



Provide air power on behalf of your country, operating state-of-the-art aircraft world-wide.

As a Royal Air Force front-line Pilot you might fly the F-35B Lightning II, Typhoon FGR4, Hawk T1, Voyager KC2/KC3, C17 Globemaster III, A400M Atlas, E7 Wedgetail, P-8A Poseidon, Shadow R1, RC-135W Rivet Joint, CH-47 Chinook, and Augusta 109 delivering Royal Air Force capability around the world. The roles of our Pilots are as varied as the aircraft and in the training role they fly Tutor, Prefect, Phenom, Juno, Jupiter, Texan T1 and Hawk T2, plus in the public display role the Hawk T1, Hurricane, Spitfire, Lancaster, Dakota and Chipmunk. Whatever you end up flying you will be initially streamed to fast jet, multi engine or helicopter aircraft per operational requirements and your flying ability. You may specialize in that aircraft type throughout your career or transfer to others. As the Pilot of a multi-role fast jet aircraft, your primary role will be air-to-air combat and ground attack. In Air Mobility (transport aircraft) you will be sent anywhere in the world on military support, humanitarian aid or air-to-air refuelling missions. On Rotary Wing (helicopters) your duties would include delivering troops and vital equipment within combat zones. In aircraft supporting Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) tasks, you would contribute to the UK understanding of activities taking place in our increasingly complex, congested and contested world. Like most people in the RAF you will probably change roles every few years and move between RAF bases in the UK and overseas to carry out your operational and training role. As your career develops, you could also take on mission planning and ground-based staff duties.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Initial Officer Training

RAF officers begin their career by completing the Modular Initial Officer Training Course (M)IOT at the RAF College Cranwell in Lincolnshire. You will complete a challenging modular 24-week course, split into 4 distinct terms designed to develop your robustness, fitness, leadership and academic skills through several indoor and outdoor exercises across the UK.

Specialist Training

Your specialist training begins with Elementary Flying Training, flying the Tutor or Prefect aircraft. You will then be streamed to fast jet; multi-engine or rotary (helicopter) flying training.

Fast-jet: Fast-jet training lasts ~2 years and you will initially fly the Texan at RAF Valley, after which you will be awarded your Pilot flying badge – known as ‘wings’. You will then go on to fly the Hawk T2 at RAF Valley and, after successful completion of the tactical weapons phase, you will go to an Operational Conversion Unit (OCU), where you will train on the specific aircraft that you will be flying in a front-line role (e.g. Typhoon).

Multi-engine: The training to fly multi-engine aircraft is ~10 months long, during which you will fly the Phenom at RAFC Cranwell. You will then be awarded your Pilot ‘wings’ and go to an OCU to train on the aircraft that you will be flying operationally (e.g. C17).

Rotary Wing: If you are streamed to rotary you will spend ~18 months flying twin-engine helicopters at RAF Shawbury, the Juno and Jupiter. After your training, you will be awarded your Pilot ‘wings’. You will then go to an OCU where you will train on the helicopter that you will be flying operationally (e.g. Chinook).

Pilot

Age: 17½ - 25*

*Civilian candidates must enter MIOT before their 26th birthday.

Qualifications:

You will need a minimum of 5 GCSEs (or acceptable equivalents) at a minimum of Grade C (Grade 4 to 5 with effect from Aug 17), including English Language and Mathematics or Scottish National 5 (Grades A – C) in 5 subjects including English Language and Mathematics.

In addition, two A2 Levels / three Highers at grade C or above (excluding General Studies, Critical thinking and Citizenship Studies), which must total a minimum of 64 UCAS points.

Alternatively, if you hold a UK degree at Grade 2:2 or higher (or acceptable alternative) you only need Mathematics and English Language GCSEs at a minimum of Grade C (Grade 4 to 5 with effect from Aug 17) **or** Mathematics and English Language Scottish National 5 (Grades A-C).

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.

Foundation Tour

During your first tour, you will be detached overseas for anything from a few days to a few months. You are highly likely to fly on operations and conduct training exercises in allied airspace.

