



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

SPECIAL WARFARE OPERATORS



DIGITAL EDITION

ELITE FORCE

You live it. You breathe it. It's in your blood. It's an adrenaline rush that pushes your every mental and physical limit to the edge. You've developed extreme courage and conviction you never thought was possible to become an Air Force Special Warfare Operator.

From scorching desert heat to frigid arctic temperatures, you deploy on a moment's notice to some of the harshest locations in the world.

While many of your peers fail in their quest to become a Special Warfare Operator, you stand tall and proud knowing you made it through the intense, grueling training to become part of an elite team made up of professionals who strive to be a part of something bigger than themselves.

SPECIAL WARFARE OPERATOR ENLISTMENT-VECTERING

If you're determined to be a Combat Control, Pararescue, Special Reconnaissance or Tactical Air Control Party Airman, the Special Warfare Operator Enlistment-Vectering (SWOE-V) is the way forward.

Your recruiter and developers (mentors) will prepare and educate you on each of the special warfare specialties, rigors of the training pipeline and career opportunities. After meeting all the Air Force requirements, including medical and physical standards that are unique to the specialties, you'll attend Basic Military Training (BMT).

Upon graduation of BMT and as a SWOE-V candidate, you'll start the Special Warfare Preparatory Course and will be vectored into your specialty afterward. The specialty you receive is based on your preference, your performance and needs of the Air Force.

NOTHING IS GIVEN; AIRMEN MUST EARN THEIR SPOT IN THEIR CHOSEN CAREER FIELD AND FIGHT FOR IT. WE ARE EVALUATING THEM CONTINUOUSLY THROUGH PRE-ACCESSION, BASIC MILITARY TRAINING, AND THROUGHOUT THE SPECIAL WARFARE TRAINING PIPELINES.

**LT. COL. JOSEPH LOPEZ
CHIEF, SPECIAL WARFARE DIVISION**

PARARESCUE

Leave no one behind is our nation's promise and responsibility to our war fighters. Pararescue Airmen, also known as PJs, extract, treat, stabilize and evacuate American and Allied forces in times of danger or extreme duress. They'll do whatever it takes to deny the enemy a victory and to bring our heroes home.

PJs are nationally registered paramedics and are highly trained emergency trauma specialists. They're the only U.S. military elite combat force specifically organized, trained and equipped to conduct both conventional and unconventional combat and humanitarian rescue operations.

They operate most often as independent teams but routinely serve side by side with other U.S. and Allied special operations forces.

COMBAT CONTROL

Being "First There" is more than a motto; it's the Combat Controllers' (CCTs) commitment to undertake the most dangerous missions behind enemy lines and lead the way for U.S. and coalition forces to follow.

CCTs are the first to deploy into austere and hostile environments to establish assaults zones, provide air traffic control capability and control offensive airstrike operations in support of precision engagement and personnel recovery missions. CCTs are FAA-certified air traffic controllers who provide the air power interface to Special Operations Forces.



SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE

Special Reconnaissance Airmen are Special Tactics operators who conduct multi reconnaissance and surveillance operations focusing on lethal and non-lethal air-to-ground integration of airpower. They deploy rapidly and undetected by any means, anytime and anywhere around the world to obtain, transmit, exploit and act on time-sensitive information.

As members of Special Tactics teams, Special Reconnaissance Airmen prepare the environment, ensure global battle space awareness, provide global access and provide air, space, cyberspace and information superiority for the successful operation of Joint Force objectives.

Special Reconnaissance Airmen receive training in surveillance and reconnaissance, multi-domain electronic warfare, long-range precision engagement and target interdiction, small unmanned aircraft systems, preparation of the environment, personnel recovery and advanced special tactics skills.

TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY

Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) Airmen are specially trained to employ precision strike platforms from all domains (air, space, cyber and ground) to destroy enemy targets within close proximity of friendly forces.

TACP Airmen are the only Air Force Special Warfare Airmen who are 100 percent Joint Terminal Attack Controllers (JTACs). TACPs support every combat maneuver force in the Army, including the Rangers and Special Forces.

In addition to integrating and controlling precision strike assets, TACPs are tactical communications experts; they are the critical link between their supported unit and available assets such as space, cyber, aircraft, artillery, mortars and naval gunfire to find, fix and destroy enemy forces.



PHYSICAL ABILITY AND STAMINA TEST

Due to the physical demands of being a Special Warfare Operator, the SWOE-V Physical Ability and Stamina Test (PAST) is the entry standard for all four Special Warfare career fields. However, if you are reading this and you are interested in Special Warfare, you already know you are someone who exceeds minimums!

Upon entry into our Development Program, you will receive individual training that is designed to prepare you for the physical and mental challenges you will face in Air Force Special Warfare.

AIR FORCE QUALIFICATIONS

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be between the ages of 17 and 39
- Meet the minimum score requirement on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test
- Achieve a passing score on the Physical Ability and Stamina Test (PAST)

(Contact your Special Warfare recruiter to find out if you qualify.)

BENEFITS

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

- 30 days of vacation with pay each year
- Special pay and bonus incentives
- Comprehensive medical care for you and your dependents
- 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



SPECIAL WARFARE

FIND A RECRUITER



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