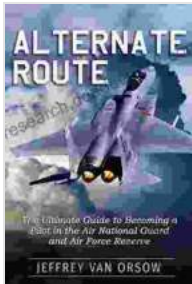


# The Ultimate Guide to Becoming a Pilot in the Air National Guard and Air Force



## Alternate Route: The Ultimate Guide to Becoming a Pilot in the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve

by Paul Arnott

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Becoming a pilot in the Air National Guard (ANG) or Air Force is an honorable and rewarding career path. This guide will provide all the information you need to know about the requirements, training, and application process for aspiring aviators.

## Air Force or Air National Guard: Which Path is Right for You?

Both the Air Force and ANG offer unique opportunities for aspiring pilots. Here's a breakdown to help you decide:

### Air Force

- Active duty, full-time service
- More career stability and advancement opportunities

- Higher pay and benefits
- More operational readiness and deployments

## **Air National Guard**

- Part-time service while balancing a civilian career
- Typically serves close to home
- Lower pay and benefits than active duty
- Less operational readiness and deployments

## **Requirements for Becoming a Pilot**

To become a pilot in the Air National Guard or Air Force, you must meet the following requirements:

### **Basic Qualifications**

- U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident
- Age: 18-29 (exceptions may apply)
- Bachelor's degree (preferred)
- Strong physical and mental fitness
- No significant criminal history or moral turpitude

### **Flight Experience**

- Private pilot license with instrument rating (recommended)
- Minimum flight hours (varies based on experience level)

### **Education and Training**

Once you meet the basic qualifications, you will need to complete specialized training:

### **Air Force Officer Training School (OTS)**

For the Air Force, all aspiring pilots must attend OTS, a 12-week program that combines military training with leadership development.

### **Air National Guard Pilot Training**

ANG pilots attend various training programs, including Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) and specialized courses for specific aircraft types.

### **The Application Process**

The application process for the Air Force and ANG pilot programs is competitive. Here's how to apply:

#### **Air Force**

- Submit an application through the Air Force's website
- Attend an Officer Aptitude Rating (OAR) test
- Complete a medical examination and physical fitness test

#### **Air National Guard**

- Contact your local ANG recruiter
- Submit an application and complete a medical examination
- Undergo an interview and selection process

### **Life as a Pilot in the Air National Guard or Air Force**

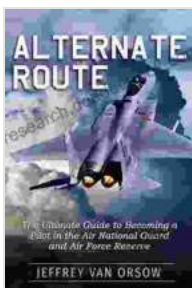
As a military pilot, you will experience:

- Exceptional flight training and career progression
- Unforgettable experiences, such as flying advanced aircraft and participating in missions
- The opportunity to serve your country and make a difference
- Comprehensive benefits, including healthcare, retirement, and educational assistance

Becoming a pilot in the Air National Guard or Air Force is a challenging yet rewarding journey. By meeting the requirements, completing the training, and navigating the application process, you can soar to new heights and make a lasting impact in the world of aviation.

## Additional Resources

- Air Force Pilot Training: <https://www.airforce.com/careers/detail/pilot>
- Air National Guard Pilot Program: <https://www.ang.af.mil/Careers/Becoming-an-Airman/Enlisted-Careers/Aircrew/Pilot>



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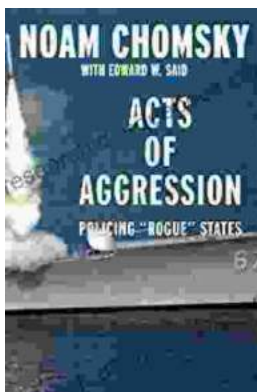
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