

# 117th Air Refueling Squadron

## Road to Wings 2011



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**THIS BOOKLET IS DESIGNED SOLELY AS AN AID TO APPLICANTS IN THE 190<sup>TH</sup> AIR REFUELING WING'S PILOT SELECTION PROCESS. IT DOES NOT SUPERCEDE INSTRUCTIONS SET FORTH BY THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE OR THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD.**

Information contained in this booklet will help guide you through the rather lengthy process of applying and qualifying for pilot training with the 190<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing.

Included are overviews of the training you will receive to include curriculum, course length, and training locations.

Finally, the Squadron's expectations of pilots who have completed their training are outlined.

## 117ARS POC INFORMATION:

NOTE: Application Packages can be sent electronically or via mail.\

117ARS Executive Officer

DSN: 720-4670

Comm: 785-861-4670

Email Distribution Address: [117ars.og@ang.af.mil](mailto:117ars.og@ang.af.mil)

Mailed SUPT Application Packages:

117ARS: SUPT APPLICATION

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ALL DATA CONTAINED HEREIN IS EFFECTIVE AS OF 24 MAY 2011

# **190 ARW UNIT INFORMATION**

## **UNIT AIRCRAFT ASSIGNMENT**

HOME BASE: Forbes Field Air National Guard Base, Topeka, Kansas.

OPERATIONS: Daily training operations and operational mission cycles

AIRCRAFT: KC-135R with 12 Aircraft

MISSION: A combat ready AMC-gained KC-135 aerial refueling Wing assigned to 18AF. Trains and maintains combat ready aircrew to extend Global Reach through worldwide support of air mobility missions.

## **KC-135R SPECIFICATIONS**

EMPLOYMENT: World-wide support of Mobility Air Forces

DESCRIPTION: The Boeing KC-135 is a four engine, swept wing, long range, high altitude, and high-speed aircraft.

PROPULSION: Four CFM International CFM-56 Turbo Fan Engines each with a thrust rating of 21,634 pounds.

DIMENSIONS: Wingspan: 130 feet 10 inches, Length: 136 feet 3 inches, Height: 41 feet 8 inches, Speed: 530 mph, Empty Weight: 115,000 lbs, Max Takeoff Weight: 322,500 lbs

BASIC CREW: 3 (2 Pilots, 1 Boom Operator)

AE CREW: A basic crew of five (two flight nurses and three medical technicians) is added for aeromedical evacuation missions. Medical crew may be altered as required by the needs of patients.

UNIT COST: \$39.6 million (FY98 constant dollars)

INVENTORY: Active duty: 180  
Air National: 171  
Air Force Reserve: 64

# **THE SELECTION PROCESS**

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

**YOU MUST MEET THESE STANDARDS TO QUALIFY FOR AN AIR NATIONAL GUARD PILOT POSITION:**

1. U.S. citizen
2. Graduate or Projected Graduate of a four-year college program with a Bachelor's degree
3. Have a UPT class start date prior to reaching 30 years of age (AFI 36-2205)
4. Physically and mentally qualified
5. Height requirement between 64" – 76" (sitting height of 34" – 39")
6. Vision within guidelines set by current directives (pg. 5)
7. Must have qualifying AFOQT scores (pg. 4)
8. Unit members and Kansas residents are preferred
9. Private Pilot License is a plus, but not required

## **APPLICATION**

Applicants must submit the following:

- **Cover Letter** - introducing yourself and explaining your desire to join the KSANG.
- **Resume** – complete as if for any job application.
- **College Transcripts** – along with GPA, must be a 4-year Bachelors Degree or better. Applicants applying before graduation date may do so with 90 or better college graduate hours, please attach a letter of intent stating expected graduation date and the courses/curriculum required to complete the bachelor's degree. This can be accomplished through your school counselor.
- **Letters of Recommendation** – 3 character reference letters; suggestions are retired military, flight instructors, clergy, political figures, mentors, or anyone who can best describe your character and abilities.
- **Pilot License** – please send a copy of your pilot license (including ratings and flight hours). This is NOT a requirement. Those that already have some training and demonstrated ability are typically more competitive.
- **Test Scores** – Include AFOQT score and TBAS Scores if available. To find a testing site for the Air Force Officer Qualification Test (AFOQT) go to <http://www.afrotc.com/admissions/qualifying-test/> or call 1-800-TO-GO-ANG (1-800-864-6264). For the Test of Basic Aviation Skills (TBAS) go to <https://pcsm.aetc.af.mil/BatLocations/BatLocations.htm> to find a testing center. The TBAS score is combined with other factors to achieve your Pilot Candidate Selection Method (PCSM) score. To find out more go to <https://pcsm.aetc.af.mil/index.htm>

