

HOW DOES THE PROCESS WORK?

COVID-19 UPDATE: With all the recent changes due to the coronavirus, we will have some slight modifications to the enlistment process in the future. Our Air Force Recruiting Office will remain open via appointment only until further notice. The intent is to minimize unnecessary contact for the safety of our applicants and our recruiters. Thank you for understanding.

Step 1: Get pre-qualified. A recruiter will conduct a pre-screen of you over the phone to check for any disqualifying factors such as serious medical issues, law violations, or illegal drug use. If you are pre-qualified, the next step is an in-person appointment.

Step 2: At your initial appointment, you must come prepared with your original copies of your social security card, birth certificate, high school diploma, college transcripts (if applicable), and a government issued ID (State issued ID, Driver's License, U.S. Passport, etc.). Please arrive with these documents and a list of questions you have regarding your enlistment. After verifying these documents, an application will be started to take the following steps. A link to an online application (AFCEP) will be sent to begin your background screening, as well as a link to take a practice test (APT). This must be completed by your next appointment.

Step 3: Once your AFCEP application is completed and you have a qualifying score on the APT, your application will be transmitted, and you will be scheduled to take the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test. This test will determine your aptitude and potential career opportunities pending your physical and background check.

Step 4: Your recruiter will submit a scheduling request on your behalf to the military entrance processing station (MEPS) for your physical medical exam. The physical exam is not a fitness test. The physical exam will assess your vision, hearing, mobility, blood tests, alcohol, drug screening, etc.

Step 5: Before and during your MEPS visit, everyone will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure. You must notify your recruiter ASAP to avoid potential exposure if you or someone you have encountered has tested positive. Once you arrive at MEPS, you will complete your testing on the first day (TAPAS, ASVAB, DLAB, etc.). You will spend the night at a hotel free of charge and do your physical exam the next day. Once the testing and physical is complete, you will know what jobs you are qualified for based on your ASVAB and physical results. You will complete the oath of enlistment, swear into the Air Force, and join the delayed entry program (DEP).

Step 6: The delayed entry program (DEP) is a dwell period before beginning Basic Military Training (BMT). After completing the physical and having a qualifying TAPAS/ASVAB score, you will take the Initial Fitness Test (IFT). Each Special Warfare Operator Enlistment (SWOE) and Combat Support (CS) career field have different IFT requirements. Please check with your recruiter to get the most up-to-date information and qualifications.

Step 7: After successfully passing two IFT's, you are eligible to receive a contract and a ship date for BMT.