AFSC 17D4*, Staff
AFSC 17D3*, Qualified
AFSC 17D2*, Intermediate
AFSC 17D1*, Entry

★**WARFIGHTER COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS**
(Changed 31 Oct 2023)

1. Specialty Summary. Operates, secures, configures, designs, maintains, sustains, and extends cyberspace infrastructure; provides and employs cyberspace capabilities; and leads Department of Defense information network (DODIN) operations missions to achieve Commander's objectives in or through cyberspace.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:
2.1. Plans, designs, maintains, and operates information networks and cyberspace systems necessary for operations.
2.2. Provides a broad range of cyber-related expertise key to successful warfighting operations in the air, space, and cyberspace domains, to include the electromagnetic spectrum
2.3. Facilitates architectural and technical solutions to operational requirements; vets potential solutions and advises commanders on associated risks and mitigation factors.
2.4. Directs the extension, employment, reconfiguration, adaptation and creation of portions of cyberspace to assure mission success for commanders. This includes both deliberate and crisis action scenarios.
2.5. Develops plans and policies, monitors operations, and advises commanders. Assists commanders and performs staff functions related to this specialty.
2.6. Provides specific cyber-terrain-focused expertise to defensive cyberspace operators to enhance their ability to defend that terrain.
2.7. Advocates for resources when existing resources are insufficient to prosecute assigned missions.
2.8. Develops Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency (PACE) communications plans to support mission assurance. Manages operations with degraded capabilities while working to reestablish primary ones.

3. Specialty Qualifications:
3.1. Knowledge. Mandatory knowledge includes information technology, wired and wireless telecommunications, computer networking, cloud architectures, electronics theory, information assurance, data links management, spectrum operations, vulnerability assessment techniques, operating system environments, scripting, operational and tactical planning, and supervisory control and data acquisition systems. Knowledge will include the military application of these technologies as well as industry best practices.
3.2. Education. Undergraduate or graduate education related to computer science, computer engineering, or information technology is desirable, but not required.
3.2.1. Prior service 3D, 1D7, 1B4, or 1N4XA commissioning Airmen, and equivalent career fields in other services, will be accepted into the career field regardless of undergraduate degree possessed.
3.3. Training. The following training is mandatory as indicated:
3.3.1. For award of AFSC 17D1XA/B, completion of IST Introduction to Cyber Fundamentals, Undergraduate Cyber Warfare Training (17XXX), and Warfighter Communications Officer Course (17DXA/B).
3.4. Experience.
3.4.1. For upgrade to AFSCs 17D2X/3X, unit commander determines proficiency based on performance, experience and completion of minimum training requirements.
3.4.2. For award of 17DXY individuals must have previously held 17DXX position.
3.5. Other.
3.5.1. For award and retention of this AFS, specialty requires routine access to Tier 5 (T5) information, systems or similar classified environments and completion of a current T5 Investigation IAW DoDM 5200.02_AFMAN 16-1405, Air Force Personnel Security Program is mandatory. NOTE: Award of the entry level without a completed T5 Investigation is authorized provided an interim Top Secret security clearance has been granted according to DoDM 5200.02_AFMAN 16 -1405.
3.5.2. Retention of these AFSCs may require favorable adjudication of counter-intelligence polygraph and/or favorable determination for access to sensitive compartmented information.
3.5.3. Members may be required to obtain and maintain a Flying Class III physical to qualify for specific positions within this AFS.

4. ★***Specialty Shredouts**:

Suffix	Portion of AFS to Which Related
A	Network Operations
B	Expeditionary Communications Operations
C	Capabilities Development
S	Software Development
★T	★Technical Track
Y	General