



UNITED STATES
**AIR FORCE
ACADEMY BAND**



SAXOPHONE

VACANCY

RÉSUMÉ & PRESCREEN RECORDINGS DUE NOV 30, 2015

LIVE AUDITION DATES:

JAN 6-9, 2016: JEN CONFERENCE, LOUISVILLE, KY

JAN 15, 2016: PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, CO

STARTING SALARY \$38K TO \$42K | FULL MEDICAL
BENEFITS | 30 DAYS PAID VACATION PER YEAR |
POST-911 GI BILL FOR COLLEGE UP TO \$80K

[719] 556-9965 | E-MAIL: USAFABANDAUDITIONS@GMAIL.COM
WWW.USAFACADEMYBAND.AF.MIL/CAREERS

18 Sep 2015

The U.S. Air Force Academy Band
520 Otis Street
Peterson AFB CO 80914-1620

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for inquiring about auditioning for a saxophone position in the United States Air Force Academy Band. This audition will be conducted in two parts: (a) a prescreening consisting of MP3 files (encoded at 320kbps) uploaded to either Dropbox or Google Drive and (b) a live audition for those selected from prescreening. Details concerning both prescreen submission and the live auditions are attached. Please look over these requirements carefully to determine if you are prepared to take the audition at this time. There will be two locations for the live audition for you to choose if you are invited to attend. The following information outlines the requirements and important dates.

- Nov 30, 2015 Deadline for receipt of all musical prescreening materials and résumé.
- Dec 4, 2015 Each candidate will be notified whether or not he/she is invited to participate in the live audition.
- Jan 6-9, 2016 Live audition at the Jazz Education Network Conference, Louisville, KY (or)
- Jan 15, 2016 Live audition at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, CO.

In addition to passing the musical audition, you must also meet other criteria in order to become a member of an Air Force Band. Before applying, carefully determine if you feel you meet the following Air Force eligibility requirements.

- Age: You must be able to enlist in the Air Force PRIOR to your 40th birthday.
- Weight: Individuals must meet weight requirements in order to enlist in the Air Force. A weight scale according to height is attached. If you foresee having a problem in this area I can recommend various solutions.
- Medical: Individuals must be qualified for worldwide duty. Chronic medical problems, congenital defects etc., may be disqualifying factors.
- Financial: A severe financial problem could be a disqualifying factor.
- Criminal: A criminal record could be a disqualifying factor.
- Citizenship: You must be a natural born citizen, naturalized, or able to complete the naturalization process within four years.

If you have any questions that pertain to the aforementioned eligibility requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us. In order to attend a live audition, you must meet with the United States Air Force recruiter in your area to be pre-qualified to attend basic training. Our office will initiate this visit after we find you musically qualified. You must send us the memorandum from your recruiter visit in order to attend the live audition.

Thank you so much for contacting the United States Air Force Academy Band regarding our upcoming audition. We hope you have a great experience during this process and wish you the best of luck. Please let me know if I can help you with anything. Do not hesitate to contact me directly at (719) 556-9965 or email usafbandauditions@gmail.com if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

MONICA J. DING, TSgt, USAF
NCOIC, Auditions
The USAF Academy Band

Attachments:

1. Audition Requirements (pre-screen/live)
2. Audition Music
3. USAF Bands Frequently Asked Questions



ANNOUNCES AN OPENING FOR SAXOPHONE

PRE-SCREENING REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- 1) Résumé
- 2) The following excerpts:
 - Americans We—Pick up to "A"-"H"
 - Symphony in Bb, Mvmt 1—"E"-6th bar of "F"
 - Symphony in Bb, Mvmt 2—bar 2-"B," bar 27-37
 - Danzon No. 2—Beginning-182
 - Sunrise Serenade—Pick up to "A"-2 bars before "C," Pick up to "G" - end
 - Wave—Beginning-18
 - Take the "A" Train—Beginning-"E," "F"- "I"
 - Cherry Juice—Beginning - "C," "M" - "Q"
 - Stairway to the Stars—Beginning - the cut time section
 - One jazz ballad of choice—Melody and at least one chorus of improvisation
 - One up-tempo jazz tune of choice—Melody plus at least 2 choruses of improvisation

All résumés and pre-screening materials must be received by November 30, 2015

LIVE Audition Dates:

January 6–9, 2015, JEN Conference, Louisville, KY

January 15, 2016, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, CO

Each candidate will be notified of prescreen results by December 4, 2015. Live audition is by invitation only.

