



AIR FORCE PHYSICIANS

# WHY BECOME AN AIR FORCE PHYSICIAN? READ ON ...



## RESPECT AND PRESTIGE

The Air Force has one of the best healthcare systems in the world. Through continuing research and development of new technology, our dedicated medical professionals provide the highest quality of care to their patients.

It takes special men and women to be Air Force physicians, those who are committed to preserving the ideals of American freedom. They live by the Air Force core values of "Integrity First, Service Before Self and Excellence in All We Do."

Our physicians give a great deal to their medical practice, and in return, receive a vast array of educational opportunities, unique challenges and unlimited career growth. They enjoy a rewarding lifestyle, financial security and the satisfaction of making a valuable and lasting contribution to their country.

When you become part of our team, you'll gain the respect of your civilian colleagues and achieve the prestige of serving those who put their lives on the line in service to our nation.

## AIR FORCE ADVANTAGES

As an Air Force physician, you'll join an established practice that allows you to concentrate on medicine without worrying about paying for overhead expenses

such as office space, equipment, payroll or supplies. Also, there's no need to worry about ever-increasing malpractice insurance costs.

You'll enjoy the benefits of a diverse medical practice using state-of-the-art equipment and working with top-notch, highly skilled medical teams. Our group practice concept allows for optimum patient care supported by an extensive specialty referral network.

Most importantly, when you prescribe a test or medication, there's no need to question your patient's ability to pay. The Air Force is committed to supporting you in providing the best possible care to each of your patients.

The Air Force is also committed to providing you with a quality of life and stable work week that allows you to devote time to your family and friends. Being a member of our Air Force family means taking care of your family as well.



## PATIENT CARE

Our medical facilities are located around the globe and range from small to medium sized ambulatory clinics to large hospitals and medical centers.

Your patients range from active-duty members and their families to retirees, from newborns to senior citizens. In most cases, the relationships you develop with your patients will be similar to that which a small town doctor shares with the patients in their practice. After all your patients may be your neighbors as well as your coworkers.

Depending on your area of specialization, you'll have the opportunity to treat a wide variety of medical conditions. No matter what the situation, you'll be empowered with the ability to provide as well as coordinate whatever care is needed to return them to good health.

## CAREER GROWTH

As an Air Force physician, you can attend advanced training and obtain continuing medical education without worrying about arranging for someone to care for your patients or the potential lack of income while you're gone. Another significant advantage is that if you change geographic locations, you'll retain your military rank and tenure.

The academic side of Air Force medicine also offers diverse opportunities. Qualified physicians can serve as teaching staff in support of the many different residency and fellowship programs offered at Air Force hospitals. Formal academic appointments are often awarded through the military's own medical school, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Maryland as well as through affiliations with associated civilian universities. You'll also have an opportunity to cultivate and



develop your management, leadership and command skills.

As a divisional or departmental chair, you'll find that you have both greater responsibility and a more far-reaching impact than you would likely have in a corresponding civilian practice.

## RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

Air Force residency programs are approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and provide many of our trained specialists. We offer virtually all recognized residencies. Each program fulfills all of the training requirements associated with their respective medical specialty boards.

Although our programs are accredited by the ACGME, the American Osteopathic Association approves family practice requirements and flexible internships for osteopathic physicians in training.

Our teaching staffs include board-certified specialists who are readily available for consultation. And the worldwide referral and aeromedical evacuation system offers a diverse patient base that's difficult to duplicate. Moreover, most Air Force programs are affiliated with nearby civilian medical schools.

## FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

We offer fellowship training in a wide variety of subspecialties ranging from adolescent medicine to sleep medicine. Additionally, each year the Air Force offers opportunities for its physicians to do their fellowship training in a number of specialties at civilian medical centers.



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Air Force Financial Assistance Program helps supplement your residency pay by providing a grant for each year you participate in the program. You'll also receive a stipend to help cover living expenses up to a maximum of 11 ½ months per year. During the remaining two weeks of each year, you'll receive the full pay, allowances and privileges of an Air Force officer as you serve on active duty. Your education and experience levels determine your initial rank.



## HEALTH PROFESSIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

If you're planning to apply to medical school or if you're already in med school and are worried about paying off huge student loans, the Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program can help. We offer three- and four-year scholarships that cover all tuition, books and required fees. You'll also receive a monthly stipend to help cover living expenses.

