

RAF International Women's Day

Monday 8th March 2021



For any additional queries that are not answered below, please visit: <https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/> to contact the RAF recruitment team.

Question	Response
Opportunities available	
<p>1 I am hoping to enrol in the RAF as a legal advisor when I'm 24. I'm currently in college (I'm studying law A Level here) and will be going to uni after this. All the courses I have looked at are law based - some are general law courses and some are international law, would international law be preferred to a general law degree? I also was curious as to what is best for me to do between leaving uni and enrolling at 24, as all the law courses are 4 years meaning I would graduate at 28, is there another course I should do after this so that I can apply for the RAF job?</p>	<p>Although there is no stipulation, however I would recommend General Law. Also see the attached Legal Branch Information Leaflet.</p> <p>Qualifications: You must be either a member of the Bar of England and Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland and have completed pupillage, or be a solicitor admitted to the Roll of England and Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland. In addition to 2yrs PQE in a relevant area of law. Applications from legal executives will not be processed. You must also have GCSEs at a minimum of Grade C or equivalent or Scottish National Equivalent in English Language and Mathematics.</p> <p>RAF Uni Sponsorships https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/sponsorship</p>
<p>2 I am currently serving as reservist. I am very interested in Commission initially I researched into Training Officer as I am currently a personal trainer/gym manager and love mentoring and assisting people on reach in their</p>	<p>No, we do not cover MO (Physio) within our Apprenticeships as you will become a Commissioned Officer in the RAF. PSA Branch Information Leaflets for Training Officer and Physio.</p> <p>Physio Entry Requirements: Be a fully qualified and HCPC registered physiotherapist with a BSc or MSc (pre-registration) in Physiotherapy.</p>

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	<p>potential. However, I am also interested in Medical Officer (Physio).</p> <p>I have recently applied for a MSc Physiotherapist Masters which is a two-year course at Plymouth University. With a view to apply for commission after graduating. However, is this something I could do though the apprenticeship scheme?</p>	<p>Have a minimum of 3 years postgraduate experience.</p> <p>Have completed postgraduate Band 5 rotations, to include a respiratory rotation.</p> <p>Have a minimum of 12 months experience in a musculoskeletal outpatient setting</p>
3	<p>Which RAF Apprenticeships are based in or near London?</p>	<p>Please See Link for our Apprenticeships RAF Apprenticeships https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/apprenticeships?gclid=Cj0KCQjwl9GCBhDvARIsAFunhsk6ror14VksUiDT5jZ-wmkZyZJkKQkBUt4Oncdt8tvgtbvXS9zpqRlaAhQoEALw_wcB&gclid=aw.ds</p>
<p>Eligibility</p>		
4	<p>I have a degree which is not an accredited Engineering Degree so I think that I am unable to join as an Engineering Officer. How long is the process from joining as a Technician to being able to commission as an Officer? Also, am I able to fast track through any of the Apprenticeship as I have a degree?</p>	<p>Engineering Officer Qualifications:</p> <p>Qualifications: An accredited Bachelor's or Master's degree in an appropriate engineering or scientific subject, eg: aeronautical engineering; IT/IS engineering; mechanical engineering; electrical engineering; or electronic engineering. Degrees must be accredited by one or more of the 4 professional engineering institutions most closely aligned to the RAF's needs: the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS); the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE); the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET); or (for CE officers only) the British</p>