**E-mail Dropbox or Google Drive links for MP3 files (encoded at 320kbps) and résumé to:
usafbandauditions@gmail.com**

Annual salary: \$38,000–\$42,000

Benefits: Full medical and dental benefits

30 days paid vacation per year

Post-9/11 GI Bill for college up to \$80,000

Call (719) 556-9965, e-mail usafbandauditions@gmail.com, or
visit our website at www.usafacademyband.af.mil for further information.
The United States Air Force is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Alto Sax

Americans We

edited by Frederick Fennell

Bright march tempo

CB113

The musical score is written for Alto Saxophone and consists of eight staves of music. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The piece is marked 'Bright march tempo'. The score includes various dynamics such as *ff*, *f*, *mf*, *pp*, and *p*, as well as articulation marks like accents and slurs. There are eight circled letter markers (A-H) indicating specific sections or phrases. A 'Cant.' (Cantabile) section is indicated at the beginning and end of the piece. A 'TRIO' section begins at measure 100, marked with a 'Trio' symbol and the dynamics *p* and *legato*. The score concludes with a final 'Cant.' section.

Alto Sax
d=92

Symphony in Bb
Mvt I

P. Hindemith

55 Sax. Ten. 2 2

62 (E) f

65

68 3 1 3 ff

71 3 1

74 3

76 cresc.

78 Molto agitato (d.=d) f

81 (F) mf

85 5

Alto Sax

Symphony in Bb

Hindemith

$\text{♩} = 100$

II

In 4

Andantino grazioso (d 56)

1 *mf* *p* *mf*

6 *p* *mf*

9 *mf* *Slow*

13 *p* *mf* *p espr.*

18 *mp espr.* *B*

25 *mf* *Low*

31 *digitate*

34 *C* *Low*

37 *Add Bb*

Soprano Sax

Danzón no. 2

Arturo Márquez

$\text{♩} = 116$

168 Soprano Saxophone

mp cantabile *f*

This musical staff contains measures 168 through 174. It begins with a treble clef and a common time signature. The music is written in a melodic style with slurs and accents. The dynamic marking *mp cantabile* is present at the start, and *f* appears at the end of the staff.

175

mp

This musical staff contains measures 175 through 180. It continues the melodic line with slurs and accents. There are two triplet markings (indicated by a '3' and a bracket) under the notes in measures 178 and 179. The dynamic marking *mp* is present.

181

This musical staff contains measure 181, which concludes the excerpt with a final note and a large closing bracket.

[G]

(4) *f*

f *solu*

[#]

f

f

WAVE

As recorded by the Buddy Rich Band on "Slick II"

Flute / Alto Saxophone 1

Composed by Antonio Carlos Jobim
Arranged by John LaBarbera

Ballad - Straight Eighths

$\text{♩} = 60$

Flute

Musical staff 1: Flute part, measures 1-4. Includes dynamics 'f' and a circled measure number '5'.

Musical staff 2: Flute part, measures 5-8.

Musical staff 3: Flute part, measures 9-12.

Musical staff 4: Flute part, measures 13-16. Includes a circled measure number '17'.

Musical staff 5: Flute part, measures 17-20. Includes the instruction '(To Alto)'.

VAUGHN J. NARK
3127 PARKWAY
CHEVERLY, MD 20785

NOTICE: The law provides penalties for any unauthorized copying or reproduction of any copyrighted musical work.

