

**FLORIDA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
*** OFFICER VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT *****

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: DSG 26-01

CLOSING DATE: 04 May 2026

TITLE: Undergraduate Pilot Training Candidate (UPT) (AFSC: 11F1)
(OPEN to Nationwide – this is a Commissioning Opportunity)

MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED GRADE: Major (O-4)

UNIT: 159th Fighter Squadron

DUTY STATUS: This is a Drill Status Guard (DSG) position, this is not a permanent full-time employment position. Applicants are expected to meet all Regularly Scheduled Drills and Annual Training requirements annually.

SERVICE OBLIGATION

The successful UPT candidate will incur a 10-year service commitment upon completion of UPT. After completing UPT and F-35 training, the new pilot will be required to complete approximately two to three years of full-time employment (seasoning) in order to build a base of experience. After that seasoning, the new pilot becomes a traditional, part-time, Drill Status Guardsman (DSG) attending academics, participating in air defense alert, exercises, and deployments, and flying approximately 8 times a month. Drill Status Guardsmen may be directed to Active Duty in times of national need. Many DSGs are currently activated in the 125th Fighter Wing and throughout the Air National Guard.

Eligibility Requirements

Citizenship: Must be a citizen of the United States.

Age: Applicants must not have turned 33 years old by the date of the board, which is scheduled for 26 JUNE 2026, therefore applicants born before 23 JUNE 1993 will not be considered at this time.

(Note)Regulation: IAW SOPG Table 4-1 Rule 39 Dated OCT 2025.

(Waivers will NOT be considered by the board)

Physical Requirements: Must be in good physical condition and be medically qualified in accordance with applicable Air Force and Air National Guard regulations. Must meet Air Force and Air National Guard weight and fitness standards prior to attending Total Force Officer Training School (TFOT). Must meet USAF Flying Class I medical standards (eyesight: 20/70 far correctable to

20/20, 20/30 near correctable to 20/20).

Security Requirements: Must be able to meet applicable security requirements to hold appropriate security clearances (Secret/Top Secret) prior to commissioning and attendance of UPT.

AFOQT & TBAS Tests: Must take the Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT) and Test of Basic Aviation Skills (TBAS) prior to the closing date of this UPT announcement. (Reference AFMAN 36-2032, Table 5.1 AFOQT Minimum Standards for Appointment) Minimum scores required on AFOQT: Verbal: 15, Quantitative: 10 Pilot: 25. Minimum scores on TBAS: Minimum PCSM:10.

Education: Must have completed a baccalaureate or higher degree from an educational institution listed in the current Accredited Institutions of Post-Secondary Education. A high GPA demonstrating superior aptitude is desirable. Applicants who are within 180 days of graduating, may submit a letter from their respective educational institution stating they are projected to complete their degree within 180 days and in good academic standing.

Availability: Candidates must be available for a series of training classes as outlined in the UPT PIPELINE TRAINING instruction, as early as **01 Nov 2026**. Total length of training is approximately 2 years.

Application Requirements:

- a. **Letter of intent.** Limit letters to 1 page maximum and place as first document in the PDF file.
- b. **Resume.** (Detailed resume of military and/or civilian work and educational experience. All breaks in employment and/or educational pursuit should be fully explained. (Short biographies are NOT acceptable.) Your resume should not exceed 3 pages and include:

Aircraft qualifications (if any)

Current rank, date of rank, and date of entry into the service (if applicable)

Date of Birth

Availability Date

Career Goals

Work and Education History (explain breaks in employment/education) Work and home phone numbers and e-mail addresses

- c. Complete **AF Form 24**, Application for appointment as a Reserve of the Air Force, and **AF Form 2030**, USAF Drug and Alcohol Abuse Certificate (website: www.e-publishing.af.mil).
- d. Copy of Air Force Officer Qualification Test (**AFOQT**) scores. Applicants who are not presently commissioned must provide test score with evidence of taking the exam prior to app deadline.
- e. **Copy of Test of Basic Aviation Skills (TBAS) results.**
- f. **Copy of PCSM Results.** (PCSM score is from the TBAS.)
- g. **University transcript (Unofficial) indicating minimum of Bachelor's Degree.** Include copies of college transcripts from all colleges and universities attended through fall term 2025. Summary transcripts are not acceptable. Official transcripts will only be required if you are selected for the position.
- h. **Private Pilot Rating or nearing completion of your Private Pilot license.** Provide copies of all pilot licenses you hold and a summary of all flying training. (If applicable)
- i. **Three letters of recommendation.** Address letters of Recommendation to Lt. Col. Joseph Pasko, Commander, 159th Fighter Squadron.

Additional Items for **Current or Former Military Members:**

- a. A form **DD368/AF Form 1288 Conditional Release** will be required prior to acceptance into the Florida Air National Guard if transferring from the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, ANG of another state, or other military component. (Applicable to current military members only). Letter in lieu of will be accepted during the application and notification phases.
- b. **Current Report of Individual Person (RIP)**, or other military service's equivalent.
- c. **Current Point Credit Summary**
- d. **Current Physical Fitness Scores**
- e. **Copies of last three Enlisted Performance Briefs (EPBs) or other military service's equivalent.**
- f. **Any DD Form 214, NGB Form 22, and Reserve discharge orders.**

Application Procedures:

Complete applications must be received by close of business 04 May 2026 to be eligible for consideration. Failure to provide ALL required documentation will result in elimination from further consideration.

Complete applications MUST be combined into one (1) single .pdf file format for submission. Other file formats such as: .pdf portfolios, .jpeg, .png, .tiff, will not be accepted. Please compile your application package documentation in the order listed above and create a single .pdf file. Please do not submit your application packages as individual .pdf pages. Please ensure all documents submitted are legible.

