

AFSC 46A4, Staff
AFSC 46A3, Qualified
AFSC 46A1, Entry

★NURSING ADMINISTRATOR
(Changed 31 Oct 23)

1. Specialty Summary. Plans, organizes, executes, and directs nursing care practices. Serves as Chief Nurse, Squadron Commander or senior staff officer. Coordinates with and makes recommendations to staff agencies concerning nursing policies, plans and programs. Supports cross-functional collaboration to improve patient care delivery. Supports research activities. Related DoD Occupational Group: 260501.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

2.1. Performs Chief Nurse duties. Directs nursing service activities within area of responsibility. Evaluates qualifications and maintains functional control of Air Force Nurse Corps officers, enlisted nursing personnel, civilian nurses, and ancillary nursing personnel providing nursing care according to established scope of practice and applicable federal/state laws. Advises MTF commander on nursing issues. Establishes, interprets and directs implementation of nursing policy. Plans and directs assignment and training of professional and paraprofessional nursing personnel. Provides staff development programs for all levels of nursing personnel. Evaluates performance of nursing service personnel, nursing activities, standards of nursing care and nursing practice. Facilitates and participates in nursing research. Makes recommendations to commanders on administrative matters concerning Nurse Corps officers and other nursing service personnel.

3. ★Specialty Qualifications:

3.1. Knowledge. Knowledge of nursing standards of practice, medical executive skills/competencies and Air Force contingency plans is mandatory.

3.2. Education. The following education requirements are mandatory for entry into this specialty.

3.2.1. Entry level education requirements for appointment to the Nurse Corps for Active Duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard must be a graduate of a baccalaureate degree program in nursing (BSN) accredited by a national nursing accrediting agency recognized by the US Department of Education. Registered nurses who are graduates of an associate's degree in nursing (ADN) and do not have a BSN are not eligible for accession unless they also have a post-baccalaureate (masters or doctorate) degree in nursing that is also nationally accredited and recognized by the US Department of Education <https://www.ed.gov/accreditation>.

3.3. Training. For award of AFSC 46A3, Regular Air Force Nurse Corps officers must complete the Intermediate Executive Skills (IES) course, Air Force Reserve (AFR) Nurse Corps officers must complete the IES course, or the AFR Chief Nurse Course and Air National Guard (ANG) Nurse Corps officers must complete the IES course, or a course determined equivalent by the National Guard Bureau, ANG/SG.

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

3.4.1. 46A1. A minimum of 10 years nursing experience which has provided opportunities to refine competencies in nursing practice and to apply leadership principles.

3.4.2. 46A3. A minimum of 12 months as a Chief Nurse, Squadron Commander or Group Commander.

3.5. Other. For entry, award and retention of these AFSCs, the following are mandatory.

3.5.1. ★Unrestricted practice (excludes temporary restrictions) IAW DHA-PM 6025.13 Vol 4 and/or AFI 44-119, *Medical Quality Operations*.

3.5.2. Approval by the Chief Nurse.

3.5.3. Minimum grade of Major.