

AFSC 13S4*, Staff
AFSC 13S3*, Qualified
AFSC 13S1*, Entry

SPACE OPERATIONS (Changed 30 Apr 19)

1. Specialty Summary. Operates and manages space operations systems to develop, sustain, and enhance space capabilities in a contested, degraded and operationally limited environment to defend national interests and to create effects in the space domain to achieve Service, Combatant Command, and national objectives. These systems include four major warfighting functions; Orbital Warfare (OW), Space Electronic Warfare (SEW), Space Battle Management (SBM), and Space Access and Sustainment (S&AS)). Performs major warfighting functions to support and defend the United States and allied forces. Serves as space operations advisor. Related DoD Occupational Group: 220700.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

- 2.1. Performs space combat operations. Serves as duty controller in space operations centers. Performs Orbital Warfare, Space Electronic Warfare, Space Battle Management, and Space Access and Sustainment activities to achieve and maintain US space superiority in support of national space policy.
- 2.2. Formulates space operations policies that achieve and sustain US Space Superiority in support of national space policy. Develops policies and procedures for current and future space systems. Builds future plans, requirements, concepts, directives, and exercises for operational employment of systems and facilities. Establishes organizational structure, and determines personnel required to support mission areas. Establishes training requirements and performance standards for all systems. Recommends priorities for personnel allocation.
- 2.3. Coordinates space operations. Coordinates with national and international space agencies on space activities that support the major warfighting functions. These include but are not limited to satellite launch; space warning, tracking, control, and cataloging activities. Coordinates space systems network; launch and range control operations interfaces; and mathematical orbital analysis methodology activities with space system agencies. Correlates flow of information and interchange of techniques among sensors and C2 facilities. Advises commanders and staff on capability of offensive and defensive units to meet operational requirements, and on matters for operational effectiveness, combat readiness, organization, and training. Coordinates operations activities, plans, and programs to ensure adequate resources in preparing operations orders and to accomplish assigned mission.
- 2.4. Plans, organizes, and directs space operations programs. Directs unit space operations activities. Reviews command mission for priorities and specific objectives. Directs preparation and management of budget estimates and financial plans based on operational requirements and resources. Observes, conducts, and evaluates effectiveness of space systems training, standardization, and evaluation programs. Inspects space activities and units for compliance with directives and standardized procedures. Writes space annexes to operation plans. Provides guidance on proper use and care of sensitive/classified materials. Conducts space operations activities, including satellite health and status; launch, early orbit, and on-orbit testing; contingency operations; orbital analysis and surveillance; space warning; space lift booster and payload processing; and dissemination of space situation data to all users.

3. Specialty Qualifications: Knowledge. The following knowledge is mandatory for award of the AFSC indicated:

- 3.1.1. 13S3A/B/D/E. The following common knowledge and competencies is mandatory for award of the qualified AFSC with an A, B, D or E suffix: Space Mastery (environmental considerations, national space policy, national space strategy, space law and international norms, US space forces, orbital mechanics, space system engineering, space surveillance, electromagnetic spectrum, civil and commercial space), Space Warfighting (space information services, launch and range operations, space system sustainment, intelligence, battle management, command and control, orbital movement and maneuver, counterspace fires, protect), Warfighting Leadership (continuous improvement, mission analysis, tactical problem solving, risk-informed decision making, adaptability, warrior ethos). Joint Planning and Operations and Combat Readiness will be further developed through professional military education after weapon system qualification.
- 3.1.2. 13S3A. Orbital Warfare: Operates spacecraft and commands crews to accomplish combat, training and other missions. Maintains spacecraft health and safety during contested operations. Plans, executes and assesses the employment of on-board and off-board resiliency capabilities. Plans, builds, executes and assesses orbital engagement maneuvers. Defeats terrestrial-based and space-based attacks against spacecraft.
- 3.1.3. 13S3B. Space Electronic Warfare: Operates electronic attack, electronic protection, electronic warfare support systems and payloads. Defeats threats to space effects by protecting critical electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) links. Negates (e.g., disrupt, deny, degrade, destroy and deceive) adversary access to space effects through the EMS. Integrates SEW into theater non-kinetic operations.
- 3.1.4. 13S3D. Space Battle Management: Performs battle management for missile warning, missile defense and space protection missions. Operates surveillance and identification sensors to maintain threat custody. Employs sensors, data links and communications systems to prioritize tactical and operational tasks, information and communication flow for battle space situational awareness. Executes, supervises, coordinates or directs dynamic battle management of fires, force accountability, force package development and real-time targeting.
- 3.1.5. 13S3E. Space Access and Sustainment: Leads, trains, and equips personnel supporting space system sustainment and operations. Manages maintenance and modification of space systems and associated systems. Manages system configuration, software updates,

cyber surety and anomaly resolution for ground and space segments. Directs operations and maintenance of space access architecture (e.g., launch range, AFSCN, downlink sites). Directs acquisition and life-cycle logistics activities by managing systems, subsystems and equipment through their life cycle, including integrated logistics support activities and modernization, obsolescence and disposal planning.

3.2. Education. For entry education requirements see [Appendix A, 13S CIP Education Matrix](#).

3.3. Training. The following training is mandatory for award of AFSC indicated:

3.3.1. 13S3A/B/D/E. Completion of the prerequisite Officer Undergraduate Space Training (UST) prior to entry or in conjunction with a suffix specialized space operations Initial Qualification Training (IQT) / Mission Qualification Training (MQT) and Space Warfighting Follow-on (SWF) course is mandatory.

3.3.2. 13S3A. Completion of an orbital warfare IQT/MQT/SWF course.

3.3.3. 13S3B. Completion of a space electronic warfare IQT/MQT/SWF course.

3.3.4. 13S3D. Completion of a space battle management IQT/MQT/SWF course.

3.3.5. 13S3E. Completion of a space access and sustainment IQT/MQT/SWF course.

3.3.6. If an IQT/MQT course does not exist for a specific unit or weapon system, the DAF/CFM or MAJCOM/FM will determine the award of a 13S3A/B/D/E AFSC specialty shredout.

3.4. Experience. The following experience is mandatory for award of AFSC indicated:

3.4.1. 13S3A A minimum of 12 months of CMR experience in orbital warfare in a valid 13S billet.

3.4.2. 13S3B. A minimum of 12 months of CMR experience in space electronic warfare in a valid 13S billet.

3.4.3. 13S3D. A minimum of 12 months of CMR experience in space battle management in a valid 13S billet.

3.4.4. 13S3E. A minimum of 12 months of CMR experience in space access and sustainment in a valid 13S billet.

3.5. Other. The following are mandatory for the AFSC indicated:

3.5.1. For entry into this specialty, member must participate in initial color vision testing with CCT. Scores less than 35 (severe color deficiency) may be considered for career field waiver.

3.5.2. Specialty requires routine access to Tier 5 (T5) information, systems or similar classified environments. For award and retention of AFSCs 13SXX for TS/SCI eligibility, completion of a current T5 Investigation IAW DoDM 5200.02_AFMAN 16-1405, *Air Force Personnel Security Program*, is mandatory.

NOTE: The 13SXX AFSC awarding course requires an interim or fully adjudicated T5 clearance by course start date.

4. *Specialty Shredouts:

<i>Prefix</i>	<i>Portion of AFS to Which Related</i>
A	Orbital Warfare
B	Space Electronic Warfare
D	Space Battle Management
E	Space Access and Sustainment