

MISSION: Aeromedical Evacuation

The Aeromedical Evacuation Teams are in the business of saving lives, and sometimes a patient's chances can be greatly improved by rapidly transporting him or her from location to location. Although this mission is used to support humanitarian efforts, it is primarily used to transport troops in need of advanced medical assistance. There are 31 Aeromedical Evacuation Units in the United States Air Force, and of those, 19 are staffed by Air Force Reservists.

What Can I Do?

The jobs in Aeromedical Evacuation are many and they are all important. The cycle first begins with getting the patient out of the area of conflict. This is handled by a team consisting of a flight nurse, a flight medical corpsman and a radio operator. The radio operator is responsible for communication with the transporting aircraft, which might be a C-130, C-17 or a KC-135 tanker. This team moves the patient to the staging area.

Aeromedical Staging Squadrons evaluate, stabilize and prepare the patient for transport. These crews consist of flight nurses, aeromedical technicians and health services administrators, who track the patients and coordinate the flights.

The patients are then transported to the aircraft on which the Aeromedical Evacuation Crew is waiting. This team consists of two flight nurses and three aeromedical technicians. These technicians are trained to quickly assess the aircraft's facilities and turn it into a flying intensive care room. This crew stays with the patient until transport to another medical facility or hospital is completed.



Benefits

In the Air Force Reserve, you are entitled to a wide range of benefits, similar to those on Active Duty.

- Earn a paycheck – The pay is competitive for part-time and some full-time jobs.
- Get an education – The Air Force Reserve encourages continuing education and offers several programs – Non-contributory Montgomery G.I. Bill, Tuition Assistance, free credits through the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF), and specialized training that can lead to certifications and licenses. There can also be bonuses and incentives for those going into critically needed areas.
- Low-cost health care plan – This new program applies to both the Reservist and immediate family and can significantly reduce the cost of medical care.
- Retirement plan – Military retirement programs are very generous. If you have previously served, your time counts toward your retirement in the Air Force Reserve.
- Commissary and BX Privileges – Military bases offer discounted and tax-free supermarket and department store shopping plus low-cost recreational vehicle rentals.
- Live and serve at home – Serve where you live and transfer to a new location only at your request.
- Maintain rank – If you have previously served in the Air Force or any other branch of the military, chances are you will retain your rank when you join the Air Force Reserve.
- Do the extraordinary – This is an opportunity to meet American heroes accomplishing amazing feats and to become one with them.

The Air Force Reserve is an integral part of the United States Air Force, and in the case of Aeromedical Evacuation, performs the majority of the work. Members of the Air Force Reserve can live and serve in their local communities. Although there are full-time opportunities, those in the Air Force Reserve can continue their full-time civilian careers if they wish. This is a great way to serve your country and still live at home with your family.

Qualifications

Aeromedical Evacuation is an extremely rewarding mission, and there are many opportunities for officers and enlisted personnel.

If you have never served in the military and wish to join the Air Force Reserve, you must:

- Be 17 to 34 years old;
- Be in good health;
- Be of strong character.

Physicians, physician assistants and registered nurses attend Officer Training School at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama.

Those wishing to become enlisted personnel attend basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Those with previous military experience do not repeat basic training.

All go through specialized training in providing medical care at high altitudes at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas.



AIR FORCE RESERVE

To learn more, call 800-257-1212 or log on to AFReserve.com