

The RAF's specialists in enabling, operating and maintaining Information and Communication Technology (ICT) systems in support of UK military operations worldwide.

The official name for Cyberspace Communications Specialist in the RAF is ICT Technician.

KEY POINTS

- You will have the opportunity to gain an advanced modern apprenticeship and a pathway to a degree.
- Protect and defend the RAF's cyberspace.
- Specialist support to next generation air platforms and network enabled capabilities.

TRADE OVERVIEW

Cyberspace Communications Specialists ensure the RAF remains at the cutting edge of technological advances, essential for the RAF to be able to communicate effectively and move information around safely and securely. You will work as part of a highly trained and technologically skilled workforce that will be responsible for a wide variety of tasks; ranging anywhere from safeguarding our UK-based IT networks from intrusions, coordinating the RAF's vast array of information, all the way to establishing overseas networks and equipment for Deployed Commanders and Air Traffic Services. The technical knowledge is challenging, but the benefits, the achievements, and the impacts are highly rewarding.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:

The qualifications you can earn are as valuable in the civilian world as they are in the RAF. When added to your RAF experience, you will be well placed and in demand by any potential civilian employers.

RECRUIT TRAINING

Your career will start with a 10-week Basic Recruit Training Course at RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire. The course is designed to help you adjust to a military environment. As well as fitness and military training, you will also learn about the RAF lifestyle.

SPECIALIST TRAINING

The next step is a Trade training course at No 1 Radio School (No 1 RS), Cosford, near Wolverhampton; a first-class training establishment. This foundation course is approx. 35 Weeks long and is designed to prepare you for your first tours by giving you a breadth of skills and knowledge across the full range of duties you may be employed in. You will study a range of subjects, including: electronic and radio principles; mathematics; Cisco Academy IT Essentials; Cisco Introduction to Networks; Microsoft Server 2K12, Relational Databases, Programming Techniques, satellite and data communications; information systems and network administration and Cyber security. In addition, you will also be instructed in health and safety, maintenance practices and procedures, all of which will allow you to deploy and maintain our range of communications information networks and sensors.

REWARDS FROM RAF LIFE

- 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

REGULAR ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Cyberspace Communications Specialist

Age: 16-47*

*Must attest before 48th birthday. (If you are under 18 years of age, you will need consent from a parent or guardian before you apply however you may commence your application from 15 years and 9 months)

Qualifications:

You need a minimum of Grade C (Grade 4 to 5 with effect from Aug 17) or SCE Standard Grade 2/Scottish National 5 (Grade A – C) in the following GCSEs:

- **Mathematics**
- **English**
- **An approved science or tech-based subject**

If you do not hold a qualification in an approved Science or technology-based subject, you can still apply as a qualified Cyberspace Communications Specialist, provided you have the required English Language and Mathematics grades. You will also need to achieve a slightly higher score in the relevant part of the entry test at an Armed Forces Careers Office (AFCO); further information and advice will be available from your local AFCO.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

The training you will receive at No 1 Radio School, Cosford, is recognised by a wide range of civilian employers and backed by transferable qualifications. During your specialist training as a Cyberspace Communication Specialist, where viable, you will be enrolled on an Information Communication Technician Apprenticeship Standard which is a Level 3 qualification; all knowledge requirements will be completed during your technical training, skills & behaviours will be captured within the work place during your first tour. You can also gain a Foundation Degree in Computing Science from Staffordshire University.

ONGOING TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

One of the many advantages of being a Cyberspace Communications Specialist in the ICT Tech Trade is the incredible breadth and diversity of the roles that you could be employed in. Further specialist training is available to you to ensure that you are suitably trained for your roles. If required, specialist training will be given in application support, web-skills, database and network management, software and application development, coding and cyberspace security to assure the integrity and efficient operation and management of the RAF's and other military networks.

YOUR FIRST TOUR

Upon completion of your training, you will graduate as an RAF ICT Tech and will begin your first tour. Opportunities exist across the country for this tour, but wherever you are sent you will be using your skills to immediately support the RAF's outputs. You will join a team responsible for managing your unit's cyberspace systems. A first tour could see you as part of 90 Signals Unit, which includes the RAF's deployable expeditionary communications team. This team deploys around the globe and a job here would see you supporting global operations by providing the cyberspace systems that enable communications back to the UK effectively. Alternatively, you could be employed on an aircraft squadron, maintaining and supporting the aircraft's mission support system that enables the aircraft to carry out its sorties. Another current role for your first tour is to work within an information Hub, where you will be the first port of call for providing advice on software applications, information management and system administration, or repairing IT systems and installing software and hardware.

YOUR FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS AND PROGRESSION:

After completing one year's total service, you will be eligible for promotion to Senior Aircraftman (SAC), providing you pass Basic Trade Training and Trade Ability Tests. Following completion of the TATs, 18 months in rank and completion of the Apprenticeship, you would advance to SAC (T). Further promotion to the rank of Corporal and beyond is on merit by competitive selection and will require the completion of further periods of Command and Management Training to prepare you for the demands of your new rank.

Pay: Visit

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/technical-and-engineering/cyberspace-communication-specialist>

Selection: You will be assessed on physical fitness and medical eligibility. You will be required to complete the Airmen's Selection Test at your local AFCO to a standard appropriate to your choice of the trade.

Residency: Whether or not you were born in the United Kingdom, you should have resided there for the 5 years immediately preceding your application but candidates with a minimum of 3 years will be considered.

Nationality: You must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or dual UK/Other nationality.

A Modern Force: The RAF recognises the value of a person's ability no matter their ethnicity, social background, religion or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status/civil partnership.

Register your interest in this role:

Online:

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/technical-and-engineering/cyberspace-communication-specialist> or

Telephone: 0345 605 5555

This information was last updated on 03 Aug 21 but may have changed since. If you have any queries, please check with RAF Staff at any Armed Forces Careers Office.

Search online for other trades both Regular and Reserve

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>



**NO
ORDINARY
JOB**