Attachment 2

SPECIAL (SPECI) CRITERIA

Table A2.1. SPECI Criteria.

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
1	**Visibility** decreases to less than or, if below, increases to equal or exceed: (1) 3SM/4800 m (See Notes 1 and 8). (2) 2SM/3200 m (See Note 4). (3) 1½SM/2400 m (See Note 5). (4) 1 statute mile/1600 m (See Note 1). (5) ¾ statue mile/1200 m (See Note 10). (6) ½ statute mile/800 m (See Note 6). (7) ¼ statute mile/400 m (See Note 6). (8) All published airfield landing minima (including circling), as listed in the DoD FLIPs, aircraft-specific AFI 11-2 Series Volume 3, MAJCOM supplements, and Service publications applicable to aircraft	Surface visibility as reported in the body of the report decreases to less than or, if below, increases to equal or exceed.	**X**	**X**	**X**	**X**

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
	assigned to the installation (See Note 9). If none is published, use ½ mile/800 m (See Notes 1 and 6). (9) Visibility minima as applicable to range support, covered in governing directives and support agreements. (10) All airfield takeoff minima published in DoD FLIPs.					
2	**Ceiling** decreases to less than or, if below, increases to equal or exceed: (1) 3000 feet (See Note 1). (2) 2000 feet (See Note 10). (3) 1500 feet (See Note 1). (4) 1000 feet (See Note 2). (5) 800 feet (See Note 2). (6) 700 feet (See Note 4). (7) 500 feet (See Note 1).	The ceiling (rounded off to reportable values) forms or dissipates below, decreases to less than, or if below, increases to equal or exceed stated criteria.	**X**	**X**	**X**	**X**

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
	(8) 300 feet (See Note 5). (9) 200 feet (See Note 6). (10) 100 feet (See Note 6). (11) All published airfield landing minima (including circling), as listed in DoD FLIPs and appropriate USAF, Army, or MAJCOM flying instructions and publications. If none published, use 200 feet (See Note 7). (12) Ceiling minima, as applicable to range support, covered in governing directives and support agreements. (13) All airfield takeoff minima as published in the DoD FLIPs. (14) All other landing, takeoff, and pilot-restrictions for ceiling published in aircraft-specific AFI 11-2 Series Volume 3, MAJCOM supplements, and Service publications applicable to aircraft assigned to the installation.					
3	**Sky Condition**	A layer of clouds or obscuring phenomena aloft is observed below	**X**	**X**	**O**	**X**

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
		the highest published instrument landing minimum (including circling) applicable to the airfield, and no layer aloft was reported below this height in the previous METAR or SPECI.				
4	**Wind Shift**	Wind direction changes by 45 degrees or more in less than 15 minutes and the wind speed is 10 knots or more throughout the wind shift.	**X**	**X**	**O**	**X**
5	**Squall**	When squalls occur.	**X**	**X**	**O**	**X**
6	**Volcanic Eruption** (See Remark 1, **Table A3.1**)	Eruption or volcanic ash cloud first noted.	**X**	**M**	**X**	**X**
7	**Thunderstorm** (occurring on station) (1) Begins. (2) Ends.	A SPECI is not required to report the beginning of a new thunderstorm if one is currently reported.	**X**	**X**	**X**	**X**
8	**Precipitation** (1) Hail begins or ends. (2) Freezing precipitation begins, ends, or changes intensity.	**Note:** Except for freezing rain, freezing drizzle, hail, and ice pellets, a SPECI is not required for changes in type (e.g., drizzle changing to snow grains) or the beginning or ending of one type while another is in progress (e.g., snow changing to rain and snow).	**X** **X** **X**	**M** **M** **M**	**X** **X** **X**	**X** **X** **X**

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
	(3) Ice pellets begin, end, or change intensity. (4) Any other type of precipitation begins or ends (N/A for ASOS).		**X**	**X**	**O**	**X**
9	**Tornado, Funnel Cloud, or Waterspout** (1) Is observed. (2) Disappears from sight or ends.		**X**	**M**	**X**	**X**
10	**Runway Visual Range (RVR)** (1) RVR for the active runway decreases to less than or, if below, increases to equal or exceed: (a) 6000 feet (P1500 m for FBWOS sensors, 1830 m for ASOS sensors) (b) 5000 feet (1500 m for FBWOS sensors, 1520 m for ASOS sensors) (c) 4000 feet (1300 m), touch and go landing mins in 11 Series AFIs for mutiple platforms.	The highest value during the preceding 10 minutes from the designated RVR runway decreases to less than, or if below, increases to equal or exceed. **Note:** The RVR SPECI observations is taken, but only transmitted longline at locations with a 10-minute RVR average readout capability.		**X**		