During your scholarship period, you'll spend 45 days on active duty as an Air Force second lieutenant. Once you graduate, you'll enter active duty full time with a commitment to serve four years if you received a four-year scholarship or three years if you received a three-year scholarship.

Qualified applicants may also be eligible for a signing bonus.

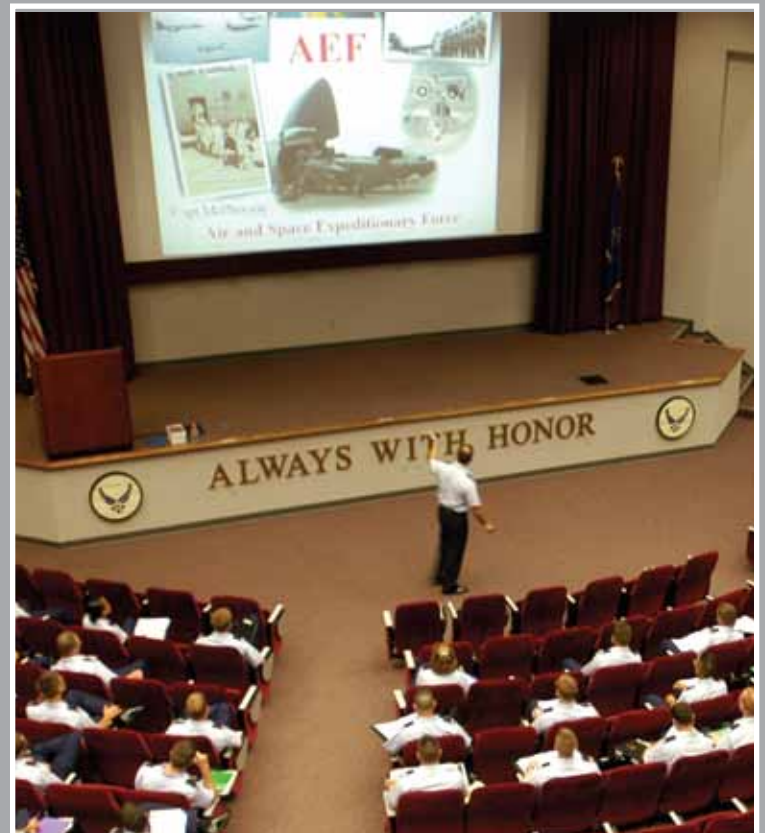
If you have any questions, your recruiter can provide you with full details on the specific scholarship programs and the application process.

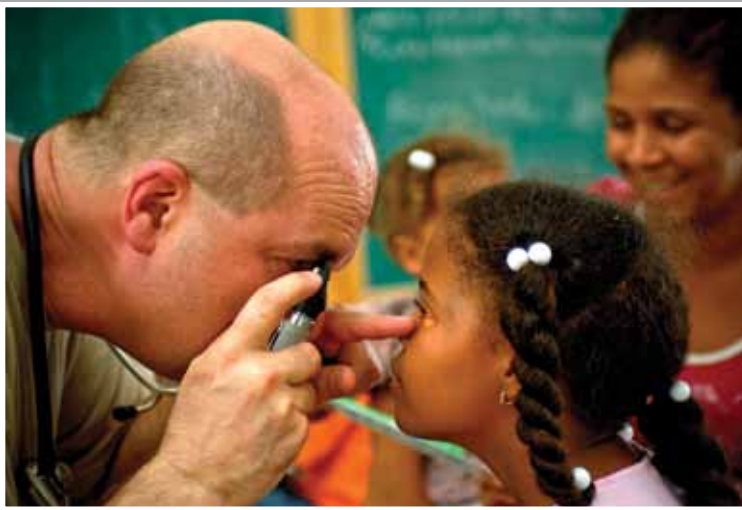
## CIVILIAN TO MILITARY TRANSITION

When you enter the Air Force you'll attend the Commissioned Officer Training (COT) course at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. This short, four-week course will help ease your transition from civilian to military life.

Training consists of a combination of physical conditioning and classroom studies that help prepare you for challenges you'll face as a military officer and leader. You'll become familiar with advanced leadership principles, Air Force customs and courtesies, officer/ noncommissioned officer relationships, military law, warfare and disaster preparedness, as well as the Air Force's role in national security.

Your time at Maxwell will go by quickly but the camaraderie you'll develop will last throughout your career. After completing COT, you'll proceed to your first assignment with a clear understanding of your dual roles as an officer and medical professional.





