

Work in a diverse and multi-disciplinary environment providing a surgical capability to UK Defence worldwide.

KEY POINTS

- Be treated, trained and supported as a health care professional.
- Join the RAF, get paid whilst undertaking a fully funded DipHE in Operating Department Practice.
- Opportunity for further study and professional development.
- Work within a Tri-Service environment.

TRADE OVERVIEW

As an Operating Department Practitioner (ODP) you will be an integral member of the theatre team providing peri-operative patient care. Just like a civilian fulfilling the same role you will be responsible for the smooth running of the operating theatre and its specialised equipment. You will also be expected to be multi-functional as part of the anaesthetic, scrub and recovery teams in all specialities.

As a military ODP you will be expected to undertake periods of stand-by for high readiness contingency teams that support UK military operations worldwide. You may find yourself living in austere conditions working from a tented operating theatre to being at sea on a vessel. Your additional skills will include working in A&E as part of a Trauma team and resuscitation. You can progress to become a Surgical First Assistant (SFA) and you will be trained in the operation and management of the Sterile Services Department, reprocessing instruments and other re-usable medical devices.

Unlike most people in the RAF, you will probably move jobs infrequently, remaining at either Royal Centre for Defence Medicine (RCDM), located in Birmingham or RCDM Oxford, RCDM Stoke and Joint Hospital Group South West (JHG(SW)).

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:

If in the future you wish to leave the Service your experience, further clinical training and managerial dexterity will make you highly competitive within the civilian job market.

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

If you are joining with a professional qualification recognised by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) you will, following completion of Recruit Training, be posted into your first Unit. If you are joining with appropriate A levels/Higher grade or equivalent your specialist training will start with a 2-year Diploma in Higher Education in Operating Department Practice at the Defence School of Health Education at the Birmingham City University. This 106-week course will incorporate both theory and practical placements at the university and local hospitals.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

You can complete further modules through the Defence School of Health Education to gain your BSc (Hons) Defence Health Care Studies.

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

Operating Department Practitioner

Age: 17 – 47*

*Must attest before 48th birthday.

Qualifications:

(RAF requirement – GCSE equivalents **not** accepted, e.g. Key Skills Level 2, Adult Numeracy, Adult Literacy).

A minimum of 88 UCAS points is required. For criteria of eligible Level 3 qualifications please refer to the Birmingham City University website at <https://www.bcu.ac.uk/courses/operating-department-practice-dip-he-2020-21>

Level 2 Qualifications which must be achieved prior to application:

GCSE at Grade C or above (Grade 4 to 5 with effect from Aug 17) in English Language, Mathematics and Science. Passes in the following qualifications are also acceptable: Scottish National 5 (grades A-C) Standard in English, Mathematics and Science.

ONGOING TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

There are many opportunities to develop and broaden your skills from SFA to Advanced Life Support provider and instructor along with many military medical courses.

YOUR FIRST TOUR

This will be at either the RCDM, in Birmingham, RCDM Oxford, RCDM Stoke or JHG(SW) in Plymouth.

YOUR FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS AND PROGRESSION:

After completing one year's total service and graduating from your training course you will be eligible for promotion to Senior Aircraftman Technician. Qualified entrants are promoted to Senior Aircraft Technician backdated to their second day in service. Further promotion to the rank of Corporal and Sergeant is on a time promotion basis.

Pay: Visit

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

Selection: You will be assessed on physical fitness and medical eligibility.

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/operating-department-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 in 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**