

AFSC 19Z4\*, Staff  
 AFSC 19Z3\*, Qualified  
 AFSC 19Z2\*, Intermediate  
 AFSC 19Z1\*, Entry

## SPECIAL WARFARE (Changed 30 Apr 23)

1. **Specialty Summary.** The AFSPECWAR officers lead and execute ground combat operations specializing in the application of airpower, including global access, precision strike, personnel recovery, and other missions and associated training.

### 2. Duties and Responsibilities:

- 2.1. Leads and executes conventional and special operations enabling the ground-based application of airpower. Organizes, trains, equips, and employs AFSEPCWAR forces across the Special Tactics (ST), Tactical Air Control Party (TACP), and Guardian Angel (GA) weapon systems, including command, supervisory, and staff functions. Ensures operational readiness of assigned forces and develops weapon system policy and plans.
- 2.2. 19ZXA (Special Tactics Officer (STO)) – Specializes in global access, precision strike, and personnel recovery operations.
- 2.3. 19ZXB (Tactical Air Control Party Officer (TACPO)) – Specializes in precision strike, joint fires integration, and joint all-domain command and control.
- 2.4. 19ZXC (Combat Rescue Officer (CRO)) – Specializes in personnel recovery operations to locate, recover, and reintegrate isolated personnel.

### 3. Specialty Qualifications:

- 3.1. Knowledge. The following knowledge is mandatory for the award of the AFSC.
  - 3.1.1. Common to all: Troop leading procedures, joint planning process, command and control principles and procedures; small unit tactics, fieldcraft and land navigation; voice and digital tactical ground-to-ground and air-to-ground communications; small arms proficiency; tactical combat casualty care; survival and evasion. Employment methods: dismounted, mounted, airborne (static-line parachute), and rotary-wing insertion/extraction.
  - 3.1.2. Shred-out-specific:
    - 3.1.2.1. 19ZXA. Airspace control, air traffic control, and austere airfield operations procedures; tactical drop zone and landing zone operations; special reconnaissance operations; military freefall and combat dive employment.
    - 3.1.2.2. 19ZXB. Close air support procedures, terminal attack control, theater air-ground system, surface-to-surface and air-to-surface fires weapons and effects; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; electronic warfare and airspace management.
    - 3.1.2.3. 19ZXC. Strategic, operational, and tactical personnel recovery understanding to effectively report, locate, support, recover, and reintegrate isolated personnel. Command and control principles/procedures for combat search and rescue operations. Understands airspace control, air traffic control and airfield operations, procedures, regulations along with airfield management and base operations.
    - 3.1.3. Understands the application of personnel recovery for joint and combined operational planning. Possesses strategic, operational, and tactical personnel recovery understanding to effectively report, locate, support, recover, and reintegrate isolated personnel. Understands command and control principles/procedures for Air Force combat search and rescue principles/procedures.
    - 3.1.4. Coordinates and is familiar with close air support procedures, terminal attack control, theater air-ground system, joint planning products/processes, surface to surface and air to surface fires weapons and effects, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, electronic warfare, and airspace management.
- 3.2. Education. No specific degree requirement. See Appendix A, 19Z CIP Education Matrix.
- 3.3. Training. Completion of the following is mandatory for the award of AFSC 19ZXX:
  - 3.3.1. For award of the 19Z1A/B/C entry (1) level AFSC officers are assessed and selected through a lead MAJCOM-approved application process (AFSOC for 19Z1A and ACC for 19Z1B/C). Final acceptance is contingent on SWA medical clearance according to AFI 48-123 and its associated SWA-specific requirements outlined in the Medical Standards Directory (MSD).
  - 3.3.2. 19Z2X. Each shred-out contains unique weapon system training requirements.
    - 3.3.2.1. 19Z2A-STO:
      - 3.3.2.1.1. Special Warfare Assessment & Selection
      - 3.3.2.1.2. Special Warfare Pre-Dive
      - 3.3.2.1.3. Special Warfare Combat Dive Open Circuit
      - 3.3.2.1.4. Special Warfare Combat Dive Closed Circuit
      - 3.3.2.1.5. US Army Airborne Parachutist Course
      - 3.3.2.1.6. SERE Level-C Training
      - 3.3.2.1.7. Underwater Egress Training
      - 3.3.2.1.8. Military Free-fall Parachutist Course
      - 3.3.2.1.9. Special Tactics Officer Airfield Operations Course
      - 3.3.2.1.10. Special Tactics Officer Course
    - 3.3.2.2. 19Z2B-TACPO:
      - 3.3.2.2.1. US Army Airborne Parachutist Course

