

IST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What service members are eligible for IST?

A. Sister-Service commissioned officers and warrant officers must be approved for interservice transfer by their Parent Service, qualified in an Air Force career field eligible for IST consideration, and meet the eligibility criteria outlined in **DAFMAN 36-2032, Chapter 5**.

Q. What are the Parent Service authorities for Interservice Transfers?

A. Parent Service authorities for IST are:

- ARMY: AR 614-120 (Army Human Resources Command)
- NAVY: SECNAVINST 1000.7F and MILPERSMAN 300-81
- MARINES: SECNAVINST 1000.7F and MCO 1001.65
- COAST GUARD: M1000.4 Military Separation – Chapter 1, Sec 1.A.3

Q. I'm in another Service's Guard or Reserve (Army NG, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve). Can I apply for Interservice Transfer (IST) to the Air Force?

A. No. Sister-Service Guard and Reserve members are not eligible for the Air Force Interservice Transfer (IST) program. IST is a Title 10 active-duty officer/warrant program used only when transferring from another Service's **active component** into Air Force active duty.

Q. Can I apply for an interservice transfer to become a pilot?

A. No. Officers who are not already qualified pilots may not apply for IST to become one. The program is designed to transfer already qualified personnel into critically manned career fields.

Q. Are there specific Air Force career fields and grades currently in high demand for Interservice Transfer consideration?

A. Yes. While all eligible applicants may apply, the Air Force is actively seeking qualified personnel in several career fields. For rated officers, we are concentrating on:

11X – Pilot
12X – Combat Systems Officer
13B – Air Battle Manager
18E – Electronic Warfare Officer

Cyber-focused warrant officers with qualifications equivalent to AFSC 73X (Cyber Operations) are also encouraged to apply. The US Air Force only has Cyber Warrants at this time;

For line officers across all grades, we are prioritizing the following AFSCs:

14F – Information Operations
17X – Cyber Operations
19Z – Special Warfare
35P – Public Affairs
62E – Developmental Engineer
63A – Acquisition Manager

Additionally, targeted AFSC/grade combinations include:

14N – Intelligence Officer (1LT)
21A – Aircraft Maintenance Officer (1LT)
21M – Munitions and Missile Maintenance Officer (MAJ)
31P – Security Forces Officer (1LT/MAJ)
32E – Civil Engineer (CAPT)
71S – Special Investigations Officer (1LT)

Q. Can a rotary wing applicant transfer to a fixed wing airframe?

A. No. IST is intended for personnel already qualified in the career field they are applying to enter.

Q. Can I apply for IST if I am in a deferred promotion status, such as passed over for promotion?

A. No. Applicants currently in a failed promotion status are not eligible for IST.

Q. Can Warrant Officers utilize the program?

A. Yes. Warrant officers are now eligible to apply for IST. However, the Air Force does not have a warrant officer rank structure, so accepted applicants will be transferred in their current grade and must meet commissioning requirements. Warrant officers interested in commissioning may also contact an Air Force Officer Training School recruiter for OTS information.

Q. How do I know my approved interservice transfer has been received by the Air Force?

A. The Air Force IST Program Manager will contact the applicant upon receipt. Applications that do not meet Air Force eligibility criteria will be returned to the Parent Service without action.

Q. What documents are required to submit an application for IST?

A. You'll need an approved "conditional release" from your service. These are the typical documents required to begin the process which includes a consolidated personnel brief that helps the Air Force evaluate your eligibility and the following:

- Your complete military service record with evaluations, appointment and promotion documents
- Any applicable DD Form 214s
- A letter from your commander addressing promotion status and any derogatory information

- A security clearance summary from your unit's security manager
- A resume or biography explaining your qualifications and why the transfer supports national defense
- Copies of college transcripts

The Air Force cannot receive or review documents before the Parent Service approves the IST

Q. How long does it take to process an application for IST?

A. Once approved by the Parent Service and submitted to the Air Force IST Program Manager, processing can take up to six months.

Q. Is there an Active Duty Service Commitment associated with IST?

A. Yes. Accepted applicants incur an Active Duty Service Commitment of six years for rated officers, three years for chaplains, and four years for all others.

Q. Can I apply for an interservice transfer if I have already separated from the Army/Navy/Marines/Coast Guard?

A. No. The IST program is only for currently serving personnel. Those who have separated or are in the Individual Ready Reserve are not eligible. If you are a prior service applicant, contact your nearest Air Force recruiter at <https://www.airforce.com/how-to-join/connect>

Q. How does the approval process work for Interservice Transfers?

A. The Air Force IST Program Office reviews and prepares eligible applications, then presents them to the Air Force Interservice Transfer of Commissioned Officers Board (ITCOB). The ITCOB convenes periodically to evaluate applications. The IST Program Manager will notify the Parent Service and applicants of the board's decision and provide further instructions.

Q. I have additional questions about the career field in which I am interested. Who do I talk to?

A. Assignment Teams for the career field of interest can provide additional AFSC information. Contact the Total Force Service Center and follow the prompts for Active Duty Assignments at 1-800-525-0102.

Q. I have questions about the IST application process. Who can I talk to about this?

A. Total Force Service Center and follow the prompts for Active Duty Assignments at 1-800-525-0102