

**AFSC 18R4\***, Staff  
**AFSC 18R3\***, Qualified  
**AFSC 18R1\***, Entry/Student

**RECONNAISSANCE REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT PILOT**  
**(Changed 30 Apr 12)**

**1. Specialty Summary.** Operates specialized mission aircraft and commands flight crews to accomplish reconnaissance, surveillance, combat, training, and other missions. Related DoD Occupational Group: 220100.

**2. Duties and Responsibilities:**

- 2.1. Plans and prepares for mission. Reviews mission tasking, intelligence, and weather information. Supervises mission planning, equipment configuration, and crew briefing. Ensures ground station and aircraft are preflighted, inspected, loaded, and equipped for mission.
- 2.2. Operates aircraft and commands crew. Operates aircraft controls and equipment. Performs, supervises, or directs navigation, surveillance, reconnaissance, and weapons employment operations.
- 2.3. Conducts or supervises training of crewmembers. Ensures operational readiness of crew by conducting or supervising mission specific training.
- 2.4. Develops plans and policies, monitors operations, and advises commanders. Assists commanders and performs staff functions related to this specialty.

**3. Specialty Qualifications:**

- 3.1. Knowledge. Knowledge is mandatory of theory of flight, air navigation, meteorology, flying directives, aircraft operating procedures, and mission tactics.
- 3.2. Education. For entry into this specialty, an undergraduate degree specializing in physical sciences, mathematics, administration, or management is desirable.
- 3.3. Training. The following training is mandatory as indicated:
  - 3.3.1. For entry into this specialty, completion of Air Force Undergraduate Remotely Piloted Aircraft Training (URT) or possess an aeronautical rating of Pilot or Navigator/Combat Systems Officer (CSO).
  - 3.3.2. For award of AFSC 18R3X, completion of transition and operational training in the suffix specific aircraft.
- 3.4. Experience. For upgrade to AFSC 18R3X, unit commander determines proficiency based on performance, experience, and completion of minimum training requirements.
- 3.5. Other. The following are mandatory as indicated:
  - 3.5.1. For award and retention of this AFSC:
    - 3.5.1.1. Qualification for air vehicle operator duty according to AFI 48-123, *Medical Examinations and Standards*.
    - 3.5.1.2. Current aeronautical rating and no permanent disqualification for aviation service as RPA Pilot.
    - 3.5.2. For award of AFSC 18R3X, certification of aircraft commander qualification by appropriate operations authority.
    - 3.5.3. Specialty requires routine access to Tier 5 (T5) information, systems or similar classified environments. For award and retention of AFSCs 18RXX, completion of a current T5 Investigation IAW DoDM 5200.02\_AFMAN 16-1405, *Air Force Personnel Security Program*.

**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.

**4. \*Specialty Shredouts:**

*Suffix      Portion of AFS to Which Related*

C	RQ-4
E	RQ-170
Y	General
Z	Other