- 3.3.2.2.2. SERE Level-C Training
- 3.3.2.2.3. Underwater Egress Training
- 3.3.2.2.4. Tactical Air Control Party Officer Course
- 3.3.2.2.5. Basic Air Liaison Officer Skills Course
- 3.3.2.2.6. USAF Water Survival Course
- 3.3.2.2.7. Tactical Air Control Party Initial Certification Course

#### 3.3.2.3. 19Z2C-CRO:

- 3.3.2.3.1. Special Warfare Assessment & Selection
- 3.3.2.3.2. Special Warfare Pre-Dive
- 3.3.2.3.3. Special Warfare Combat Diver Open Circuit
- 3.3.2.3.4. Special Warfare Combat Diver Closed Circuit
- 3.3.2.3.5. US Army Airborne Parachutist Course
- 3.3.2.3.6. SERE Level-C Training
- 3.3.2.3.7. Underwater Egress Training
- 3.3.2.3.8. Military Free-fall Parachutist Course
- 3.3.2.3.9. Combat Rescue Officer Operations Course
- 3.3.2.3.10. Combat Rescue Officer Course

#### 3.3.3. 19Z3X.

- 3.3.3.1. 19Z3A: Special Tactics Advanced Skills Training
- 3.3.3.2. 19Z3B: Tactical Air Control Party Advanced Skills Training
- 3.3.3.3. 19Z3C: Guardian Angel Advanced Skills Training

#### 3.4. Experience. 19Z3A/B/C:

3.4.1. Minimum of 6 months experience in an AFSPECWAR assignment or the unit commander determines proficiency based on performance, experience and any required evaluations.

#### 3.5. Other. The following are mandatory as indicated:

3.5.1. Specialty requires routine access to Tier 5 (T5) information, systems or similar classified environments. For award and retention of 19ZX3 AFSC skill level, completion of a current T5 (Top Secret) investigation in accordance with DoDM 5200.02\_AFMAN 16-1405, Air Force Personnel Security Program is required.

3.5.2. For retention all 19Z's must maintain compliance with medical standards for the Special Warfare Airman physical as defined in the Special Warfare Airman column of the Medical Standards Directory.

3.5.2.1. 19Z3A: Must maintain physical and combat ready status qualification for combat diving and parachutist duty. Must pass the occupationally specific, operationally relevant (OSOR) Tier 2 operator fitness test (OFT).

3.5.2.2. 19Z3B: Must maintain physical and combat ready status qualification for parachutist duty and Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) qualification. Must pass the OSOR Tier 2 OFT.

3.5.2.3 19Z3C: Must maintain physical and combat ready status qualification for combat diving and parachutist duty IAW AFI 10- 3502, Volume 1, Pararescue & Combat Rescue Officer Training. Must maintain certification IAW AFI 10-3502, Volumes 1 and 2. Must pass the OSOR Tier 2 OFT.

**NOTE:** Award of the initial 19ZX1/2 AFSC skill level without a fully adjudicated T5 (Top Secret) clearance is authorized provided the security manager has submitted an SF-86 for the 'initiation' of a T5 Investigation and is subsequently reflected in the system of record in accordance with requirements outlined in DoDM 5200.02\_AFMAN 16-1405, Air Force Personnel Security Program. The 19ZX3 skill level will not be granted until an interim (or actual) TS clearance is awarded.

**NOTE:** Prior-enlisted and prior-service accessions may go through a modified training pipeline with approval of the 19Z CFM and gaining MAJCOM hiring authority

#### 4. \*Specialty Shredouts:

<i>Suffix</i>	<i>Portion of which AFS to Which Related</i>
A	Special Tactics
B	Tactical Air Control Party
C	Combat Rescue