

SWOE

SPECIAL WARFARE OPERATOR ENLISTMENT



What are Special Warfare Operators?

The Airmen who make up Air Force Special Warfare are the most specialized warriors on the planet. They are the ones other special forces look to when the mission calls for their unique skills and fearless commitment. A job for the mentally tough and physically strong, these elite heroes go where others won't because they're trained to do what others can't.

Four SWOE Career Fields

COMBAT CONTROL (CCT)

Provides command, control, communications, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to assist airpower across the full spectrum of military operations. Includes air traffic control [ATC], and controlling air strikes including close air support [CAS].

PARARESCUE (PJ)

Performs as the essential Personnel Recovery (PR) and materiel recovery expert by functioning as the technical rescue and recovery specialist. Provides technical rescue, emergency medical care, and security. Moves recovered personnel and materiel to safety or friendly control when recovery by aircraft is not possible.

TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY (TACP)

TACP Airmen are the lead precision strike experts for Air Force Special Warfare. TACP Airmen identify, track, targets, and engages enemy forces in close proximity to friendly forces utilizing precision aircraft. Operates in austere combat environments independent of an established airbase or its perimeter defenses.

SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE (SR)

Plans and performs Special Reconnaissance (SR) intelligence and surveillance to allow for mission planning, special operations mission execution, and application of airpower across the full spectrum of military operations. Maintains qualification on long-range rifle target interdiction.

Basic Qualifications

- 18 - 39 years of age
- Minimum of GED or HS Diploma
- US Citizen
- Pass the ASVAB
- Pass the PAST
- Medically qualified through MEPS
- Good moral/financial standing
- Must be eligible for a security clearance

Physical Ability & Stamina Test

- 8 Pull-ups
- 50 Sit-ups in 2 Minutes
- 40 Push-ups in 2 Minutes
- 1.5 Mile Run in <10:20 Minutes
- 2 X 25 Meter Under Water Swim
- 500 Meter Surface Swim

Qualifications Pay

(Per Month)

- Basic Pay \$1650
- Special Duty Pay \$450
- Airborne \$150
- Demolitions \$150
- Dive Pay \$115
- Freefall \$75
- Jumpmaster \$50



SPECIAL WARFARE

SERE

SURVIVAL, EVASION, RESISTANCE & ESCAPE



What is a SERE SPECIALIST?

The Airmen who earn the title of SERE Specialist are tasked with training their fellow Airman in Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape. These experts instructors know how to survive in the most remote and hostile environments on the planet. Whether it's in the desert, the arctic, at sea, in the jungle or as a prisoner of war, Airmen must be prepared to survive, evade, resist and escape any situation, and Return with Honor.

SERE Career Tasks & Capabilities

INITIAL AND REFRESHER SERE TRAINING

SERE Specialists conduct classroom, and operational/in-field initial SERE training. Instructors use lectures, demonstrations and performances, guided discussion, and case studies for instruction. Airman are trained under conditions closely approximating actual survival stories.

PERSONNEL RECOVERY (PR)

Provides realistic training exercises in personnel recovery. Ensures safe and effective training situations, ensuring appropriate outcomes for PR forces and exercise participants. SERE Specialists determine the readiness and efficacy of PR equipment, supplies, and training aids, and they ensure the standardization and compliance with Air Force policies and directives.

PARACHUTIST DUTIES

SERE Specialists instruct and perform static line, military free fall, and emergency parachuting techniques in support of jump training. Advanced parachuting skills are required for select SERE Specialist to conduct developmental and operational testing for parachuting operations including SERE related survival and aircrew flight equipment, personnel parachutes, and aircraft jump platform certification.

Basic Qualifications

- 18 - 39 years of age
- Height Between 62 inches and 80 inches
- Minimum of GED or HS Diploma
- US Citizen
- Pass the ASVAB
- Pass the PAST
- Medically qualified through MEPS
- Good moral/financial standing
- Must be eligible for a security clearance
- Normal Depth Perception and Color Vision
- No Fear of Insects or Snakes
- No Claustrophobia

Physical Ability & Stamina Test

- 8 Pull-ups
- 48 Sit-ups in 2 Min
- 40 Push-ups in 2 Min
- 1.5 Mile Run in <11:00Min

Qualifications Pay (Per Month)

- Basic Pay \$1650
- Special Duty Pay \$225
- Airborne \$150
- Free-fall \$75



**SPECIAL
WARFARE**

EOD

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL



What is Explosive Ordnance Disposal?

The Airmen who make up Air Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal protect personnel, resources, and the environment from the effects of hazardous explosive ordnance, improvised explosive devices (IED) and weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

EOD Career Tasks & Capabilities

COUNTER IED/WMD OPERATIONS

Eliminates or mitigates explosive hazards and terrorist/criminal devices, to include missions outside the base boundary or Base Security Zone to enable freedom of maneuver for air or surface operations.