- **Physical** – Your physical will be accomplished upon selection. If you have a current military physical you can submit it with your application package.
- **AF Form 24**, Application for Appointment as Reserve of the Air Force or USAF without component. Download at: <http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/shared/media/epubs/AF24.xfdl>
- **Miscellaneous** – any letters of appreciation, extra curricular activities, community involvement, prior military record reviews or any other information that may exemplify you above the others. This miscellaneous information is not mandatory, but will help establish individuality to the board members.
- Disqualifying Factors are, but not limited to:
  - **EYESIGHT**: Pilots must be 20/70 or better distant vision, corrected to 20/20 – 20/20 or better near vision
  - **PHYSICAL**: Not being able to pass a Class 1 flight physical. Must meet Air Force height and weight standards per AFI [36-2905](#)
  - **AGE**: you must not reach your 30<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to UPT class start date per AFI 36-2205

## **AFOQT - AIR FORCE OFFICER QUALIFICATION TEST MINIMUM SCORES**

Refer to **Table 3.4. AFOQT Minimum Score Requirements for Appointments ANGI36-2005 15 MARCH 2005**

	With a Bachelors Degree	Without a Bachelors Degree
Verbal	15	30
Quantitative	10	25
Aptitude	N/A	N/A
Pilot	25	50
Navigator	10	25
Pilot + Nav Total	50	90

**NOTE:** “Total” is the minimum composite score needed when adding both “Pilot” and “Nav” scores together. Example: UPT applicant has a bachelor’s degree and scores “35” Pilot and “15” NAV, the applicant meets the minimum scores required to attend UPT.

This test is conducted here at Forbes Field on a quarterly basis and can be scheduled by the Base Education & Training office. A study guide is available at most bookstores and is **highly recommended**.

## **PCSM – PILOT CANDIDATE SELECTION METHOD**

PCSM is an index that quantifies a pilot candidate's aptitude for success at Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT).

**PCSM PROGRAM OFFICE'S MISSION:** To provide the UPT selection boards with data to make the most informed decisions on UFT candidates.

Factors Contributing to a PCSM Score:

PCSM takes into account several measurements associated with success at UPT and combines them into one measurement.

- Previous flying hours (Experience).
- AFOQT Pilot Score (Knowledge).
- Test of Basic Aviation Skills (TBAS) Scores (Aptitude).

The TBAS generates 9 measurements of pilot aptitude considering these main areas:

- Cognitive - Short Term Memory
- Psychomotor Scores - Hand/Eye Coordination

## **FLIGHT PHYSICAL**

Flight physicals are administered at Forbes Field, and in some cases at an Air Force Base close to the selectee's home. Physicals may take anywhere from 3-5 hours depending on the number of people receiving physicals. Air Force regulation demands the highest physical standards of its pilots and all standards set for pilots must be met by each applicant selected for a position. The following are the primary areas tested:

1. Eyes – Eyeglasses and contacts are acceptable if your vision is correctable to 20/20
2. Blood Pressure.
3. EKG.
4. Lab Work.
5. Hearing Test.
6. Blood Tests.
7. Dental Check.

## **SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATION**

Finalists will be subjected to a background investigation. There are several areas of the investigation that can cause delays in processing and/or clearance denial so be truthful, they will find out. Listed are the areas of the investigation:

1. Medical History
2. Drug Use
3. Alcohol Use
4. Law Violations
5. Residences
6. Spouse & Family Backgrounds
7. Foreign Travel
8. Financial / Bankruptcy / Student Loans
9. Disenrollment from any Armed Forces Commissioning or Flying Program

## **THE SELECTION BOARD**

A SUPT Selection Board is convened when deemed appropriate by the Commander.

The Board is composed of officers assigned to the Wing. These officers review the applicant's package and determine who will be interviewed based upon these packages. Bottom line, make your application look professional. The package includes all of the information submitted in your application, as well as AFOQT scores.

If you are chosen for an interview, you will receive a call and/or email giving you instructions and letting you know that you are to appear for an interview with the Board. Dress is your Class A uniform for military and business attire for civilians.

The selection is based upon the total person concept. While all factors are scrutinized very carefully, those applicants the Board feels will contribute the most to the unit will receive special consideration. That being said, unit members with previous flying experience are a step ahead of the competition although that is not the sole consideration for selection.

The board wants to know the real you. That means they would like you to be sincere in your cover letter and during your interview. They know that you want to fly or you wouldn't have applied. What they'll be interested in are your interests, hobbies, and most importantly your plans for the future.

Again, the Board will be looking for those individuals who will be an asset to the Unit as a pilot, but more importantly those that will be an asset as an officer in the Kansas Air National Guard.

Those selected as primary or alternate candidates must complete all post-selection requirements quickly so that you will be ready to begin training as soon as possible.

