

Frequently Asked Questions

(71S Accessions)

Q: How do I get in?

A: See application process memos on website.

Q: How can I make my package more competitive?

A: The board looks at the "whole person" when reviewing records. Things such as GPA, class ranking, majors (i.e., foreign language, computer skills, etc.), extracurricular activities/professional development (e.g. jobs, professional associations/clubs, intramurals, etc) and officer performance reports are weighted differently depending on the applicant and their overall experiences. To briefly illustrate, someone majoring in Biology with a 3.0 GPA might have a more competitive package than someone with a 3.8 GPA majoring in Criminal Justice. AFOSI is a federal law enforcement agency and highlighting a passion for law enforcement (e.g., participation in local police ride along program) can only help develop the applicant package. In contrast, although an in-depth understanding of martial arts is admirable, it is not considered a delineating factor (yes, this has been asked). We need self-starting, dedicated, sociable, and discrete leaders/professionals to conduct counterintelligence operations and felony-level criminal investigations on behalf of Air Force's and Department of Defense's interests. As such, we are looking for applicants that can illustrate these qualities in their lives/careers.

Q: Is there a particular major that makes me more competitive?

A: Foreign language and computer science are enticing capabilities for AFOSI; however, plenty of accepted applicants DO NOT have these degrees. We need a diverse corps of officers that have degrees ranging from Criminal Justice to Economics to Biology. Thus, what you major in is not as important as how you perform in your major and during your entire collegiate experience. If you are an Active Duty officer, the same applies along with your performance reports and the whole person concept discussed above.

Q: Who should I obtain letters of recommendation from?

A: It depends on how you want to develop your package (meaning: do you want to highlight a specific characteristic or present diversified experience). There is no right/wrong answer and the only guideline in the process is that applicants should have no more or less than three letters of recommendation.

Q: I'm not able to "intern" with AFOSI during a summer "Ops Air Force program." How can I accomplish my mandatory AFOSI interview?

A: Operation Air Force is currently the only sanctioned AFOSI internship opportunity. Applicants that are not able to participate in the program can call the nearest AFOSI unit and request an interview with the unit Commander or Special Agent-in-Charge well in advance of the package due date. For active duty members, contact your local AFOSI unit and express your interest. They will have an application process that may begin with attending a monthly or quarterly recruiting session.

Q: I currently have a Top Secret clearance. Does this make me more competitive?

A: No, not in your selection. If an applicant is selected by the board, HQ AFOSI will initiate a suitability investigation (formerly known as a background investigation) for the approved member. If the suitability investigation is approved by the Command Applicant Review Board, the investigation will be forwarded to Air Force Central Adjudication Facility to establish/renew a Top Secret clearance.

Q: I'm colorblind. Am I an eligible candidate?

A: It depends on the level of impairment. Per AFOSII 26-2101, A8.2.1.11, applicants must be able to distinguish primary colors as determined by an optometrist administering a standard color vision exam. The main reason for this requirement is the result of an agent's need to be able to provide flawless, unbiased testimony in a court of law (e.g., defense question -- "you said you thought the car was red, but don't you have issues distinguishing red/green colors?"). HQ AFOSI can review AF FM 422s with documented levels of impairment prior to application (highly encouraged).

Q: Are there any other physical limitations besides colorblindness?

A: Members must meet Air Force physical fitness standards and be suitable for worldwide duty IAW AFI 48-123, Volume 2, Medical Examinations and Standards.

Q: If I'm selected for OSI duty, do I have a choice to take my initial AFSC selection instead of OSI?

A: When someone is volunteering for OSI duty, the selection board assumes that is what they desire as a career. That said, we don't want someone in this career field that doesn't want help

propel it forward. If the member does not truly want to do this job, it is recommended they save their time, the selection board's time, and the organization's time (manhours expended for suitability investigations) and not apply.