

RAF Regiment Gunner

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Company: Royal Air Force

Location: Lincoln

Category: other-general

What will you do?

RAF Regiment Reservists supports the regular force and are involved in a wide range of Force Protection to RAF assets at home or deployed on operations or exercises. In your role you will work on:

Patrolling

Quick Reaction Force

Flight Line security

Station security Force

Becoming part of a Combined Incident Team

Providing Military Aid to Civilian Authority

Minimum Education Requirements

No formal qualifications required

You will undertake functional Skills (FS) Level 1 qualifications in English and Mathematics during your Phase 2 specialist training course.

Minimum Education Requirements

No formal qualifications required

Requirements

Be aged 16 – 47 (Must attest before 48th birthday) Applications can be submitted from age 15 years and 9 months

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 (with 'indefinite leave to remain' immigration status)

Commit minimum 3 years post Phase Two Training

Meet the health and fitness criteria

Pass the

Pass a Fitness test - Details below

Requirements

Be aged 18-54 Applicants must apply no later than age 54 and 9 months in order to attest before 55th birthday Ex-Regulars and specialist entrants may be considered on a case by case basis

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 (with indefinite leave to remain immigration status)

Commit 27 days per year

Meet the health and fitness criteria

Pass the

Apprenticeships available The RAF is one of the largest providers of diverse apprenticeships in the UK. We offer these apprenticeships for this role: Level 2 Apprenticeship HM Forces Service Person This occupation is found in the public sector only and specifically within HM Forces (Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force). The HM Forces is a large employer. The role is utilised by the ground troops of all three services, who could find their workplace to be UK based or on foreign soil, dependent on HM Government direction. Reserve role locations Reserve roles exist in specific reserve squadrons, which in turn are located at specific RAF bases. As you will not be resident at those bases (except on multi-day operations or

exercises), geographic proximity to where you live is important. These are the bases where this role is active: 603 Sqn, Edinburgh, Edinburgh 606 Sqn, RAF Benson, Oxon 609 Sqn, RAF Leeming, North Yorkshire 2503 Sqn, RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire 2620 Sqn, RAF Marham, Norfolk 2622 Sqn (Highland), RAF Lossiemouth, Moray 2623 Sqn, RAF Honington, Suffolk 2624 Sqn, RAF Brize Norton, Oxfordshire Regiment Reserve Flight (Cambs), Cambridge, Cambridgeshire Life in the RAF Regiment WARNING: This video contains flashing images.

Train with your team, learn all the skills you need and defend bases across the globe through a role in the RAF Regiment. CAREER, TRAINING & EDUCATION At any level or position your personal success is vital to make us succeed too. We are dedicated to your future, as it is essential to ours. You will receive basic and specialist training in your field and we even provide the option to pay for your education. The experience you gain with the RAF will equip you to work at the top of your field, both in the UK and overseas. 01 Phase one training Basic Recruit Training 10 weeks RAF Halton You'll complete the Basic Recruit Training Course at the RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire. 10 weeks RAF Halton Phase one training This will help you to adjust to military life. Along with fitness and military training, you'll learn about the RAF lifestyle.

02 Phase two training Specialist training 20 weeks RAF Honington Upon successful completion of Phase 1 you will move to RAF Honington, Suffolk to complete your specialist Gunner training course. 20 weeks RAF Honington Phase two training

You will be taught how to operate and use weapons in a professional manner and learn how to survive and fight in all environmental conditions. The course includes navigation, dismounted close combat tactics, field craft and physical training. RAF Regiment training is a test of character, determination and your will to succeed. By the end of the course you will be at peak

physical fitness and have learnt to operate effectively regardless of the environment. In order to give you the confidence to overcome any situation you may encounter whilst on operations, the training is deliberately tough.

You will be enrolled onto a Level 2 National Level Apprenticeship, HM Forces Service Person (Protective Services). Prior to starting your first squadron tour you will spend a further period undertaking specialist employment courses which include driver training and further advanced weapon training.

03 First tour Specialist training Ongoing As assigned For your first tour you will be posted to an operational RAF Regiment squadron located within the UK. Ongoing As assigned First tour

Here you will consolidate your training and form part of the teams responsible for providing Force Protection to RAF assets at home or deployed on operations or exercises.

