

***Support the delivery of environmental and occupational health and medical force protection capability to minimise the incidence of disease and non-battle injury and to maintain the operational capability of the UK Forces.***

## KEY POINTS

- Be treated, trained and supported as a professional.
- Get paid whilst undertaking a fully funded BSc (Hons) Degree in Environmental Health Studies.
- Training and Employment in the 4 key areas: Environmental Health, Occupational Hygiene, Environmental Protection and Health and Safety.

## TRADE OVERVIEW

As an Environmental Health Practitioner, you will help protect the health of military and civilian personnel, both on our bases in the UK and on operations and exercises overseas.

In the UK tasks could include; workplace inspections of a broad range of environments from catering facilities to engineering bays to check that personnel are working safely. You may have to monitor the emission levels of hazardous chemicals from a process, measure the lighting or noise levels in a workplace or provide a health brief for personnel before they deploy overseas. In all areas, you will provide specialist advice to minimise health risks.

On operations and exercises, it is the Environmental Health Practitioners responsibility to reduce or prevent non-battle related risks to our personnel. Your tasks could include advising on basic sanitation, pest control or ensuring that supplies of clean drinking water are available. You will also be responsible for monitoring the climatic conditions and other environmental and industrial hazards and help to reduce their impact on health.

## TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

The qualifications you will earn are as valuable in the civilian world as they are in the RAF – which means that whenever you decide to leave the RAF, you will be highly employable and able to benefit from a successful career in Environmental Health.

## 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 4 years of specialist training leading to a BSc Honours Degree in Environmental Health Studies delivered in partnership with Leeds Beckett University. Training commences with a 10 month classroom-based foundation course at the Defence Medical Academy (DMAcad) in Lichfield, Staffordshire. You will then spend 9 months based at RAF Henlow conducting practical training so that you can experience many elements of the job, before returning to DMAcad for a further six months of classroom-based learning and confirmatory exercises. Once this initial part of training is complete, you will be assigned to your first unit and continue the remainder of your training from there. The final 2 years of academic study will fulfil the final modules of the degree which is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH).

## 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

### Environmental Health Practitioner

**Age:** 17–47\*

\*Must attest before 48<sup>th</sup> birthday.

#### Qualifications:

You need to have a minimum 104 UCAS points which must include a minimum of 32 UCAS points from two A Levels (2 x E grades), excluding General Studies and Critical Thinking.

In addition, you will require 5 GCSEs minimum grade C/4 in Mathematics, English Language and the Double Science award or equivalent qualification. Key Skills Level 2, Functional Skills Level 2 and the Certificate in Adult Literacy / Numeracy will not be accepted in place of GCSEs. Exceptional candidates that do not meet the above requirements in full will be considered under the Leeds Beckett University admissions policy, subject to satisfactory performance in the selection procedures. However, all applicants **will** be required to meet the GCSE requirements. For full entry criteria information, please visit the [Leeds Beckett University Website](#).

### ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

As an Environmental Health Practitioner, you will have extensive opportunities for further professional development throughout your career. During your training you will obtain the NEBOSH General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety and the BPCA Certificate in Pest Control. You will also receive driver training if you require it. Once you have completed your degree you will be able to gain Chartered Status with The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health. This is awarded in recognition of professional competence. You will also be encouraged to gain a qualification in Occupational Hygiene. In order to keep your skills up to date, you will be required to undertake at least 20 hours of Continual Professional Development (CPD) every year and 30 hours for Chartered Practitioners.

### ONGOING TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As your career progresses, we will continue to train you in new skills. You will benefit from opportunities in management and leadership training and have many opportunities to undertake adventurous training.

### YOUR FIRST TOUR

For your first tour, you will likely be assigned to work within a team of Environmental Health Practitioners at RAF Henlow in Bedfordshire. In this role, you could carry out food hygiene assessments or occupational health surveys at many locations throughout the RAF. You could also be required to respond to aircraft incidents and outbreaks of communicable disease. During this time, you will also be completing the final modules of your BSc (Hons) degree.

### YOUR FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS AND PROGRESSION:

Environmental Health Practitioners are highly employable within a variety of roles, both in the UK and abroad. You may be based in a medical centre on an RAF base, with responsibility for all environmental and occupational health matters on that base. During other tours you may work as an instructor at the DMAcad or be based at RAF Henlow working in food safety or occupational hygiene. There will also be opportunities for deployment overseas.

After completing one year total service you will be eligible for promotion to Senior Aircraftman. Progression to Corporal and Sergeant, subject to the completion of service courses, will be on a time promotion basis. Further promotion beyond the rank of Sergeant is by competitive selection.

**Pay:** Visit

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/medical-and-medical-support/environmental-health-practitioner>

**Selection:** You will be assessed on physical fitness and medical eligibility. Additionally, you will need to perform well at a specialist interview.

**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 the Republic of Ireland, holder of dual UK/other nationality or have been a Commonwealth citizen since birth.

**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/medical-and-medical-support/environmental-health-practitioner>

**or**

**Telephone:** 0345 605 5555

**To access the Trade Ambassador Network (TAN) Scheme and connect with a specialist in your local area, please contact Air-Health-SO2 Med Cap Pers**

This information was last updated 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**