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		<p>Computer Society (BCS). Degree accreditation status can be determined via the Engineering Council (UK) website www.engc.org.uk.</p> <p>Other engineering degrees might be accepted at the discretion of the Officers & Aircrew Selection Centre (OASC) Engineer Specialist. Applicants must also have a GCSE at Grade C (Grade 4 to 5 with effect from Aug 17) or Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) at Grade 2 or Scottish National Equivalent (SNE) at Grade C in English Language.</p> <p>Engineering Sponsorships https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/sponsorship</p> <p>You can join as an apprentice, although your degree will help you will still have to complete the Level 3 NVQ. We do offer fastrack schemes to become an Engineering Officer once you have completed your Apprenticeship and have the required annual assessments and recommendations from your line managers.</p>
5	Can you go into the RAF as an engineer or with the hope of becoming an engineer without having studied engineering before?	<p>Yes, you require a minimum of 3 x GCSE at English, Maths & Science Grades 4-5. You will also have to pass our Airman Selection Test and score reasonable high on the Electrical & Mechanical comprehension part of the test.</p> <p>RAF Apprenticeships https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/apprenticeships?gclid=Cj0KCQjwI9GCBhDvARIsAFunhsk6ror14VkSUiDT5jZ-wmkZyZjkKQkBUt4Oncdt8tvgtbvXS9zpqRlaAhQoEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds</p>
6	I would like to enter the RAF as an officer and join the air crew, what qualifications would I need and is there	<p>Minimum of 5 GCSEs & 2 A Levels for Pilot/RPAS or 5 GCSE's for WSOP. If you want to go to Uni then I would suggest looking for a Uni with a University Air Squadron attached to it (Example Bristol UWE). https://www.raf.mod.uk/our-organisation/university-air-squadrons/</p>

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	a university in particular that would be more suitable?	
7	Are there any particular skills, qualifications etc you need to become a bomber pilot?	To apply for fast jet or RPAS Pilot you require a minimum of 5 GCSEs & 2 A Levels. You will also have to pass our Computer Based Aptitude Test (CBAT) to ensure you have the aptitude for pilot training.
8	Please can I check if there are any barriers to joining the RAF for young people with a diagnosis of Autism? If so what are the procedures to follow?	There is a Medical Screening Examination as part of the selection process, however any medical conditions can be looked at on a case by case basis and there is opportunities to appeal through the RAF's Department of Occupational Health.
9	I am currently choosing my subjects for A Levels and for the RAF, are there any subjects that are mandatory or preferred in the aircrew sector?	I would certainly look at a Maths & Physics based subjects.
10	I am interested about a future carrier in the RAF as jet pilot. Am I able to enter the RAF as an apprentice and keep studying? I am 16 years old and tried to apply online for a role in the army but none of the roles I found online were what I was looking for. I am finishing my last school year (year 11) and would like to start an A-level course on physics,	You can apply for Pilot with 5 GCSE's & 2 A Levels preferably Maths and a Physics based subject. You will also have to pass our Computer Based Aptitude Test (CBAT) to ensure you have the aptitude for pilot training.

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	<p>maths and a third subject I still have to choose. It would be amazing to enter the RAF so early at my age so that I can get all the training required to become a great pilot and in the future become an Astronaut which is my intention. Again, I would like to know if there is any chance I can enter the RAF as an apprentice and carry on with my studies.</p>	
1 1	<p>Our daughter is 13 years old and interested to be part of the Air Force. She is an Air Force Cadet already. We would like to have more information how the apprenticeship program works? How old she needs to be to join to it? What sort of exams need to be done for it?</p>	<p>Being part of the Air Cadets is a fantastic experience and is very much aligned to the RAF's Core ethos. The following link will direct you to our Apprenticeships. RAF Apprenticeships https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/apprenticeships?gclid=Cj0KCQjwI9GCBhDvARIsAFunhsk6ror14VkSUiDT5jZ-wmkZyZJkKQkBUt4Oncdt8tvgTbvXS9zpqRlaAhQoEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds Depending on what apprenticeship she is interested in will be dependent on age – Some you can apply at 15 Yrs and 9 months, others you have to be 18. If she was looking for a technical job then 3 GCSE's including Maths, English & Science grades 4-5. Other roles may just require English and Math. Some of our Logistics roles do not require any formal GCSEs. All Apprenticeships will require potential candidates to pass our Airman Selection Test. Details can be found on the RAF Website. https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/how-to-apply/ast</p>
1 2	<p>When I went to a Carter's office in Birmingham I was told there was an apprenticeship for a student nurse that</p>	<p>Student Nurse is very competitive but hugely rewarding:</p>