04 Career progression Ongoing training Ongoing As assigned After completing one year's total service you will be eligible for promotion to Air Specialist (Class 1), providing you pass a Trade Ability Test. Ongoing As assigned Career progression

Further promotion to the rank of Lance Corporal and beyond is by competitive selection. Like most people in the RAF you will move jobs every few years and each job is known as a tour.

There are a wide range of jobs available to an RAF Regiment Gunner including Forward Air Controller; Support to Special Forces and Instructional and ceremonial duties.

05 Additional qualifications Ongoing training Ongoing As assigned You will gain further qualifications as your career progresses. Ongoing As assigned Additional qualifications DAO Level 3 Award in First Aid at Work

Intermediate Apprenticeship in HM Forces.

HM Forces Service Person - Public Services (Uniformed).

Level 2 Functional Skills qualification in English and Maths if not already acquired.

Driving qualifications as required.

As your career progresses on successful completion of promotion courses you will achieve:

DAO Level 2 award in Leading Individuals and Teams.

DAO Level 3 Certificate in Leadership & Management Principles.

DAO Level 4 Certificate in Management.

06 Ongoing training Ongoing development Ongoing As assigned As your career progresses, we will continue to train you in new skills. Ongoing As assigned Ongoing training

There will be opportunities to learn specialist combat medical skills, undertake management and leadership training, NVQs, GCSEs and A levels.

In addition, you will have the chance to gain qualifications in adventurous sports such as mountaineering, rock climbing, skiing, sailing and canoeing and for you to lead training as an Endurance Training Leader.

07 Transferrable skills Ongoing training Ongoing As assigned The qualifications and experience

you will gain as a Gunner are valuable to civilian life – which means that whenever you decide to leave the RAF you will be well placed to find a new job. Ongoing As assigned Transferrable skills

As you move up the ranks you will gain a great deal of practical management and leadership experience which you can develop into related civilian qualifications.

prevnext TRAINING AND CAREER At any level or position your personal success is vital to make us succeed too. We are dedicated to your future, as it is essential to ours. You will receive basic and specialist training in your field and we even provide the option to pay for your education. The experience you gain with the RAF will equip you to work at the top of your field, both in the UK and overseas. 01 Phase one training Basic Recruit Training 23 days (split) RAF Halton Your first steps with us will be your Basic Recruit Training Course (BRTC). 23 days (split) RAF Halton Phase one training

This will take place over 4 weekends at your chosen RAF Reserves Squadron, followed by a 15-day residential training course at RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire. This should be completed within your first year in RAF reserves.

Throughout your training you'll become prepared for service life in one of the most respected military forces in the world. As well as military training you'll learn about the core values, code of conduct, and history of the RAF as well as its unique lifestyle.

02 Phase two training Specific Training Ongoing As assigned After successfully completing initial training, you will be trained for your specific role in the RAF either at your squadron or another RAF station in the UK. Ongoing As assigned Phase two training

You'll now be trained for your specific role with us, either at your squadron or another RAF station in the UK.

03 Commitment Your commitment Ongoing As assigned We ask that you commit to a minimum of 27 days each year with us. Ongoing As assigned Commitment

This will mean you can get the most out of your role as a Reserve and provide value to us. Each year includes a 15-day block for general RAF training, and 12 separate days for extra training or exercises.

You could also be deployed to a UK or overseas base for up to 6 months after your first year with us.

04 Ongoing development Ongoing training Ongoing As assigned You will have valuable personal development opportunities together with the chance to work around the world, gaining unique experiences in the process. Ongoing As assigned Ongoing development

As well as RAF training packages and courses linked to outside professional bodies, we actively support individual study programmes at every level.

05 Transferable skills Ongoing training Ongoing As assigned Much of our in-house training is accredited or recognised by external awarding bodies. Ongoing As assigned Transferable skills The skills you learn with us as a Reserve will complement those that you use in the wider world, providing value at work and at home too.

prevnext WHY JOIN THE RAF?

Thanks to subsidised food, travel, accommodation and free gym you get more money in your pocket.

Rent from £75p/m Free gym Subsidised food Health care World travel Training WHY JOIN THE RESERVES?