Take The "A" Train

1943

by Billy Strayhorn
arranged by Don Sebesky

1st Eb ALTO SAX $\text{♩} = 120$
BRIGHT SWING
(No Vib.)

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. The staff contains the first line of the melody with various rhythmic notations and accents.

Musical staff 2: Continuation of the melody. Includes a section marked "SOLI (Vib.)" with a fermata over a measure.

Musical staff 3: Continuation of the melody. Includes a section marked "SOLI (No Vib.)" with a fermata over a measure.

Musical staff 4: Continuation of the melody with various rhythmic patterns and accents.

Musical staff 5: Continuation of the melody. Includes a section marked "SOLI-STRAY" with a fermata over a measure.

Musical staff 6: Continuation of the melody with various rhythmic patterns and accents.

Musical staff 7: Continuation of the melody. Includes a section marked "C" with a fermata over a measure.

Musical staff 8: Continuation of the melody with various rhythmic patterns and accents.

Musical staff 9: Continuation of the melody. Includes a section marked "D" with a fermata over a measure.

Musical staff 10: Continuation of the melody with various rhythmic patterns and accents.

Musical staff 11: Continuation of the melody. Includes a section marked "ALTO" with a fermata over a measure.

3107

V.S.

E (PLAY 2X ONLY)

Handwritten musical notation for section E, first measure. The staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There are dynamic markings 'mf' and 'f'.

Handwritten musical notation for the first measure of the first system. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There is a dynamic marking 'mp' and the word 'PLAY'.

Handwritten musical notation for the second measure of the first system. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There are dynamic markings 'mp', 'f', and 'SLIGHT BEND'. There is also a circled 'F' and the word 'LIP'.

Handwritten musical notation for the third measure of the first system. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There is a dynamic marking 'f' and the word 'INTUNE'.

Handwritten musical notation for the fourth measure of the first system. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There is a dynamic marking 'f' and a circled 'G'.

Handwritten musical notation for the fifth measure of the first system. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There is a dynamic marking 'f' and the word 'LIP'.

Handwritten musical notation for the sixth measure of the first system. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There is a dynamic marking 'f' and a circled 'H'.

Handwritten musical notation for the seventh measure of the first system. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. There is a dynamic marking 'f' and the word 'FALL'.

CHERRY JUICE

1ST B^b SOPRANO SAX

FAST SWING ♩ = 224

COMPOSED AND ARRANGED BY
THAD JONES

The musical score is written for a 1st Bb Soprano Saxophone in 4/4 time, marked 'FAST SWING' with a tempo of 224 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The score consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *ff* and includes accents and slurs. The second staff features a measure with a '5' above it, indicating a quintuplet. The third staff starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a boxed section labeled 'A'. The fourth staff continues the melodic line with accents. The fifth staff includes a boxed section labeled 'B' with a double asterisk symbol. The sixth staff has a '(4)' above a measure, indicating a quartet. The seventh and eighth staves continue the main melodic theme. The ninth staff includes a boxed section labeled 'C'. The tenth staff includes a boxed section labeled 'D' and ends with a diamond-shaped repeat sign. The score is filled with various musical notations including eighth and sixteenth notes, slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

Musical notation for Soprano Saxophone, measures 1-12. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The music features a melodic line with various articulations such as slurs, accents (^), and dynamic markings like *ff*. A first ending bracket labeled "1." spans measures 10-11, and a second ending bracket labeled "2." spans measure 12.

E

F

(TENOR)

24

G

(TENOR)

15

H

(TENOR)

8

I

Musical staff I: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Starts with a forte (f) dynamic. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with accents and slurs.

Musical staff continuation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents.

J

Musical staff J: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents.

Musical staff continuation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents.

K

Musical staff K: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Starts with a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. Includes triplet markings over eighth notes.

Musical staff continuation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents.

L

Musical staff L: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents.

Musical staff continuation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Includes triplet markings over eighth notes.

