

Space Test Course – Frequently Asked Questions

(as of 23 June 22)

Make sure to check back periodically, since content may change over time.

Q: What is the workload at STC like?

A: While there are some elements of traditional military training, the course is more oriented toward college level education. There are several blocks of rigorous academics. While there may be a few slower periods, expect the workload to be relatively high. We recommend you do not plan on taking other academics while attending the Space Test Course.

Q: May reserve component personnel apply?

A: Yes. The TDY will still be centrally funded by USSF. However, duty days will not be provided.

Q: Can members of other services apply to the STC Course?

A: Yes.

Q: Do applicants have to be accepted to the USSF?

A: No.

Q: If there are more applicants than slots, will any applicants be “wait-listed”?

A: No. However, personnel may apply in following years. Also, there will be alternates selected by the selection board.

Q: What is lodging like during the ~5-month course?

A: Group lodging reservations will be made for each class at the High Desert Inn, Edwards AFB. Students will be placed in suites with access to a communal kitchen area, or in TLFs. Suites include a small living area and a bedroom. A small microwave and mini-fridge are provided. If placed in TLFs, students will be sharing the facility (e.g. 2-bedroom TLFs will be shared by 2 students). TLF placement is based on availability based on inbound/outbound PCS requirements.

Q: Can I obtain a waiver to eligibility requirements?

A: Yes. Waivers requests to eligibility criteria should be submitted to USSF Talent Management Board at HQ.USSF.Talentmgmtboard@spaceforce.mil for consideration by USSF/TE.

Q: Is the Space Test Course application and board process separate from the regular TPS board?

A: Yes.

Q: Is this a TDY? If so, is it unit funded?

A: Yes, this is a TDY course. TDY costs will be centrally funded by USSF. Accompanied travel is not approved. Dual lodging during class field trips will also not be approved.

Q: Is there an automatic follow-on at a space test squadron?

A: Not at this time. However, expect prioritization into space test related assignments.

Q: Does attending the STC disqualify you from applying to or attending the traditional TPS program as an FTE?

A: No.

Q: Are there any grade/time in service restrictions?

A: Yes. Military applicants should have between 2 and 12 years of government service and be between the ranks of Spec4 and TSgt (enlisted) or 2Lt to Major (officer). Civilian applicants should be in the grade of GS-13, or equivalent, and below with at least 2 years of government service.

Q: Where is the STC held?

A: Edwards AFB, CA

Q: Will the board select all classes for the upcoming calendar year?

A: Yes.

Q: Will the STC be offered via distance learning?

A: No.

Q: What level of commander endorsement/recommendation is required?

A: Squadron commander (or equivalent).

Q: My undergraduate transcript doesn't show Calculus I and II, but I've had several calculus and even courses in differential equations and other higher level math classes. Am I eligible?

A: Probably. Contact USAFTPS.STF.applications@us.af.mil to verify.

Q: Can students bring family members with them to Edwards AFB for the STC?

A: Yes. However, no special accommodations or funding will be provided.

Q: Will transcripts direct from my college be accepted?

A: Yes. However, it is preferred that you include an informal copy of the transcript in your application package.

Q: Are there AFSC/Job Series limitations?

A: Not at this time. However, selections will be weighted toward individuals who will be in a position to affect Space T&E programs.

Q: Will the selection board pull OPRs digitally?

A: No. The selection board will consider OPRs included with the application package. Please include only the most recent OPR in the application packages.

Q: Is a letter of recommendation required?

A: Yes. A commander recommendation is required. One additional recommendation will also be accepted.