

Space Test Fundamentals – Frequently Asked Questions

(as of 2 Sep 20)

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

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 STF 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 12-week course?

A: Presently, lodging will be reserved via DTS as for other TDYs. However, students are expected to stay on base. There ought to be sufficient lead time from notification to acquire on-base lodging at the High Desert Inn, Edwards AFB. Group reservations are being pursued at this time, and selectees can expect further information on lodging with their reporting instructions.

Q: Can I obtain a waiver to eligibility requirements?

A: No. There is no waiver process in place at this time.

Q: Is the Space Test Fundamentals 12-week 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.

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 STF Course 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: Not at this time.

Q: Where is the STF Course held?

A: Edwards AFB, CA

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

A: Yes.

Q: Will the STF course be offered via distance learning?

A: No.

Q: Can APDP T&E certification be considered equivalent to Space 100?

A: No.

Q: When must Space 100 be completed for eligibility purposes?

A: Space 100, OUST, relevant degree, or 2-years in a space related position must be shown as complete on your application.

Q: What is considered a relevant degree for eligibility?

A: Relevant degrees would be Astronautical Engineering, Space Operation, or similar. Other STEM degrees with relevant coursework could also be acceptable. Relevant coursework would include such items as orbital mechanics, space propulsion, satellite design, etc. Contact USAFTPS.STF.applications@us.af.mil if you have specific questions.

Q: What level of commander endorsement is required?

A: Squadron commander (or equivalent).

Q: My undergraduate transcript doesn't show algebra, geometry or trigonometry. However, it does show calculus, am I eligible?

A: Yes.

Q: Are there any rank or years of service requirements for this course?

A: No.

Q: Would the core astronautical engineering course at the Air Force Academy meet the relevant coursework requirement for eligibility?

A: Yes.

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

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: No. 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.

Q: Is a letter of recommendation required?

A: No.