

**AFSC 48R4\*, Staff**  
**AFSC 48R3\*, Qualified**  
**AFSC 48R1\*, Entry**

**★RESIDENCY TRAINED FLIGHT SURGEON**  
**(Changed 31 Oct 23)**

**1. Specialty Summary.** Administers the aerospace medicine program; conducts medical examinations and provides medical care for aircrew, missile crews, special duty operators and others with special standards of medical qualification and readiness functions. Evaluates living and working environments to detect and control health hazards and prevent disease and injury within the Air Force community. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260101.

**2. Duties and Responsibilities:**

- 2.1. Provides aerospace medicine support. Implements policies and procedures and prepares directives governing flight and operational medicine, preventive medicine, and occupational medicine. Serves as liaison with federal, state, and local agencies in matters related to operational aerospace medicine, preventive medicine, and occupational medicine. Applies medical standards for aircrew and special operational personnel. Submits recommendations on waivers and medical retention standards. Develops programs to ensure a fit force for worldwide deployments. Participates in training programs for aeromedical personnel.
- 2.2. Provides preventive medicine support. Directs health education and control measures for preventable diseases and injuries. Determines adequacy of living and work environments. Conducts health promotion and fitness programs. Provides advice on nutrition, food service sanitation, water supply safety, sewage and waste disposal, immunizations, and health education. Conducts or provides consultation for disease outbreak investigations and health services research.
- 2.3. Advises medical staff. Advises medical and dental staff on treatment of aircrew and special operational personnel and preparation of patients for aeromedical evacuation. Provides medical advice and guidance to bioenvironmental engineering, public health, physiological training, and other organizations. Provides epidemiological expertise for population-based health services and evidence-based medical practice.
- 2.4. Provides occupational medicine support. Participates in the process of determining frequency and scope of occupational medicine exams required by federal regulations and workplace exposures. Conducts and supervises placement and periodic health exams for employees. Identifies occupational hazards, notifies appropriate agencies of occupational diseases, and job-related injuries or illnesses.
- 2.5. Conducts medical examinations of personnel with special standards of medical care. Examines personnel to determine fitness for flying and special duties, or to recommend continuance, removal, or return to flying status and aviation service.
- 2.6. Provides and organizes medical care for aircrew and special operational personnel, to include preventive medicine, counseling, and family unit support. Manages disorders and injuries unique to flying operations. Provides specialty consultation to aeromedical staff. Serves as liaison between flying squadrons and medical services. Directs outpatient and inpatient care and service to aircrew and special operation personnel. May provide dependent care within the scope of their privileges, as determined by assignment location or to maintain currency in other AFSCs they possess.
- 2.7. Provides medical support to operational mission and serves as staff advisor to flying squadron commander. Regularly participates in the flying mission. Inflight duties include evaluation of aircrew, aircraft, environment, and mission to provide feedback and guidance to line and medical staff. Develops and manages an aggressive preventive medicine program, including education of aircrew and special operational personnel in healthy lifestyles. Establishes procedures for aircraft mishap and disaster response and managing casualties in aviation accidents and other disasters. Provides advice on air rescue and aeromedical evacuation. Participates in flying safety and aircrew performance enhancement programs.
- 2.8. Serves on aircraft mishap investigation boards.
- 2.9. Provides medical support during contingency operations. Conducts medical prevention, intervention, and evacuation activities during contingency operations. Gathers and utilizes medical intelligence to provide optimal medical support to deployed forces. Develops support mechanisms for family members of deployed personnel. Integrates their primary medical specialty with an understanding of aviation and contingency medicine to identify research needs in support of Air Force operations.

**3. ★Specialty Qualifications:**

- 3.1. Knowledge. Fulfillment of education and experience 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.
- 3.3. Training. The following are mandatory as indicated:
  - 3.3.1. For entry and award of AFSC 48R1, completion of a residency (other than the USAFSAM Residency in Aerospace Medicine) at a residency training program acceptable to the Surgeon General, HQ USAF.
  - 3.3.2. Completion of the primary course in aerospace medicine IAW AFI 48-149, *Flight and Operational Medicine Program (FOMP)* as outlined in Initial Qualification Training (IQT).
- 3.4. Experience. The following experience is required for award of the AFSC indicated:
  - 3.4.1. For award of AFSC 48R3X, completion of suffix-specific residency acceptable to the Surgeon General and completion of Mission Qualification Training (MQT) as a 48R1X duty AFSC while performing the work typical of a base level flight surgeon and designated Fully Mission Capable (FMC) IAW AFI 48-149 as outlined in MQT.

3.5. Other. For award if AFSC 48R3/4X the following qualifications are mandatory as indicated:

3.5.1. Initial physical qualification for aircrew duty according to AFI 48-123, *Medical Examinations and Standards*, certified initial flying Class II flight surgeon physical exam is required for entry into the career field.

3.5.2. Possess an aeronautical rating of Flight Surgeon, Senior Flight Surgeon, or Chief Flight Surgeon as outlined in AFMAN 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service, Aeronautical Ratings and Aviation Badges*.

3.5.3. MTF/SGP certification and MAJCOM/SGP approval.

3.5.4. ★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 positions).

3.5.5. A state license to practice medicine.

3.5.6. ★Retention. For retention of AFSCs 48R3/4, 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. Members may be disqualified from flying duties (DNIF or disqualified from flying) and maintain their AFSC and clinical privileges to practice within 48R1/3/4 as long they maintain unrestricted privileges to practice as an independent provider. Those permanently disqualified from flying duties may not be assigned to a squadron medical element (SME) billet.

#### **4. \*Specialty Shredouts:**

<i>Suffix</i>	<i>Portion of AFS to Which Related</i>
E	Board eligible in emergency medicine
F	Board eligible in family medicine
K	Board eligible in pediatric medicine
M	Board eligible in internal medicine