M

Musical staff M: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Starts with a forte (f) dynamic and is marked 'Solo'. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents.

Musical staff continuation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Includes triplet markings over eighth notes.

N

Musical staff N: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Continues the melodic line with slurs and accents.

Musical staff continuation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time. Includes triplet markings over eighth notes.



Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents. Includes a triplet of eighth notes.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents. Includes a triplet of eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *p*.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents. Includes a triplet of eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *ff*.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents. Includes a dynamic marking of *ff*.

Musical staff 6: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents.

Musical staff 7: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents.

Musical staff 8: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents.

Musical staff 9: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents. Includes a dynamic marking of *f* and a *D.S. AL* instruction.

CODA

Musical staff 10: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents. Includes a dynamic marking of *f*.

Musical staff 11: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents.

SHORT HOLDS

Musical staff 12: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and accents. Includes a dynamic marking of *f*.

STAIRWAY TO THE STARS

Arr. Bill Holman

ALTO I

Solo

(A)

(B) G

D-7 G7(b9) CMaj7 C-7 F9 E-7 F9 A-7 D7 G

(C) B-(Maj7) B-7 B-6 B-(b6) B-6 B-7 B- F9 E7(b9) A-(Maj7) A-

A-6 A-(b6) A- A9 FMaj7 Bb Eb Ab D G E-7 A9

A-7 Eb-7 D-7 E-7 F-7 G7(b9) CMaj7 C-7 B-7 E7

REPRODUCED BY US JAZZ CORNER #3



The United States Air Force Bands Program

<http://www.bands.af.mil/>

Contact us: 703-692-8168



QUALIFICATIONS

Do I need a college degree?

Although most Air Force band musicians have earned undergraduate degrees, a college degree is not required to qualify. Candidates are offered positions solely on the basis of a successful audition.

Are there physical requirements?

To be considered for a position with an Air Force band you must be between the ages of 18 and 39. Additionally, you must not have a medical condition that would prevent you from enlisting in the United States Air Force. Waivers for medical conditions may be applied for if you do not meet these requirements, but are decided on a case by case basis and no guarantee can be made that they will be granted.

As a member of the Air Force, you must maintain high standards of personal appearance and physical fitness. You will be required to pass bi-annual physical fitness evaluations and will be subject to random drug urinalysis testing at any time during your enlistment. Prior to your audition, you will be asked to demonstrate that you fall within the Air Force maximum allowable **weight standards**.

AUDITION PROCEDURES

How do I find out about openings?

Current openings and audition requirements are posted on the USAF Bands website:

<http://www.bands.af.mil/careers/> and Facebook, and are advertised in professional trade journals.

How do I qualify for an audition?

Step One: Send required materials to the audition coordinator for the advertised vacancy. A committee will review the materials and determine whether an applicant demonstrates the professional musical skills necessary to warrant a live audition with an Air Force Band.

Step Two: Applicants are contacted by their local Air Force recruiter who sets up an in-person prescreen interview to determine the applicant's eligibility to enlist in the U.S. Air Force.

Step Three: Applicants who pass the initial prescreening are invited to a live audition. They are asked to perform various prepared compositions and to demonstrate outstanding ensemble skills and music theory knowledge. Note: Those invited to the audition travel at their own expense.

What happens if I win the audition?

If you are found musically qualified and are the best candidate, you will be offered a position with one of our Air Force bands. Normally, the position will be with the Air Force band you audition for, however we do offer positions with other Air Force bands if additional vacancies are available.

JOINING THE AIR FORCE

Where do I start?

When you accept a position with an Air Force band, you will be given an Air Force Form 485, *Application for Enlistment in an Air Force Band*, which allows you to begin the enlistment process and join the Air Force. Simply take the form to your local recruiter who will guide you through the enlistment process. You must take and pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (a skills assessment test) and complete a physical exam. The enlistment process is completed at your local Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) where you will sign an enlistment contract. After enlisting, you will go directly to Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, to complete Basic Military Training.

