF LIFE

In addition to a good paying job, you'll enjoy a great quality of life that includes several benefits:

- 30 days of vacation with pay each year
- A chance to live, work and travel worldwide
- Comprehensive medical and dental care
- Tax-free food and housing allowances
- Use of on base fitness centers and other recreational facilities
- Generous retirement system with the Thrift Savings Plan similar to a 401(k)

(Note: The above 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



EA 22-235 is produced by Air Force Recruiting Service. Information may have changed since publication. Please check with your recruiter for updates.