## HUMANITARIAN MISSIONS

Our healthcare professionals will tell you participating in humanitarian missions brings a special sense of personal fulfillment and satisfaction to their lives.

They may be called upon to provide medical care to victims of a hurricane or other natural disasters, or they may be needed to help save lives in Central and South America.

Air Force physicians are always ready to assist wherever and whenever needed.



## AEROSPACE MEDICINE

Flight surgeons are the heart of the aerospace medicine program. They're responsible for the health and effectiveness of aircrew members and those who directly support flight operations.

Aerospace medicine addresses the physical and mental challenges presented by modern high-performance aircraft and the aerospace environment. Among these are high-altitude stress, G-forces and the physiological aspects of flight.

The best way to understand the medical conditions pilots experience from high altitude, G-forces, and rapid pressure changes while flying is to experience them firsthand.

As a flight surgeon, it's part of your job to fly. Depending on your squadron's aircraft, you may experience Mach 2 in an F-15 Eagle or work aboard a KC-135 during a midair-refueling mission.

You must be physically fit and able to meet certain qualifications to be a flight surgeon. Your Health Professions recruiter has more details.

## READINESS

The Air Force provides advanced training, which allows physicians to enhance their wartime readiness. They learn skills necessary to manage and operate an air transportable hospital, provide critical care in the air, and conduct medical operations in field situations. Wartime readiness is something we are all a part of, and we play different roles, whether it involves training or providing direct care at home or abroad. Providing high quality care to all our military members regardless of their location, is our number one priority.

## PHYSICIAN QUALIFICATIONS

To become an Air Force physician, you must:

- Be a graduate of an accredited medical or osteopathic school
- Have completed an internship and residency training program, or be accepted for a residency training program that is approved by the Air Force Surgeon General
- Be board certified or board eligible
- Meet certain physical and moral requirements



If you're in a foreign country, immerse yourself in the local culture. Learn the language. Experience native cuisines. There's always something for everyone.

If you're qualified and there's a need for your specialty in the geographical area you request, the Air Force will try to assign you there. However, the needs of the Air Force always come first in determining assignments.

## LIFESTYLE

Whether you decide to make the Air Force a career or spend just a few years serving your country, you'll want to make the most of your time in the military.

Perhaps you'd like to hunt and fish in Alaska or golf in Florida. Maybe surfing in Hawaii is more your style. Or how about exploring Europe or the Far East?

Whatever your choice and wherever you're assigned, take advantage of the numerous travel and leisure opportunities.



## BENEFITS

As an Air Force officer and medical professional, you'll enjoy these outstanding benefits and more:

- Pay increases with your rank and time in service (you may be eligible for specialty bonus pay)
- Opportunities for funded, advanced and continuing education
- Variety of career broadening opportunities including the International Health Specialist program, and involvement in Defense Institute of Medical Operations
- 30 days of vacation with pay each year — starting with your very first year
- Tax-free food and housing allowances
- Comprehensive medical and dental care for you and your family
- Low-cost life insurance
- Generous non-contributory retirement plan and Thrift Savings Plan (similar to a 401K)
- Eligible for low-cost, VA-backed mortgage loans
- Shopping privileges in base grocery and department stores
- Use of base recreational facilities including bowling centers, golf courses, camping areas, tennis courts and fitness centers
- Child care centers for young children and youth activities for older children
- A chance to live, work and travel worldwide