**Please do not submit any additional documentation other than the requested documents
(i.e. no photographs)**

Applications must be sent via email with attachments and PASSWORD PROTECTED as follows:

(Application packages MUST be sent password protected due to the sensitive information contained in the packages)

For DoD members with access to DoD systems, DO NOT ENCRYPT EMAILS.

For DoD members and non-DoD personnel using non-DoD systems, protect FOUO/PII (For Official Use Only/Personally Identifiable Information) by using password protection.

- a. To password protect Adobe .pdf files:
- Open the file you want to Password Protect
 - Select “Tools”
 - Select “Protect”
 - Select “Encrypt”
 - Select “Encrypt with Password”
 - Enter the password to protect the document
 - End user must enter password to open the file
 - Send the password to the end user in a SEPARATE email

Address application documents to this email:

FLANGHQ.RS.UPTProgramRecruiting@us.af.mil

Please e-mail questions/concerns.

Contact: Capt Thomas Moffitt
Fighter Pilot/Standardization and Evaluation Liaison Officer, 159FS
email: 159FSUPThiring@gmail.com

Applicant Interview and Selection Timeline:

- a. Applications must be received by **04 May 2026**.(1600 EST)
- b. Application screening: 18 May- 01 June 2026
- c. Phone interview screening: 22 June – 06 July2026
- d. In-person interview: 15-16 August 2026
- e. Inform interviewees of results: 2 weeks post-interviews.

Selection Process:

Applications are accepted until 1600 on 04 May 2026. A board of unit pilots will then perform an initial assessment of the applications and invite some number (usually about ten) applicants to interview.

Transportation and lodging expenses for the interview will be at the applicants' expense. A board of 125th Fighter Wing F-35 officers will conduct the interview. The interviewers will evaluate the applicants on:

- a. Historical performance in education and work to date through review of GPA, academic pursuits, work history, awards, and letters of recommendation.
- b. Flight aptitude through review of AFOQT and TBAS scores, aviation experience, and aviation related work history. Previous flight experience is not required, but is a positive input.
- c. Officership and leadership potential and commitment through a subjective evaluation of the "whole person" and through questions during the interview period.

The selection board may choose a primary UPT candidate and alternates. The board will

forward their packages to State Headquarters - Florida Air National Guard for approval by the Officer Action Board and the Adjutant General of Florida. After this approval, we will notify all finalists of the results of the selection process.

Candidate Processing:

The selected candidate will then complete a Flying Class I physical and begin paperwork to obtain the required security clearances. Both of these, the security clearance in particular, can require a significant amount of time to complete.

UPT Pipeline Training:

- **Total Force Officer Training (TFOT) – 8.5 weeks (if necessary)**

TFOT is the USAF officer commissioning course in Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, AL. The course provides basic instruction in management, leadership skills, and military customs and courtesies. Graduates of TFOT are commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the Air National Guard.

- **IPT/UPT (Initial Pilot Training/Undergraduate Pilot Training)**

IPT is conducted by Part 141 certified courses to provide the student pilots with basic airmanship, instrument, and multi-engine flying competencies. IPT students will complete training in 139 calendar days during which they will log approximately 110 flying hours.

Post IPT, students will start the revised UPT program. Students will train with military instructors for 108 training days and log approximately 57 flying and 50 simulator hours in the T-6A Texan II. The syllabus will build upon the competencies learned during IPT and focus on military-specific aviation competencies, with students earning their military pilot wings at the end of the program. Post wings, Fighter track students will fly the T-38 Talon. The T-38 Talon phase takes 108 days for future fighter pilots. The course entails 110.2 hours of academics, 38.1 hours of ground training, 30.4 sim hours, 45.5 ITD hours, and 89.1 hours/74 sorties for fighters.

- **Centrifuge - 1 day**

Instructs techniques for increasing g-tolerance through classroom and centrifuge training on high-g physiology and proper g-loading mitigation techniques.

- **Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals (IFF) - 6 weeks**

Introduces pilots to fundamental fighter techniques. Provides a transition between UPT and follow-on fighter training.

- **F-35A Basic Operational Course - 9 months**

Initial qualification and mission training in the F-35A at Luke Air Force Base, Phoenix, AZ or Eglin Air Force Base, FL qualifies students to fly and employ the F-35A in the air-to-air and air-to-surface combat arena.

- **Basic Survival Training - 3 weeks**

Presents training in principles, procedures, equipment, and techniques for survival in a range of climatic conditions and unfriendly environments. Course is at Fairchild AFB, WA.

- **Water Survival Training - 4 days**

Trains aircrews to survive in a water environment and assist in their recovery. Course is at Fairchild AFB, WA

If you are selected, you will be expected to serve as a full-time reservist during pilot training (approximate 24 months) and for an additional approximate 24-36 months post training pipeline for seasoning training with the squadron. The specific number of seasoning days depends on available funding for that fiscal year. The purpose of seasoning training is to build a base of F-35 flying experience.

Please e-mail questions/concerns.

Contact: Capt Thomas Moffitt

Fighter Pilot/Standardization and Evaluation Liaison Officer, 159FS

email: 159FSUPTiring@gmail.com

SPECIAL NOTE: The Official 159 FS Undergraduate Pilot Training Candidate F-35A hiring announcement is located on the following website:

<https://www.125fw.ang.af.mil/Careers/>

If this announcement is published to any other website, please refer to the official hiring announcement for complete requirements and submission instructions.

The Florida Air National Guard is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants will be selected for appointment through a quality oriented method of assessment which includes, but is not limited to, factors such as education, physical standards, experience, potential, motivation and moral qualifications.