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	<p>enables the Uni course to be paid for by the RAF - however these have limited slots - what grades and achievements are needed to be selected? Any plus points?</p>	<p>Qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 120 UCAS tariff points. • A minimum of three GCSEs at Grade 4 or above (previously Grade C) or SCE Standard Grades at Grade 2 / Scottish National 5 (Grade A – C), must include English Language, Mathematics and one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Science Double/Triple Award or equivalent. <p>Please refer to the BCU link for all entry requirements: https://www.bcu.ac.uk/courses/nursing-adult-bsc-hons-2019-20 Birmingham City University entry requirements are in addition to any RAF entry requirements you</p> <p>REWARDS FROM RAF LIFE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive pay and pension • Training and lifelong learning • Six weeks paid leave and public holidays • Free medical and dental care • Subsidised food and accommodation • Free gym and sports facilities • Adventurous training opportunities
Application process		
1 3	<p>How long does it take to get into the RAF after applying?</p>	
1 4	<p>I was wondering that if I applied to the RAF at this point in time is there a maximum amount of time between the</p>	<p>You can apply and then work your way through the selection process at your own pace. My advice is apply now, sit the Airman Selection Test to see what you have scored for and what we offer you, then you</p>

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	application stage and actually physically enrolling, because I'm currently in year 13 and I want to have a gap after I leave school before I join but I want to apply now to have that as a solid pathway and plan for after A Levels?	can decide if you wish to carry on the process or take a gap year. Your test scores will still be valid. If you fail the test then you can re-take it circa 3 months after your initial attempt.
Working at the RAF		
1 5	Can you change roles halfway through if you are unhappy with what you selected?	You can, however it is not easy. There is a process where you can switch between apprenticeships upon completion, but only in extreme circumstances. Before making a decision on your role before applying and seek advice from RAF Staff in your local AFCCO.
1 6	How many days off do you get per year?	38 Days – See link on rewards and benefits https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/pay-benefits
1 7	What lengths are the contracts?	12 Years with a minimum of 3 years on completion of training. Your contracts can be extended on promotion.
1 8	What is the career progression like in the Intelligence sector?	All promotion is competitive, however: Your Career Prospects You will join the RAF on an Initial Commission of 12 years and may be selected to serve on a pension-earning commission of 20 years or age 40; whichever is the latter during this time. Promotion to the rank of Flight Lieutenant will occur on a time served/satisfactory service basis 3½ years after completing IOT. Further promotion to Squadron Leader and above is by competitive selection. Ongoing Development Initially you will move jobs every 2 years to develop your experience as an Intelligence Officer, and you should expect to deploy on operations regularly throughout your career. You could work in a range of employment areas which provide extensive opportunities for further professional and personal

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		<p>development throughout your career. Undergraduate and postgraduate degree schemes in Intelligence and Security or International Relations are affiliated to the Branch. You could also undertake further training and gain qualifications in Operational Intelligence, Targeting, Cyber, Electronic-Warfare, Space and Air Operations.</p> <p>Further employment could involve a specialist discipline such as Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) management, imagery, signals or human intelligence. You will manage a team of RAF and other military and civilian Intelligence Analysts, producing intelligence reports in support of current operations and strategic decision-making.</p> <p>Transferable Skills</p> <p>The analytical and leadership skills as well as the experience you gain throughout your career as an Intelligence Officer, could equip you for a number of civilian jobs. These include jobs such as Police Inspector, Criminologist, or various roles within the public sector</p>
19	If I became an intelligence analyst (linguist), could I then become an Intelligence officer? What are the ranks in this sector?	Yes, if you get the required recommendations and have the required academic qualifications then you can apply for an internal commission whilst serving. There is a selection process and only if at the time of applying there is availability within the branch. Ranks are the same as all Officer ranks throughout the RAF.
20	Can you learn a language as part of being an intelligence officer or do you have to be an intelligence analyst linguist?	Linguist is a specific role due to the nature of its aptitude. As an Intelligence Officer you will be managing the Analysts under your command. You can apply for WSOP Linguist which is a AIRCREW role and will give you the rank of Sergeant upon completion of training.
21	Once you've joined the RAF, how long do you have to serve for? Although I know you have very good systems in place for working with a family, I don't	

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think this is for me. Is it easy to leave the RAF when I decide it's a good time to settle down?

Minimum of 3 years on completion of training. You can terminate your contract however there is an administrative process to undertake and this can take between 6-12 months depending on circumstances.

See link to benefits of the RAF Lifestyle. Especially the welfare & Family support.

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/pay-benefits>