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
	(d) 2400 feet (750 m for FBWOS sensors, 0730 m for ASOS sensors), PAR approaches for mutiple platforms (e) 2000 feet (600 m for FBWOS sensors, 0610 m for ASOS sensors) Required for CAT I and II ILS Localizer Critical Areas, Precision Approach Radar (PAR) Touchdown Areas, and MMLS Azimuth Critical Area. (f) 1600 feet (400 m), required for multiple platforms in 11 Series AFIs. (g) 1200 feet (400 m), CAT II ILS approach mins. (h) 1000 feet (320 m), required in multiple 11 Series AFIs (i) 600 feet (200 m), operational takeoff mins in 11 Series AFI (j) All published RVR minima applicable to the runway in use.					

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
	(2) RVR is first determined as unavailable (RVRNO) for the runway in use, and when it is first determined that the RVRNO report is no longer applicable, provided conditions for reporting RVR exist.					
11	**Tower Visibility**	Transmit a SPECI with the tower visibility as a remark: (1) When notified by the control tower that tower visibility has decreased to less than or, if below, increased to equal or exceed 1, 2, or 3SM, 1600, 3200 or 4800 m (IAW FAA JO 7110.65X, *Air Traffic Control*) and the control tower visibility differs from the prevailing visibility. (2) When notified by the control tower that tower visibility has decreased to less than or, if below, increased to equal or exceed locally developed tower special criteria (if applicable) and the control tower visibility differs from the prevailing visibility.	**X**	**M**	**X**	**X**

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
12	**Upon Resumption of Observing Function**	A SPECI is taken within 15-minutes after weather personnel return to duty following a break in observing coverage or augmentation at the observing location unless a METAR observation is filed during that 15-minute period	**X**		**X**	**X**
13	**Criteria Established Locally.** Take a SPECI for any criteria significant to local installation operations (e.g., alert observations). These criteria will be coordinated with base agencies and specified in the base/host unit's plans or weather support document.		**X**	**X**	**X**	**X**
14	**Aircraft Mishap** (at manual observing locations and at automated observing locations when an FBWOS is in supplement or back-up mode). Take an aircraft mishap SPECI immediately following notification or sighting of an aircraft mishap at or near the observing location unless there has been an intervening observation.	Identify the observation by including the remark in column 13 remarks on the AF Form 3803/JET Form 3813 only; e.g., (ACFT_MSHP). This remark is not disseminated locally or longline. (See Note 7)	**X**		**X**	**X**
15	**Miscellaneous**	Any other meteorological situation that the airfield weather personnel deem critical	**O**	**O**	**O**	**O**

Reference Number	Criteria	Pertinent data	Manual	Automated	Supplement	Back-up
NOTES: **X** – Indicates required data **O** – Indicates optional data based on local operational requirements **M** – Indicates Mandatory Supplementary Weather Conditions. When weather personnel are on duty, switch FBWOS to augment mode and begin supplementation operations. 1. OFCM policy, FAA policy, and mutiple MAJCOM 11 Series AFI supplements 2. FAA Aeronautical Information Manual requires 1000-ft ceilings for VFR ops in controlled airspace 3. Ceilings required by AFI 13-204, Volume 3; required for ground ops decisions; visibility required for OFCM and FAA policy 4. Ceiling and visibility required in mutiple MAJCOM 11 Series AFI supplements, visibility required in FAA and OFCM policy. 5. Required in mutiple MAJCOM 11 Series AFI supplements. 6. Required in AR 95-1, *Aviation Flight Regulations,* fixed wing and helicopter minimums, departure requirement if RVR is not available for multiple 11 series AFIs. 400-meter visibility is required if a blizzard warning is required criteria for a location. 7. A SPECI observation is not required for in-flight emergencies, i.e., those declared to reflect an unsafe condition that could adversely affect the safety of the aircraft. However, such in-flight emergencies should alert weather personnel to intensify the weather watch to ensure maximum support to the aircraft in distress. If the in-flight emergency results in an accident or incident, the aircraft mishap SPECI is then required. 8. Substitute 5000 m for 4800 m at OCONUS locations based on allied or host-nation practice 9. At airfields where takeoff/landing/circling minima are equal to non-reportable visibility values, units will substitute the next lower reportable visibility value for their special criteria 10. Touch and go landing minimum for multiple platforms in 11 Series AFIs. 11. If in doubt, take the observation; also see **Table 5.1**.						