## AIR FORCE MEDICAL OPPORTUNITIES

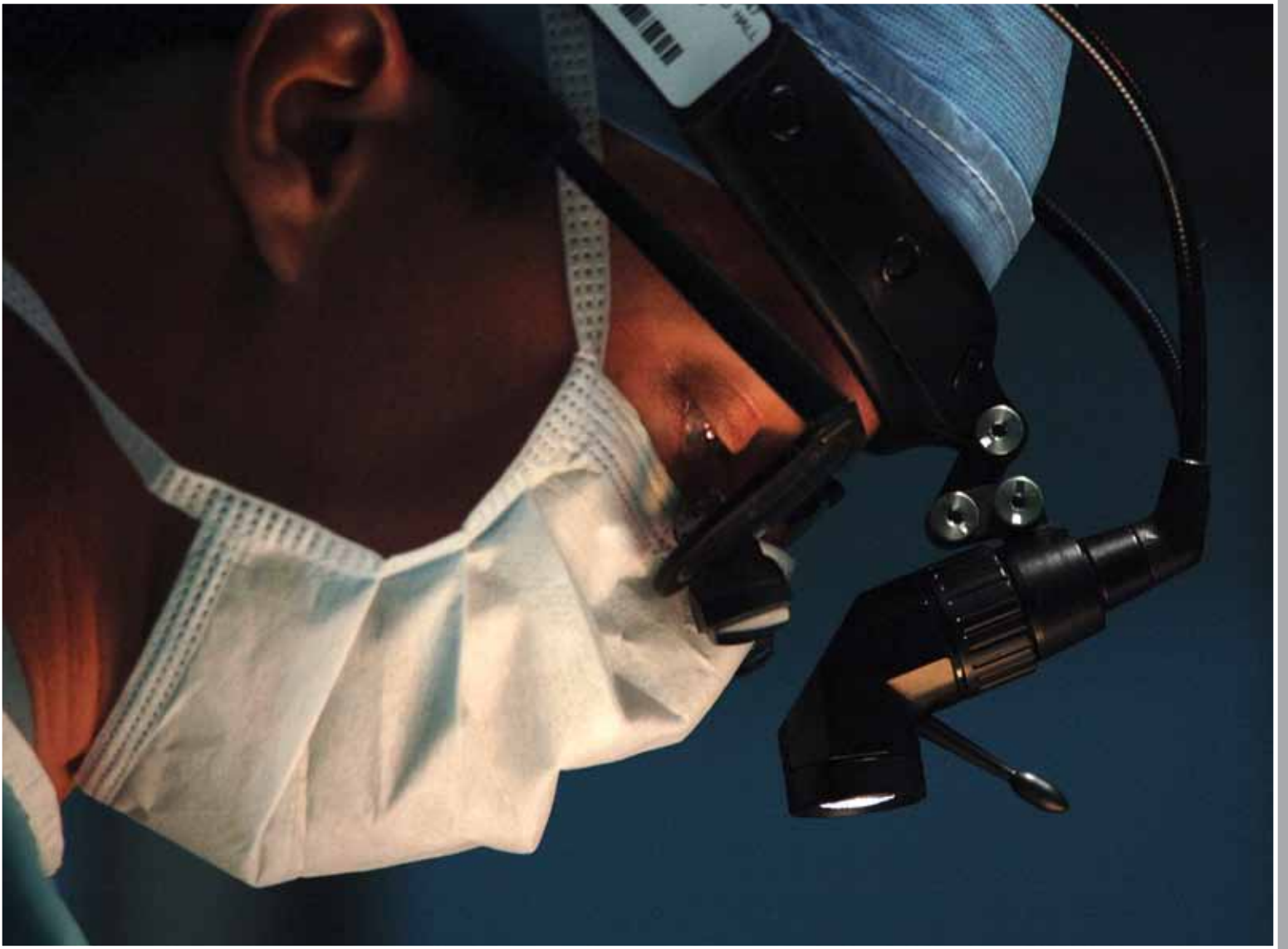
Although this list is not all-inclusive, we've listed a number of significant categories and specialties that further illustrate the depth and breadth of Air Force medicine:

Adolescent Medicine  
Aerospace Medicine  
Allergy & Immunology  
Anesthesiology  
Cardiology  
Colo-rectal Surgery  
Critical Care Medicine  
Dermatology  
Endocrinology  
Emergency Medicine  
Family Medicine  
Flight Surgeon  
Gastroenterology  
General Surgery

Genetics  
Geriatric Medicine  
Hematology  
Internal Medicine  
Infectious Disease  
Neurology  
Nephrology  
Neurosurgery  
Nuclear Medicine  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Occupational Medicine  
Oncology  
Ophthalmology  
Orthopedic Surgery

Otolaryngology  
Pathology  
Pediatrics  
Plastic Surgery  
Preventive Medicine  
Psychiatry  
Pulmonary Medicine  
Radiology  
Radiation Oncology  
Rheumatology  
Trauma Surgery  
Thoracic Surgery  
Urology





## AIR FORCE CORE VALUES

Integrity First  
Service Before Self  
Excellence in All We Do

For more information about Air Force physician career opportunities,  
contact your local Health Professions recruiter.

Visit us online at **AIRFORCE.COM/HEALTHCARE**  
or call 1-800-588-5260.

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Please check with your recruiter for updates.