



RAF Airman or Airwoman - use specialist skills for support roles in defence and peacekeeping missions.



Entry requirements:

You could apply to join the RAF through an HM forces serviceperson intermediate apprenticeship.

You will still need to apply directly to the RAF to discuss which is the best apprenticeship route for you. This will depend on your qualifications and which service role you're interested in.

Entry requirements vary.

You can apply directly to join the RAF.

You'll need:

- at least 3 GCSEs grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) including English and maths, and a science for some roles
- to be over 16 years old - upper age limit varies depending on the role
- to be physically fit

If your initial application is accepted, you will be invited to talk to someone at your local armed forces careers office about what you want to do, and take an aptitude test.

If you successfully complete the initial stage, you will be invited to attend further interviews and assessments, which include fitness and medical tests.

Skills required:

You will need:

- physical fitness and endurance
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- excellent verbal communication skills
- the ability to work well with others in a team
- concentration skills and quick reactions
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- thinking and reasoning skills
- to be flexible and open to change
- being able to use a computer terminal or hand-held device may be beneficial for this job.

What you will do:

You will provide specialist support in one of the following areas:

- aircrew, including non-commissioned aircrew and weapon systems operators
- engineering and technical roles like aircraft technician
- catering and hospitality jobs like catering officer
- security and defence in areas like firefighting and the RAF police
- medical and medical support work in dental, nursing, medical and laboratory roles
- personnel support, including administration and training
- air operations support, like air traffic controllers

What you will earn:

- Starter: £15,000
- Experienced: £38,020

These figures are a guide.

Working hours, patterns and environment:

- You could work at a military base or in a warzone.
- Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding.

Career path and progression:

- As an airman or airwoman you could move up the ranks to a more senior position like corporal or sergeant. You could also apply to become a commissioned officer.
- You could go into a wide range of careers once you leave the RAF, depending on your skills, training and qualifications.