NUCLEAR WEAPON RESPONSE

Provides immediate initial support to nuclear weapon incidents in order to evaluate nuclear weapon delivery status, mitigate risk, provide site stabilization, and situational awareness.

UNEXPLODED EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RECOVERY

Safely neutralize hazards posed by any explosive ordnance that have not yet exploded. Analyze any unknown munitions and explosives for intelligence agencies.

VERY IMPORTANT PERSON (VIP) PROTECTION

Supports U.S. Secret Service (USSS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of State (DoS) by providing counter explosive search teams in support of National Security Special Events, White House Complex and protection of the President, Vice President, and other dignitaries.

RAPID RESPONSE CAPABILITY

Operates in five geographic disciplines: mountain, desert, arctic, urban and jungle, day or night, to include austere combat environments independent of an established airbase or its perimeter defenses.

Basic Qualifications

- 18 - 39 years of age
- Height Between 62 inches and 80 inches
- Minimum of GED or HS Diploma
- US Citizen
- Pass the ASVAB
- Pass the PAST
- Medically qualified through MEPS
- Good moral/financial standing
- Must be eligible for a security clearance
- Normal Depth Perception and Color Vision

Physical Ability & Stamina Test

- 3 Pull-ups
- 1.5 Mile Run in <11:00Min



SPECIAL WARFARE

Qualifications Pay (Per Month)

- Basic Pay \$1650
- Special Duty Pay \$375
- Demolitions \$150



SPECIAL WARFARE

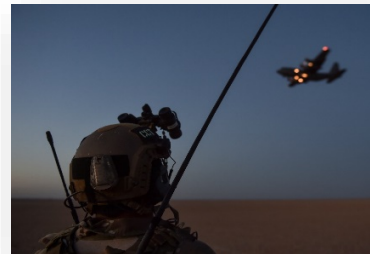
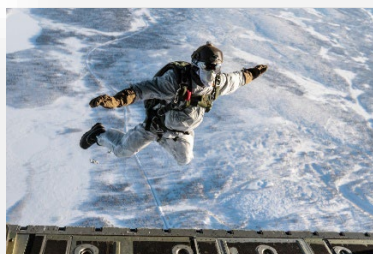
WHAT IS AF SPECIAL WARFARE?

Air Force Special Warfare plans, leads, and conducts operations around the globe to engage and destroy the enemies of our country and stand ready to rescue personnel anytime, anyplace.

Every day, Special Warfare Airmen deploy around the world to project American military power through Global Access, to rescue friendly forces through Personnel Recovery, and to destroy the enemy through Precision Strike.

Air Force Special Warfare (AFSPECWAR) is the Air Force's solution to deliver tactical, sensitive and special operations across the Air, Land, Maritime and Space and Cyber environments. Equipped to deliver personnel recovery, global access and precision strike mission sets, Special Warfare is undoubtedly the Air Force's tip of the spear.

Encompassing Special Tactics, Guardian Angel, and the TACP Weapon Systems, AFSPECWAR is the Air Force's current and future generation solution to meet today and tomorrow's advanced human-based weapon system demands.



Careers

- **Pararescue (PJ)** – When an Airman needs saving, it's our duty to do everything we can to bring them home. As members of Air Force Special Operations, Pararescue specialists rescue and recover downed aircrews from hostile or otherwise unreachable areas. These highly trained experts perform rescues in every type of terrain and partake in every part of the mission, from search and rescue, to combat support to providing emergency medical treatment, in order to ensure that every mission is a successful one. The DoD's premier personnel recovery asset. Paramedics, Technical Recovery specialists, Rock Climbers, Divers, Swiftwater Specialists. If you need saved, they will find you. The Air Force Jack of All Trades. "That Others May Live"
 - Pipeline Length: 47 weeks
 - For more info on PJs, visit the [Pararescue Page](#)

