

Medical Officer

To be a world-class medical service in support of air power.

RAF Medical Officers play a vital role in keeping our personnel fit and medically prepared for their operational role, at home and when deployed. All RAF Medical Officers receive basic training in aviation medicine and have the opportunity to train further to provide specialist medical support to the RAF and the UK Armed Forces, including Aeromedical Evacuation. Your role is pivotal in maintaining the effectiveness of the RAF in delivering Air Power by maximising the fitness of personnel for their tasks. You will deliver a high standard of care under demanding but rewarding conditions, including the extra challenges of working in a field hospital or deployed medical centre; often in austere settings. The RAF employ specialists in most of the major branches of medicine and surgery and you will have the opportunity to excel in your chosen specialty.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Initial Officer Training

Like all our Specialist Branch officers, you will begin your RAF career on the Specialist Officer Initial Training Course (SOITC) at the RAF College Cranwell in Lincolnshire. You will undertake a 12-week course specially designed for professionally-qualified entrants to the RAF. The course includes fitness development, military training, weapons handling and academic study as well as practical outdoor leadership challenges.

Specialist RAF Training

Following a short period of well-earned leave, you will then go to the Defence College of Healthcare Education and Training for a 2-week course where you will learn about the delivery of medical care in the RAF. This is followed by an introduction to the speciality of Aviation Medicine at the Centre of Aviation Medicine at RAF Henlow in Bedfordshire. You will learn about the effects of illness and medication on the ability of our staff to work onboard aircraft, aircrew life support and human factors in aviation. The course also includes elements of occupational medicine.

General Duties Medical Officer (GDMO) Tour

As with all new officers, you will probably move jobs every 2 or 3 years, and each job is known as a *tour*. As a fully qualified GP or consultant, you will begin your RAF career in a medical setting at one of our bases as a GDMO to give you first-hand experience of RAF life and time to attend military courses relevant to your future role. You will then be posted to a Joint Hospital Group Unit or to a NHS hospital, either to complete your training or to work as a consultant in your specialty. Qualified GPs will continue working in a Medical Centre.

Medical Officer

Minimum Age: When completed professional/education qualifications.

Maximum Age: 53*

*Candidates can be accepted up to age 54 if you are already fully accredited. If you require professional training this age will be lowered to take account of your exact training requirements. Must have entered SOITC by 54th birthday.

Qualifications:

Direct entrants must be fully registered with the General Medical Council.

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.

Pay:

Pay is competitive against NHS salaries depending on professional qualifications and experience. For current information visit: <https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/medical-and-medical-support/medical-officer>

Your Career Prospects

The RAF offers a structured career path that mirrors the challenges and responsibilities of a civilian medical career. You will hold the rank of Flight Lieutenant or Squadron Leader dependent on your experience and professional qualifications at the time of joining. Initially, you will be offered an Initial Commission of 6 or 12 years depending on whether you have already completed specialist training. Promotion from Flight Lieutenant to Squadron Leader is after 5 years satisfactory service. For GPs, promotion to Wing Commander and above is by competitive selection. For consultant-based specialties you will become eligible for promotion to A/Wg Cdr on successful completion of IOD4 and substantive Wg Cdr on successful ASCAB. Your commission may be extended until you reach the age of 60, subject to Service requirements and your medical fitness. Pay is aligned with your peers in the NHS and there is a generous Armed Forces Pension Scheme.

Ongoing Development

The Royal Air Force is a strong advocate of continuous professional development and as a Medical Officer, you will have extensive opportunities throughout your career. This includes, both for primary and secondary care clinicians, the opportunity to undertake the Diploma in Aviation Medicine course. The Diploma in Occupational Medicine can also be undertaken and, if successful at national benchmarking, higher training can be undertaken to reach Consultant level in this specialty. Other training opportunities include medical education, sports and exercise medicine and public health, depending on your career aspirations and the needs of the RAF. As a fully-qualified independent practitioner, either in primary or secondary care, you will undergo various types of further military and adventure training to test your skills in more challenging ways. All Medical Officers receive Command and Staff Training with some undertaking additional training to prepare them for senior medical management appointments.

Transferable skills

As a Medical Officer in the RAF, you will have similar professional promotion and development opportunities to your civilian counterparts together with the chance to work in challenging locations around the world and gain a unique medical and personal experience. The development of your leadership skills and broader military experience will enhance your prospects when you eventually leave the RAF.

Find Out More

The Medical, Dental and Physiotherapist Specialist Recruitment Team (MDRT) give 'find out more' presentations at certain times during the year, covering all aspects of the RAF Medical Services and the selection process. You should contact the MDRT directly on 01400 266811 or Email: CRN-RecruitSelect-MDLT-Grp@mod.gov.uk for their programme dates and to book your place on a presentation.

Selection:

You must pass a specialist interview where your professional suitability will be assessed. You will then be invited to the Officer and Aircrew Selection Centre (OASC) at RAF College Cranwell for the one-day selection process where we will assess your potential for training.

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.

To register your interest in this role online:

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

or

Telephone:

0345 605 5555

This information was last updated on 05 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 branches both Regular and Reserve
<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>



**NO
ORDINARY
JOB**