Does every Air Force band musician have to go through basic training?

Yes, basic training is a requirement for every Air Force musician.

What is Basic Training like and how long is it?

Basic training is an initial 8 1/2 week course at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. While in basic training, you'll learn standard military drill and ceremonies, Air Force history, customs and courtesies, and will participate in daily physical fitness exercises. For more details, go to: <http://www.basictraining.af.mil/questions/index.asp>

Do Air Force musicians attend a technical school after basic training?

No. While in basic training, all enlisted musicians are assigned to the 737th Training Group Drum and Bugle Corps flight for initial skills qualification. After basic training, Airman musicians report directly to their assigned unit.

Assuming I'm going into the Air Force in another career field, can I audition for an Air Force band while in basic training?

No. However, you can apply to audition for the band career field when a vacancy becomes available and your service requirements have been met. As with other applicants, you must submit required audition materials and pass a live audition. Once qualified for entrance into the band career field, you would apply for retraining status. Normal military service requirements apply: A first-term Airman (four-year enlistment contract) assigned to a stateside base is eligible to apply for retraining after he or she has completed 35 months (no more than 43 months) of military service. Six-year enlistees may apply to re-train after completing 59 months of military service.

How and when will I know which band I'm assigned to?

As a general rule, you'll know which band you'll be assigned to before you enlist, usually the same day as your audition. Musicians are rarely diverted from that initial assignment.

After Basic Training, what happens?

When you graduate from Basic Military Training, you will be immediately assigned to an Air Force band unit. You are allotted a specific number of travel days to move from your home of record to your new duty station.

Where can I find information about joining the Air Force?

The Air Force has a comprehensive Website - www.AirForce.com - that provides a great deal of information about joining the Air Force. Additionally, your local Air Force recruiter will answer all of your questions about the benefits of joining the Air Force. To find your local recruiter, call (800) 423-USAF

SCHEDULE

What is a normal day like for an Air Force Musician?

Each band is unique in its scheduling and has different rehearsal/performance requirements that change on a weekly basis according to the mission. Band units frequently perform on evenings and weekends, and compensatory days off are often given on weekdays. For example, if a performance tour goes over a weekend, days off may be scheduled on weekdays following the return. The band schedule typically includes the same number of days off enjoyed by the rest of the Air Force.

As military bands are a traditional part of American patriotic celebrations, you should expect to work on major holidays such as Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day.

A typical non-performance day consists of rehearsals and administrative duties.

Will I have any non-musical duties?

Air Force bands are self-contained organizations, meaning its people must perform a variety of non-musical duties to ensure the smooth day-to-day functioning of the unit. These duties may range from performing simple clerical work to coordinating and managing the activities of an entire unit.

Music Library: Organize and distribute music to unit ensembles

Publicity: Develop publicity materials, web site development and maintenance

Operations: Coordinate group tours and performances

Supply: Instrument purchase/repair, uniforms, supplies

Finance: Manage unit funding, purchases

Administration: Manage personnel records, awards and decorations, training, auditions

Computer Staff: Application development, network administration, software/hardware maintenance

Vehicles: Coordinate scheduling/maintain band vehicles

Load Crew: New members also serve on loading crew and are responsible for loading, unloading, setting-up and tearing down equipment before and after each performance.

Is the band career field a full-time job? Is it secondary to being an Airman?

Working as an Air Force band musician is a full-time profession, not a side activity. You will be an active duty member of the United States Air Force. In wartime or peacetime, your primary duty is to perform as a musician. However, in emergency situations such as hurricanes, tornadoes or earthquakes, you might be used in the base manpower pool to assist with clean-up efforts around your base.

Will I deploy?

All Air Force bands deploy. The most commonly deployed ensembles are our Rock/Popular Music Ensembles. Deployments generally last about 90 days. During that time, Airman musicians bolster troop morale, build partnerships, and strengthen relationships with host nation communities through musical performances. While deployed, Air Force bands are not assigned non-musical tasks. Air Force bands deploy up to 10 members at a time on a rotational schedule. Once a band has deployed, generally it will not deploy again for at least 36 months.