The skills you acquire as a Reserve won't just prepare you for the RAF, they will enhance your work and civilian life.

You might be called up to assist with our operations worldwide for up to six months, during which you may be able to claim a pay award to cover your and your employer's costs.

Training Free gym Subsidised food Paid pension Paid holiday COMMITMENT AND LOCATION

You will have to commit to 27 days per year for 12 years minimum. Each year includes a 15-day block for general RAF training, and 12 separate days for extra training or exercises.

You might be deployed to a UK or overseas base for up to 6 months after the first year.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER APPLYING Joining the RAF takes several steps. Below is an overview of the process. The purpose of this process is for us to gauge whether you're the right person for the RAF and for you to show us all of your skills and experiences that have made you who you are. 1 Aptitude test 2 Selection Interview 3 Health Assessment 4 Fitness test & PGSC 5 Acceptance 6 Training 1 Aptitude test Stage 1 of 6

The aptitude test has been designed to ensure you're a good fit for the role you're applying for. You'll answer seven multiple choice sections which each focus on a different skill:

Verbal reasoning - use and interpretation of written information

Numerical reasoning - ability with basic fractions, decimals and formulae

Work rate - speed and accuracy of tasks

Spatial reasoning - how shapes and objects work

Electrical comprehension - working with electrical concepts

Mechanical comprehension - grasp of mechanical concepts

Memory - Ability to remember information accurately

[Click to try the online practice test.](#)

2 Selection Interview Stage 2 of 6

This is where we get to know you a little better. You'll get to showcase your skills and experience, and we'll answer any questions you have about joining us. Your interview will take place at a local AFCO and cover the following topics:

Family life

Education

Work experience

Special interests and hobbies

Interest in the RAF

Training

The role you've applied for

The RAF

You'll be asked a series of standard questions, and you'll be able to ask your own questions during the debrief afterwards. Some roles require a second interview and/ or test to determine your suitability. These are normally conducted over a 1-3 day period at an RAF base where you'll be able to see, and experience, the kind of environment you'll be working in. Details about which interviews are relevant for you will be provided during the application process.

3 Health Assessment Stage 3 of 6

You're legally required to meet certain medical standards, and must pass an occupational health assessment to show you're fit for military duty. As part of this assessment we will check your overall health, focusing on areas like hearing, eyesight and body mass index.

We'll also investigate any past illnesses and screen for health issues that may prevent you from carrying out your role. Please refer to entry requirements below for more information about the health standards you'll need to meet.

4 Fitness test & PGSC Stage 4 of 6

Applicants for the Regiment Gunner role will have two fitness tests.

The first is the Pre-Joining Fitness Test (PJFC). This will take place at a local gym near to you, and includes a 2.4km run, push ups and a sit-ups.

The second fitness test is during the Potential Gunner Selection Course (PGSC) at RAF Honington, and includes the following:

RAF Swim Test

Multi-Stage Fitness Test

Press Ups/Sit Ups

RAF Regiment Applicant Selection Test (RAST)

2 Km/1.25 mile run: PTI led 500m warm up to be completed within 5 mins. Followed by the 2km/1.25 mile best effort

Medicine Ball Throw

Static Deadlift

You can see what the PGSC Course entails

The performance level you'll need to meet differs by age and gender. Please refer to the entry requirements below for more information about the health standards you'll need to meet.

You can also find help, and a training plan, to assist you in your preparation .

5 Acceptance Stage 5 of 6

If you've successfully completed each phase of the application process, you will be invited to a provisional offer of service interview at your nearest AFCO. The purpose of this interview is to ensure you understand the terms and conditions of service in the RAF, are fully committed to joining, and prepared to commence training.

6 Training Stage 6 of 6

Basic Recruit Training

This takes place over 10 weeks at RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire. It will make you fitter and more confident. It will challenge you mentally and physically, and it will prepare you for your career with us. There are 6 phases:

Arrival - You'll be sworn into the RAF and be given a service number

General Service training - You'll learn about marching, drills, core values and our code of

conduct

Initial Force Protection training - Fighting and survival in a military environment

Exercise Blue Warrior - 4 days in the field with real battle conditions

Force development training - Apply your skills in new environments with adventurous training activities

Graduation - Learn about what's required in your first post and display your new skills

What next?