Your Career Prospects

You will join the RAF on an Initial Commission of 12 years and will be selected to serve on a pension earning commission of 20 years' service or to age 40, whichever is the later, on completion of your first Operational Conversion course. Promotion to the rank of Flight Lieutenant is on a time served/satisfactory service basis 2 1/2 years after completing MIOT. Further promotion to Squadron Leader and above is by competitive selection.

On-going Development

As a Pilot, you will have opportunities throughout your career for further professional development. As well as training to fly different aircraft, there are opportunities for structured command and staff training as your career progresses.

In-Service Degree

An In-Service degree for RAF Pilots on completion of their flying training is currently being implemented with a separate information sheet due soon for publication.

Transferable Skills

The skills and experience you gain throughout your career as a Pilot in the RAF could equip you for several civilian jobs upon completion of service, including: Commercial Pilot; Flying Instructor and various aviation management posts.

Nationality:

You must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or holder of dual UK/other nationality.

Pay:

For current information visit:
<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/aircrew/pilot>

Selection:

Initially, you must pass the aptitude tests at the Officer and Aircrew Selection Centre (OASC) at RAF College Cranwell. If you pass the aptitude tests, you will be invited to return to the OASC for the one-day selection process where we will assess your potential for training. If you are deemed competitive for selection, you will be invited back to the OASC for a final time for a specialist medical.

Fitness:

As well as the RAF Fitness Test, you must pass the Aircrew Swim Test prior to starting flying training. Applicants must be able to swim.

University Bursary:

We could provide a bursary of up to £3000 a year during your 2nd and 3rd years of your studies plus approximately £1200 for 30 days of training, if you, gain entry to a UK university for an acceptable degree and aim to join the RAF. See the Sponsorship page on the RAF website for more detail.

To register your interest in this role online:

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/aircrew/pilot>

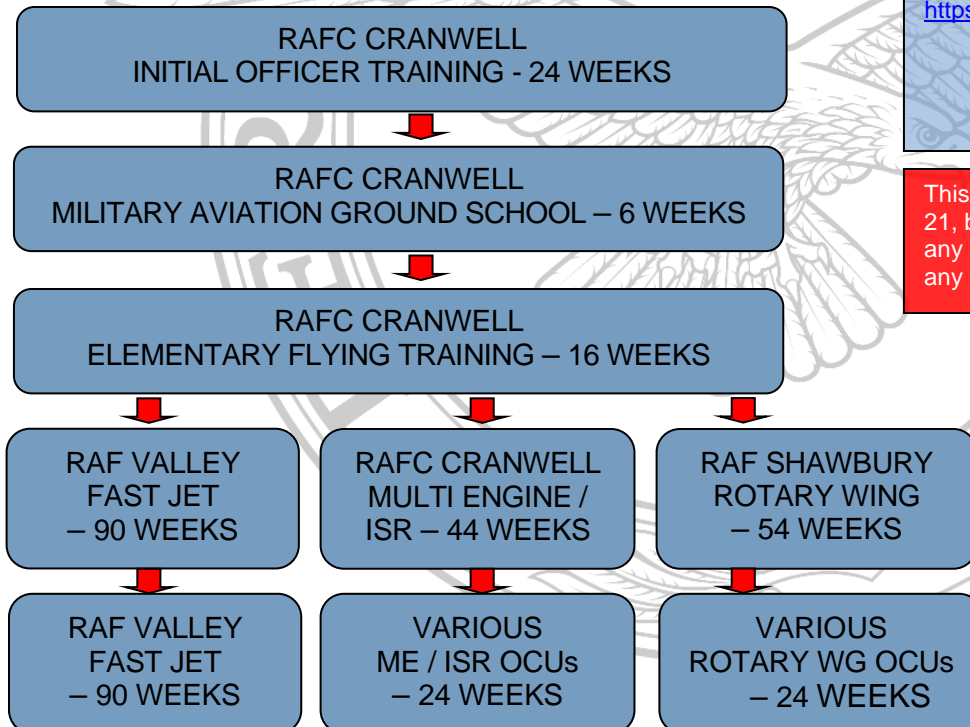
or

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.

TRAINING PIPELINE (COURSE LENGTH APPROXIMATE):



Search online for other branches both Regular and Reserve
<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>



**NO
ORDINARY
JOB**