PROFESSIONAL LIFE

What kind of musical ensembles will I typically perform with?

Most musicians usually perform in two or more ensembles

Flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon: Woodwind quintet and/or clarinet quartet along with concert band and ceremonial band.

Saxophone: Jazz band or a pop music combo along with concert band and ceremonial/marching band.

French horn: Concert band and woodwind quintet or brass quintet as well as ceremonial/marching band.

Tuba and euphonium: Brass quintet or low brass ensemble, concert band, and ceremonial/marching band.

Trumpet and trombone: Jazz band, pop music combo or brass quintet along with concert band and ceremonial/marching band.

Rhythm section: (percussionists, pianists, guitarists, bassists) Rock/pop music ensemble or jazz band as well as protocol combos and/or concert band. Percussionists are essential in the ceremonial/marching band and along with pianists, may assist in chamber ensembles, brass, or woodwind quintets.

Vocalist: Rock/pop music ensemble or jazz band as well as protocol combos and/or concert band. They may also perform solo anthems and augment protocol combos, chamber winds, and ceremonial bands.

Audio engineers: May augment a group occasionally, depending on their skill, but are not typically tasked to play an instrument.

Where does the band perform?

Each Air Force Band is assigned a geographical area of responsibility or "region" for performing. For instance, the USAF Band of the West performs in a region that includes Texas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, and Oklahoma. Bands typically perform within their geographic area of responsibility but occasionally travel outside this area to meet special Air Force priorities or community relations requirements.

What are the performance venues like?

Performances take place in a wide variety of settings to include concert halls, public school or civic auditoriums, gymnasiums, field houses, outdoor concert venues, stadiums, and festivals.

What type of audience does the band play for?

Air Force Bands perform for military and civilian audiences around the world in support of official military, recruiting, and community outreach events. In a ceremonial capacity, bands perform for military functions, funeral honors, ceremonies, and troop support events. Outreach events may include public concerts, school assemblies, master classes, recitals, and special youth programs.

How many performances do bands give per year?

On average, each Air Force band performs over 400 programs annually for military, recruiting, and outreach events. This number includes the total of all unit performances, from soloists to massed ensembles.

PAY AND BENEFITS

How much is the salary and other allowances?

Basic Pay: Regional band members who have satisfactorily completed at least 45 semester hours or 67 quarter hours of college credit are awarded the rank of Airmen First Class (E-3 pay grade) after graduating from basic training. Pay and allotments increase as tenure and cost-of-living increases. For specific rates, click on the following link:

<http://www.airforce.com/benefits/enlisted-pay/?m=2012easearch&pl=google&med=cpc>

In addition to basic pay, members earn a non-taxable basic allowance for housing and basic allowance for sustenance.

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH): The Air Force ensures the basic needs of every Airman are taken care of. Off-base residents receive a monthly tax-free housing allowance to help defray living expenses. On-base residents have their living expenses paid in full, to include utility bills and maintenance. BAH is calculated based on the location to which you are assigned. To calculate your BAH, go to the following website:

<http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/bah.cfm>

Subsistence (Food) Allowance (BAS): Airmen also receive tax free food allowances called Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS). Rates adjust annually according to cost of living averages.

Uniform Allowance: Airmen receive an annual tax-free clothing allowance to replace uniform items.

Travel Expenses: When traveling for job-related reasons (otherwise known as temporary duty [TDY] away from your home base), you'll receive additional tax-free money to cover your meals, lodging, and other incidental expenses.

Are Health care and life insurance available?

All members of the U.S. Armed Forces are automatically enrolled in TRICARE - the Department of Defense's health care program for active duty personnel, retirees, and their families. Through TRICARE, military members receive FREE, comprehensive medical and dental care. Family members may also be enrolled in TRICARE and receive medical care at military or civilian facilities through various options for little or no cost. Inexpensive dental care programs may be purchased for family members as well.

