

AFSC 48V4, Staff
AFSC 48V3, Qualified
AFSC 48V1, Entry

★PILOT-PHYSICIAN
(Changed 31 Oct 23)

1. Specialty Summary. Performs functions of the aerospace medicine physician as well as integrated functions of a dual-rated pilot-physician in the aerospace system. Residency trained pilot-physicians may also function as specialists. Provides expert guidance from operational and medical experiences and training as a pilot. Conducts research on aerospace systems, missions, and crews. Provides operational relevance to researchers. Serves as a full-time consultant during the design, testing, manufacture, and operational implementation of new aerospace systems and subsystems. Recommends deployment and employment strategies of aerospace resources to line and medical commanders to optimize deployment and employment of aerospace resources. Conducts aeromedical and aviation training for line and medical personnel. Administers aerospace the medicine program. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260101.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

- 2.1. Plans and prepares for the flying mission. Pilots aircraft and commands crew.
- 2.2. Conducts research on aerospace systems and subsystems to optimize their function and safety. Publishes findings. Consultant to other researchers. Provides operational insight and relevance to research.
- 2.3. Serves as a consultant to line and medical commanders on aerospace medicine support, integrated limits of the man-machine system, and human performance factors and medical aspects of the operational employment of aerospace systems.
- 2.4. Serves as a member of the design team for items related to human performance optimization and limits during the development of new aerospace systems, including cockpit layout, anthropometrics, aircraft and human performance capabilities, chemical-biological warfare considerations, systems design and automation, and stores design and delivery tactics.
- 2.5. Provides operational issues training to medical service personnel. Provides medical issues training to operators, including spatial disorientation, nutrition, fatigue, illusions, and other limits of human performance. Provides advice to optimize crew members' abilities to accomplish USAF missions. Actively mentors aerospace medicine personnel at all levels.
- 2.6. Provides critical inputs to Air Force science and technology needs to enhance war fighter performance. Supports the human weapon system concept through advancement of operator performance enhancement and sustainment.
- 2.7. Provides aerospace, occupational, and preventive medicine support. Advises medical staff. Conducts medical examinations of personnel with special standards of medical care. Provides primary medical care for flyers and obtains medical consultations. Provides medical support to operational mission and serves as staff advisor to flying squadron commanders. Provides medical support during contingency operations. May provide dependent care, within the scope of their privileges, as determined by assignment location or to maintain currency in other AFSCs they possess.

3. ★Specialty Qualifications:

- 3.1. Knowledge. Fulfillment of education, training, and other requirements satisfies this requirement.
- 3.2. Education. For entry into this specialty, it is mandatory to possess a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree or a doctor of osteopathy (DO) degree from an approved school of medicine or osteopathy and successfully complete at least 1 year of graduate medical education in a clinical specialty at a training program acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF.
- 3.3. Training. Not used.
- 3.4. Experience. For award of AFSC 48V3, the following are mandatory:
 - 3.4.1. Successfully pass a check ride in a USAF aircraft system as a pilot.
 - 3.4.2. Upgrade to qualified must be approved by the pilot-physician program manager.
- 3.5. Other. The following are mandatory:
 - 3.5.1. For entry into AFSC 48V3, possess USAF aeronautical ratings of Flight Surgeon, Senior Flight Surgeon, or Chief Flight Surgeon and Pilot, Senior Pilot, or Command Pilot.
 - 3.5.2. Minimum of 3 years and 500 hours of operational flying experience.
 - 3.5.3. Must be selected by the pilot-physician selection board according to the provisions of AFI 11-405, *Pilot Physician Program*.
 - 3.5.4. For award and retention of AFSCs 48V3/4:
 - 3.5.4.1. ★Must obtain and maintain clinical privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable (or be immediately eligible for said privileges if assigned to a non-clinical position).
 - 3.5.4.2. A state license to practice medicine.
 - 3.5.5. ★For retention of AFSCs 48V3/4, must not have a revocation of privileges or permanent and substantial reduction, restriction, or denial of privileges IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, when applicable.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AREA (5XXX)**Introduction**

The Professional Career Area encompasses program formulation, policy planning, coordination, inspection, command and direction, and immediate supervisory and technical responsibilities pertinent to the Law and Chaplain Utilization Fields.