- **Combat Control (CCT)** – It takes an incredible amount of skill, physical fitness and courage to carry out some of the Air Force’s most difficult missions. As members of Air Force Special Operations, it’s the job of Combat Control specialists to provide command and control and direct air traffic from remote and sometimes hostile areas. These highly specialized experts are trained in a wide range of skills, including scuba, parachuting, snowmobiling as well as being FAA-certified air traffic controllers in order to establish control and provide combat support on missions all over the globe. Delivering air power anytime, anywhere. Specialists capable of creating and maintaining airfields across the globe as FAA certified Air Traffic Controllers. Radio masters linking ground and air power in austere locations. First in to the fight and often last out. The Air Force’s key to bringing the fight as far forward as possible. “First There”.
 - Pipeline Length: 99 Weeks Advanced Skills Training: 46 Weeks
 - For more info on CCT, visit the [Combat Control Page](#)
- **Tactical Air Control Party (TACP)** - Precision Air Strike specialists, conducting close air support air strikes in the most demanding environments. Certified as Joint Terminal Air Controllers (JTACs), they are often the vital link to ground forces and their vital support from the air, to include ISR, bomber and fighter aircraft. Most often stationed and embedded with US Army units. United States military operations employ extensive coordination between the various branches to ensure optimal use of resources. It’s the job of Air Liaison Officers to imbed with Army and Marine units to direct air and artillery strikes from ground locations. Some of the most skilled and courageous Airmen, these officers go through intense physical, mental and technical training in order to operate alongside some of the military’s most elite special operations teams in order to defend our country.
 - Pipeline Length: 23 weeks
 - For more info on TACP, visit the [Tactical Air Control Party Page](#)
- **Special Reconnaissance (SR)** - Formerly Special Operations Weather. Qualified in advanced recon techniques, to include weather forecasting and cyber collecting for air & ground assets. Advanced infiltrators and data collectors, providing advanced Information, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) from the ground. In our joint effort to defend our country, select Airmen imbed with Army or Marine Special Forces units. As members of Air Force Special Operations, Special Reconnaissance Technicians provide the information their teams need to successfully complete their missions. Utilizing high-tech atmospheric instruments, these highly specialized experts retrieve data from radar and weather satellites to relay to the teams as they carry out high-risk missions in a variety of conditions all over the world. Special Reconnaissance Technicians are provided unique training to conduct multi-domain reconnaissance and surveillance across the spectrum of conflict and crisis.
 - Pipeline Length: TBD
 - For more info on SR, visit the [Special Reconnaissance Page](#)
- **Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD)**- Air Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians are experts who identify, render safe, and dispose of explosive threats around the world. AF EOD specializes in a wide variety of fields, ranging 9 total mission areas. They are the quintessential “enabler,” ready to be attached to a variety of conventional military, Special Operations Forces (SOF), and Civilian Law Enforcement (LEO) teams, helping them accomplish their missions safely-domestically and abroad. EOD stepped into the limelight early in the Global War on Terror (GWOT), when the enemy began using their most devastating weapon: the Improvised Explosive Device. Since then, EOD has become a necessity for any combat operation, providing our troops freedom of movement and the ability to mitigate any explosive threats hindering mission success. EOD and SERE specialists fall under “Combat Support,” conventional career fields with unique specialties that enable both conventional and SOF missions. While we are typically conventional forces, we execute a mission far outside typical AF tasks, making us a middle ground between “Big AF” and “higher speed” forces. EOD specializes in Aircraft operations, but are just as ready as any of our Army, Marine, or Navy EOD comrades to fill the role of joint combat enabler,

whenever and wherever a unit needs us. Additionally, we have been a gender-neutral career field long before the Congressional mandate. Female EOD techs have been fighting right alongside male combat units since the GWOT began.

EOD SOF Support

AF EOD's primary mission is not SOF support. However, it is a mission we have executed in the past, and still currently execute. For those teams fortunate enough to be tasked with a SOF-support deployment, AF EOD is expected to be a paramount critical enabler. SOF teams are incredibly small, and typically undermanned, making do with what they have. That means that when EOD work isn't present, we have to help the team accomplish whatever task needs to be done: pull security, help drop mortars, drive trucks, build up defensive positions, do recon patrols, and even assist team medics triage mass casualty situations. EOD techs are heavily sought after for their reputation of readily working outside of their assigned roles. They are the ultimate force multiplier.

- Pipeline Length: 29 Weeks
- For more info on PJs, visit <https://beapj.com>

- **Survival Evasion Resistance Escape (SERE)-** Prepare U.S. military personnel, U.S. Department of Defense civilians, and private military contractors to survive and "return with honor" in varied survival scenarios. The curriculum includes survival skills, evading capture, application of the military code of conduct, and methods and techniques for escape from captivity. What you don't know can mean the difference between life and death. When you're a Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) Specialist, it's your job to possess the skills and knowledge to make the difference. You will be chartered with ensuring all high risk-of-capture/isolation personnel return with honor from any type of survival situation. The basic survival skills taught in SERE programs include common outdoor/wilderness survival skills such as firecraft, sheltercraft, first aid, water procurement and treatment, food procurement (traps, snares, and wild edibles), improvised equipment, self-defense (natural hazards), and navigation (map and compass, et al.). More advanced survival training adds focus on mental elements such as will to survive, attitude, and "survival thinking" (situational awareness, assessment, prioritization). Military survival schools also teach unique skills such as parachute landings, basic and specialized signaling, vectoring a helicopter, use of rescue devices (forest-tree penetrators, harnesses, etc.), rough terrain travel, and interaction with indigenous peoples.

SERE SOF Support

During personnel recovery operations, you're part of a close-knit team composed of Combat Rescue Officers and Pararescuemen who defend our nation's forces as a part of the Air Force's "Guardian Angel Weapon System."

- Pipeline Length: 23 Weeks
- For more info on PJs, visit