Members are not charged leave for sick days, and with doctor authorization, will receive as many as necessary to return to full health.

Service Member's Group Life Insurance, or SGLI, is a low cost group life insurance plan for service members. SGLI coverage is available in increments of \$50,000 to a maximum of \$400,000. For example, for only \$29 per month, members may purchase life insurance coverage of \$400,000.

Is there a pension or retirement program?

The Air Force provides a 20-year retirement program for its members. After serving 20 years, members will receive 50% percent of their basic pay in retirement compensation. This amount increases each year by 2.5%, and after 30 years of service, members will receive 75% of their basic pay in retirement compensation. Retirement income is adjusted each year to compensate for increases in the cost of living.

The federal Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) allows participants to place a portion of their monthly pay into an account similar to a 401(k) investment plan. The contributions are considered pretax dollars and therefore reduce the amount of income subject to tax, and the accounts grow tax-free. Enrollment is available when members first join the military and anytime thereafter. Unlike traditional military retirement, which requires a commitment of at least 20 years of active duty, money invested in the TSP belongs to individual members, no matter how many years they serve. Income contributed to the TSP is not taxed until withdrawn from the account. Withdrawal before age 59-1/2 may be subject to penalty; however, the TSP account can be rolled over into an IRA or another employer's retirement account.

Can I shop at the base commissary and exchange?

Members and their families are permitted to shop at military commissaries (grocery stores), base exchanges (department stores) and service stations. These facilities offer tax-free shopping and a savings of about 30% over similar off-base stores. Additionally, recreational facilities and skills shops are available at a significant cost savings.

EDUCATION

Are there opportunities for continued education?

Yes. The Air Force encourages its members to seek continued development in their area of expertise. For the first few years, band members undergo extensive on-the-job training (OJT) to develop their performance and administrative skills. Part of this training may include private instruction and participation in professional workshops or conferences. In addition, members can take advantage of the following education incentives:

Tuition Assistance: The Air Force Tuition Assistance (TA) program is designed to help active-duty personnel pursue voluntary, off-duty educational opportunities. Currently, the program pays 100% (up to \$250 per semester hour or equivalent) of the cost of college tuition with a limit of \$4500 per fiscal year. Courses and degree programs may be academic or technical and can be taken from two- or four-year institutions on base, off base or by correspondence.

Post-9/11 GI Bill: Post-9/11 GI Bill offers increased education benefits to veterans who served on or after 11 Sep 01. Benefits are based on aggregate, honorable service, and include college tuition (up to a certain amount), a monthly housing stipend and an annual books/supplies stipend. Active duty and distance learning students may receive a pro-rated benefit. Eligible active duty service members and Selected Reserve may choose to transfer benefits to DEERS-

registered dependents, but stipulations apply and require eligibility determination by Service component.

Everyone with at least 90 aggregate, active duty days of honorable service on or after 11 Sep 01 is eligible for benefits under the new GI Bill. For full benefits, a member must have served at least 36 months active duty on or after 11 Sep 01. Reserve and National Guard members with 3 years of aggregate, active duty service on or after 11 Sep 01 can also qualify for full GI Bill benefits. Eligibility stipulations and benefit details are available at base education offices and at <http://www.gibill.va.gov>.

Height (inches) Max Weight (lbs)

| | |
|----|-----|
| 58 | 131 |
| 59 | 136 |
| 60 | 141 |
| 61 | 145 |
| 62 | 150 |
| 63 | 155 |
| 64 | 160 |
| 65 | 165 |
| 66 | 170 |
| 67 | 175 |
| 68 | 180 |
| 69 | 186 |
| 70 | 191 |
| 71 | 197 |
| 72 | 202 |
| 73 | 208 |
| 74 | 214 |
| 75 | 220 |
| 76 | 225 |
| 77 | 231 |
| 78 | 237 |
| 79 | 244 |