

To provide optimum musical support for the RAF in order to enhance public perception, support State Ceremonial and achieve influence to further Defence and National interests.

KEY POINTS

- Performance opportunities at major concert venues and State Ceremonial events at home and abroad.
- Perform Symphonic Wind Band Repertoire, Big Band Music, Chamber Ensemble Music, Military Marches and Jazz.
- Continuing Professional Development.
- Competitive initial salary of approx. £28K after Training.

TRADE OVERVIEW

As a musician in the Royal Air Force you'll be joining an organisation with musicians who have a worldwide reputation as being second to none. Often called upon to perform for Royalty and politicians at State occasions while also providing music support for the RAF, Ministry of Defence and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Such events include Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace to concert performances in some of the most prestigious concert halls throughout the world.

All RAF Bands are capable of performing many genres of music and our musicians are expected to perform Symphonic Wind Band repertoire, Big Band, Jazz and Chamber Music as well as performing on parade.

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 ethos and core values.

SPECIALIST TRAINING AND YOUR FIRST TOUR

Following on from Basic Recruit Training you will be posted to one of the Regular Bands, Central Band and Regiment Band located at RAF Northolt and the Band of the RAF College at RAF Cranwell. We also have a Salon Orchestra that is based at RAF Northolt. Once at your Band, you will begin 'On the Job Training' (OJT). This training will last a maximum of twelve weeks with musicians completing studies on their primary instrument and band drill. Your posting will depend on where there is a vacancy for your instrument with the initial length of your first tour being a minimum of 18 months, this may vary due to operational requirements.

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

Musician

Age: 17½–47*

*Must attest before 48th birthday.

Qualifications:

You must perform to a minimum Grade 8 standard as defined by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music or equivalent (Contact 0300 1631937 for advice on equivalencies).

Pay: Visit

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/personnel-support/musician>

Selection: You will be assessed on physical fitness and medical eligibility. In addition, you must pass a specialist interview in the form of an audition at RAF Northolt.

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

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

RAF musicians are often highly skilled in a variety of musical areas and promotion training courses recognise existing qualifications. By offering targeted musical training to best suit the individual. RAF Music offers a Training and Development Course (TDC) which offers studies in instrumental performance, harmony, orchestration, history and conducting with well-respected specialists in each field working towards gaining the following diplomas:

- DipABRSM in performance
- LTCL in performance
- DipABRSM in music direction
- LRSM in music direction

ONGOING TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As well as the chances to develop your musical skills, there are countless opportunities to develop other skills through the Training and Development Section at your RAF unit. This could include academic study such as courses in management and leadership or adventurous sports training, allowing you to participate in sports like skiing, sailing and mountaineering with the possibility of becoming a qualified instructor in a sport of your choice.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

As a musician in the RAF you will have many personal development opportunities and the chance to gain unique experiences whilst working around the world. Upon leaving the Service, many RAF Musicians re-enter the civilian musical world as either performers or teachers. Progression through the ranks will increase your leadership and management skills and you'll have the opportunity to transfer these skills to civilian qualifications.

YOUR FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS AND PROGRESSION

You will begin your career in a Regular Band as an SAC, from there you will be considered for promotion up to the rank of Warrant Officer after gaining the relevant qualifications through the CPD scheme. Personnel deemed suitable and qualified may elect to undertake selection for commission as a Director of Music.

ROYAL AUXILIARY AIR FORCE BAND (RAuxAF Band)

Opportunities also exist to apply to join as a Musician on a part-time basis with the RAF Reserves. For further information on the RAuxAF Band see the specific Trade Information Leaflet for Musician (RAuxAF).

Nationality: You must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland, or the 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.



ROYAL AIR FORCE Music

Register your interest in this role:

Online:

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/personnel-support/musician>

or

Telephone: 0345 605 5555

To access the Trade Ambassador Network (TAN) Scheme and connect with a specialist in your local area, please contact:

James.Moss935@mod.gov.uk

More information available at www.raf.mod.uk/rafmusic/

Alternatively, follow us on:

Facebook RAF Music

Twitter @RAFMusic

or Instagram [royalairforcemusic](https://www.instagram.com/royalairforcemusic)

University Bursary: The RAF could provide a bursary of up to £3000 a year during your penultimate and final year 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. This will be dependent on vacancies for your instrument. The Sponsorship page on the RAF Recruitment website contains further detail.

This information was last updated in 08 Sep 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**