# MILITARY TRAINING

## TRAINING OVERVIEW

Applicants must realize that they will be required to perform full time duties for up to two years after being sworn in to the Air National Guard. The following are those courses that will be required:

1. Introductory Flight Screening (IFS) 6 weeks
2. Academy of Military Science (AMS) 6 weeks
3. Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training (SUPT) 53 weeks
4. Combat Survival School 3 weeks
5. Water Survival School 1 week
6. KC-135 Combat Crew Training School 13 weeks
7. Home Station/Differences Training 6 weeks

## INTRODUCTORY FLIGHT SCREENING

The Initial Flight Screening (IFS) program, under command of Air Education and Training Command (AETC), began operations on 1 October 2006. Doss Aviation, under contract with United States Air Force (USAF), will conduct flight screening for between 1300 and 1700 USAF 2nd Lieutenants annually. As the *Gateway to USAF Aviation*, Doss will provide initial flying training allowing students to successfully transition to Undergraduate Flying Training (Pilot and Combat System Officer) at one of several Air Force bases throughout the United States. The 45 acre IFS campus is located immediately adjacent to the Pueblo Memorial Airport, Pueblo, Colorado.

Go to: <http://www.dossifs.com/> for more information.

## ACADEMY OF MILITARY SCIENCE (AMS)

CURRICULUM: Physical Training: Run 1 ½ miles in under 12 minutes

Basic Military Training	Leadership
Professional Development	Drill and Ceremonies
Military Customs and Courtesies	Military Justice

Commissioned as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant

LOCATION: Maxwell AFB, Alabama

DURATION: 6 weeks



## **SPECIALIZED UNDERGRADUATE PILOT TRAINING (SUPT)**

- CURRICULUM:**      Academics (6 weeks):
- (1) Physiological training (Altitude Chamber)
  - (2) Aerodynamics (Theory of Flight)
  - (3) Systems knowledge (Aircraft)
- Primary Aircraft (18 weeks & 90 hour flight time)
- T-6 (Raytheon single engine turbo-prop)
- (1) Contact (Landings, Aerobatics, Solo)
  - (2) Instruments/Navigation (Instrument approaches/Cross Country)
  - (3) Formation
- Advanced Track (29 weeks & 110 hours of flight time)
- T-1 (Beech 400 twin engine jet)
- (1) Instruments (VOR, ILS, GCA, Approaches)
  - (2) Cross country procedures
  - (3) Crew resource management emphasis
  - (4) Contact navigation air refueling and low-level formation

**LOCATIONS:**      Columbus AF - Columbus, MS  
Laughlin AFB - Del Rio, TX  
Vance AFB - Enid, OK.

**DURATION:**      53 weeks

## **COMBAT SURVIVAL SCHOOL**

- CURRICULUM:**      Academics - 6 days
- (1) Escape and Evasion techniques
  - (2) Resistance techniques
  - (3) Survival techniques: Survival, Radio, Flares, etc.
- Survival Training -5 days
- (1) Learn how to make tents & sleeping bags out of parachutes
  - (2) Learn which plants you can eat & how to trap animals
  - (3) Actually live in the woods for 5 days on little food
- Resistance Training - 2 days
- (1) Very realistic
  - (2) Employ resistance techniques learned in class

**LOCATION:**      Fairchild AFB, Spokane, WA

**DURATION:**      3 Weeks

## **WATER SURVIVAL SCHOOL**

CURRICULUM: Academics & Water Survival – 7 days  
(1) Learn to survive on a raft in the ocean  
(2) Get out of your parachute and into your life raft  
(3) Avoiding sharks  
(4) Make drinking water form seawater  
(5) Fish you can and cannot eat  
(6) Parasailing

LOCATIONS: Fairchild AFB, Spokane, WA / Pensacola NAS, Pensacola, FL

DURATION: 1 week

## **KC-135 COMBAT CREW TRAINING SCHOOL**

CURRICULUM: Academics (ground training)  
Simulator training with flight safety (12 Simulator Flights)  
KC-135R Flight Training (6 flights and 1 check ride)

LOCATION: Altus AFB, Altus, OK

DURATION: 13 weeks

## **HOME STATION/DIFFERENCES TRAINING**

CURRICULUM: Mission qualification in KC-135R

LOCATION: Forbes Field, Topeka, KS

DURATION: 45 days

# **MILITARY OBLIGATION**

## **MILITARY OBLIGATION**

**Ten years service commitment from completion of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training (SUPT).**

## **ANNUAL HOME STATION REQUIREMENTS**

- 12 Unit Training Assemblies - One weekend per month (24 days per year)
- 4 flying periods per month (4 hours per period)
- 15-day annual deployment
- These requirements are the minimum expected by the Unit

# **SQUADRON SPONSOR PROGRAM**

The Squadron Sponsor Program is established to assist selected pilot applicants and their families in the transition from selection, through all phases of training, and their return to Forbes Field.

The squadron sponsor will be assigned and will stay in contact with the selected aircrew member throughout training to address any concerns or questions that may surface.

Upon graduation the sponsor will assist the crewmember in his or her transition to home base flying and the various local requirements expected of them.

# **SUPT ELIMINATION**

We strive to select individuals that will “fit” well into our organization and who have a very high potential of completing all the prescribed training requirements.

However, if for any reason, a student quits or is eliminated from SUPT he/she will have 60 days to either out process from the 190ARW or find an officer vacancy to remain in the ANG.