Now you're a fully-fledged member of the RAF you can receive role specific training.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER APPLYING Joining the RAF as a Reserve takes several steps.

Below is an overview of the process. The purpose of this process is for us to gauge whether you're the right person for the RAF and for you to show us all of your skills and experiences that have made you who you are. 1 Squadron information event 2 Aptitude test 3

Selection interview 4 Health assessment 5 Fitness test 6 Acceptance 7 Training 1 Squadron information event Stage 1 of 7

The first step in the application process invites you to attend a Squadron Information Event, this could be either in person or online. At this event there is an opportunity for you to speak to the squadron of your choice and ask questions. You will get to find out what life is like in the RAF Reserves and learn more about the specialisation you are interested in.

2 Aptitude test Stage 2 of 7

All Reserves take an aptitude test known as the 'Defence Aptitude Test' at the local squadron they have applied to, or a local AFCO in some cases. The test ensures we match the right candidate to the right role and consists of seven multiple choice sections focusing on different skills:

Verbal reasoning – use and interpretation of written information

Numerical reasoning – ability with basic fractions, decimals and formulae

Work rate – fast and accurate completion of tasks

Spatial reasoning – understanding of how shapes and objects work

Electrical comprehension – ability to work with electrical concepts

Mechanical comprehension – grasp of mechanical concepts

[Click to try the online practice test.](#)

3 Selection interview Stage 3 of 7

Here's where we get to know you a little better. You'll get to showcase your skills and experience, and we'll answer any questions you have about joining us. Your interview will cover the following topics:

Education

Employment

Interest and motivation for joining the RAF Reserves

Military awareness and Service Knowledge

You'll be asked a series of standard questions, and you'll be able to ask your own questions during the debrief afterwards. Some roles require a second interview and/ or test to determine your suitability. These are normally conducted over a 1-3 day period at an RAF base where you'll be able to see, and experience, the kind of environment you'll be working in. Details about which interviews are relevant for you will be provided during the application process.

4 Health assessment Stage 4 of 7

You're legally required to meet certain medical standards, and must pass an occupational health assessment to show you're fit for military duty. As part of this assessment we will check your overall health, focusing on areas like hearing, eyesight and body mass index.

We'll also investigate any past illnesses and screen for health issues that may prevent you from carrying out your role. Please refer to entry requirements below for more information about the health standards you'll need to meet.

5 Fitness test Stage 5 of 7

A good level of fitness is critical to joining the RAF, it's also something that must be maintained throughout your career. You'll need to complete a Pre-Joining Fitness Test (PJFT). This will take place at your nearest AFCO, or at a local gym, and includes a 2.4km run, push up test and a sit-up test.

The performance level you'll need to meet differs by age and gender. Please refer to the entry requirements below for more information about the health standards you'll need to meet.

You can also find help, and a training plan, to assist you in your preparation .

6 Acceptance Stage 6 of 7

If you've successfully completed each phase of the application process, you will be invited to attest into the RAF Reserves at your chosen Squadron.

7 Training Stage 7 of 7

Basic Recruit Training

Basic recruit training takes place at RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire over a 15-day period.

This residential course includes an introduction to life in the RAF Reserves, military skills training, drills, field training, and team-building exercises.

What's next?

After basic recruit training, you will go on to receive role specific training in your spare time.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Must be aged between 16 and 47 years old (Must attest before 48th birthday). Applications can be submitted from age 15 years and 9 months.

Applicants must also read all of the sections below and make sure they meet all entry requirements before submitting an application.

EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

No formal qualifications are required for application.

You will undertake functional Skills (FS) Level 1 qualifications in English and Mathematics during your Phase 2 specialist training course.

NATIONALITY & RESIDENCY

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 (with 'right to work' immigration status).

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 may be considered.

If you have resided abroad for a period due to work or study, you may still be eligible on a case by case basis. Please continue this registration and proceed to your full application.

FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the Regiment Gunner role will do both the Pre-Joining Fitness Test (PJFT) **AND** the Regt Fitness test on the Potential Gunner Selection Course (PGSC). All fitness elements are

done on the Potential Gunner Selection Course at RAF Honington.

The PJFT will take place at a fitness centre local to you.

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