

The RAF Association (RAFA) Flying Scholarship Scheme 2012

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Introduction

The RAF Association Flying Scholarship Scheme provides the winning candidate with a course of up to 35 hours flying training and up to 12 hours for the four runners up, in light aircraft, primarily to encourage young people of high calibre to obtain a National Private Pilot Licence (NPPL). The scheme is open to members of the Air Cadet Organisation (ACO) *** and Girls Venture Corps Air Cadets (GVCAC).

*** includes the Air Training Corps and Combined Cadet Force (RAF)

These Scholarships are provided as a thank you to members of the ACO and GVCAC for the support they give to the Association each year, in helping to raise funds for the Wings Appeal.

Training covers all/part of the tuition needed for the award-holder to obtain, or go towards the completion of, a National Private Pilot Licence (NPPL), up to a maximum of 35 hours flying. This is not open to those who already hold an NPPL or Private Pilot Licence (PPL) with a single Engine Piston-engined (SEP) aircraft rating.

Please note that the Application Form must be completed in the candidate's own handwriting and, in the interests of brevity, responses confined to the space provided.

Eligibility

- 1 A candidate must have been a member of the Air Cadet Organisation or Girls Venture Corps Air Cadets for at least 12 months on the 1st January 2012.

Nationality Requirements

- 2 A candidate must have been born a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland or have been born in a country or territory, which is (or then was) within the Commonwealth or Republic of Ireland.
- 3 Either parent of a candidate must have been born in a country or territory which is (or then was) within the Commonwealth or Republic of Ireland and either parent must be (or was at death) a Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland and is, or has been, one or the other at all times since birth.
- 4 The term 'Commonwealth citizen' includes:
 - a British citizen
 - a British Dependent Territory citizen
 - a British Overseas citizen
 - a British subject under British Nationality Act 1981
 - a citizen of an independent Commonwealth country

- 5 A waiver of the nationality requirements above may be granted under exceptional circumstances by application to the Royal Air Forces Association.

Residency Requirements

- 6 Candidates, whether or not they are of UK origin, should normally have been resident in the UK for a minimum of 5 years on the 1st January 2012. In certain circumstances, particularly where an applicant is of UK origin, a shorter period of residence may be accepted and a waiver of part of the residence requirement may be granted, provided that evidence of assimilation into the UK can be demonstrated.

Educational Qualifications

- 7 A candidate must, at the time of application, hold GCSE awards at Grade C or higher in English Language, Mathematics and 3 other subjects, only one of which may be non-academic (e.g. art, music), or the equivalent of such passes.

Age Limits

- 8 A candidate must be at least 17 years of age and under 20 years of age on the 1st January 2012.
- 9 Flying training will not commence before the age of 17 and will not be undertaken without the written consent of a parent or guardian, where the candidate is under the age of 18.

General Requirements

- 10 A candidate must be medically fit and able to obtain a UK NPPL medical declaration of health from her/his doctor.
- 11 A candidate must be prepared to undergo full Royal Air Force pilot aptitude testing.
- 12 Winning candidates must be able to attend a course of flying training for a continuous period of up to 45 days. Due to winter weather conditions, it is assumed that the training will normally take place before the end of October.
- 13 Winning candidates will be expected to attend the RAF Association's Annual Conference at Blackpool on 18th/19th May 2012, to be presented with their scholarships by the Chief of the Air Staff or his representative.

Selection Procedure

Method of Application

- 14 Applicants are to be nominated either by a RAF Association Branch or an ATC / CCF(RAF) / GVCAC Unit Commander and applications must be submitted by 31st January 2012. Application Forms + Terms & Conditions can be obtained from the RAF Association CHQ, Area HQ or from the RAFA website www.rafa.org.uk, following the Air Cadet link.

Application Forms should be submitted by a RAF Association Branch or ATC / CCF(RAF) / GVCAC Unit Commander to: Anne Henson (Services Liaison Manager), Flying Scholarships,

The RAF Association, Central HQ, 117½ Loughborough Road, Leicester, LE4 5ND. Short-listed candidates will be informed by mid-March of the year of application.

Selection Procedure

- 15 Short-listed candidates will be invited to the RAF Officers and Aircrew Selection Centre (OASC), RAF Cranwell, Lincolnshire for a board interview and aptitude test. Candidates will then be advised in writing whether or not they have been successful.

The decision of the selection board is final.

Expenses

- 16 Travel expenses (return) will be paid from a candidate's place of residence to the OASC. Meals and accommodation will be provided for the duration of the stay (one overnight stop).

Similar arrangements apply to award-winning Cadets and their guest attending the RAF Association Annual Conference.

Training

- 17 Practical arrangements for the implementation of Flying Scholarship awards are made by the RAF Association.
- 18 Candidates will be expected to pay for their own transport costs to/from the flying school.
- 19 Flying Scholarships are valid only until the end of March of the year following the award. However, training normally takes place during the spring or summer of the year of the award.
- 20 An award not completed or taken up within this period cannot be carried over to the following year, unless it is due to circumstances beyond the candidate's control (e.g. sudden illness or exceptional weather conditions).
- 21 A candidate who fails to meet the required standard and cannot complete the course will not be given a second chance.

Notes:

The RAF Association reserves the right to vary the terms and conditions of the scheme outlined above.

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The RAF Association, 117½ Loughborough Road, Leicester, LE4 5ND

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