



# FACT SHEET

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE EXPLORERS

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### USAF Explorers Fact Sheet AFXFS 35-02A

### USAF EXPLORERS CLUB ORGANIZATION

The United States Air Force Explorers Club (USAFX-C) is a middle school derived youth education program (6th - 8th grades) promoting learning about the U.S. Armed Forces with possible career overtones. Even though it is a USAF based program, the training looks at all the United States Armed Forces educating youth as they drive the program with their interests and topics which may include a variety of military subject areas. The Club is a unit under the Scouts BSA, Inc, Exploring Division of Irving, TX. Club is under the Exploring Law & Government sector in the United States Military Exploring (USMX) division, USAFX department (see also USMX Fact Sheet USMX Club).

#### Mission

The mission is to train, develop, and inspire tomorrows Leader's for America.

#### Values

USAFX Explorer Club personnel strive to maintain: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do.

#### Organization

The Club is organized using an USAF training flight or detachment as the basis for organizational structure. Youth along with a school assigned teacher help guide the volunteer officers and cadets operating the unit at the school during a meeting, or Unit Training Assembly (UTA). Some youth assigned leaders are rotated through some positions to help manage the unit through the assigned tasks and activities (see Military Education & Training for more info) in which the personnel participate in.

#### Military Education and Training

Since the primary mission of the unit is military education, emphasis is centered on the concept of providing youth insights into the military. Depending on the interests from the students, the training curriculum will follow topics of interest as generated by the students. USAFX personnel will then tailor a prgm that fits the students interest level. From the daily life aspects of the military, to the many educational opportunities available to them, cadets teach them what it is like to be in uniform. Each military branch is discussed on the advantages of each; roles and missions of each branch; a look at service abroad on various continents and advantages of serving in uniform.

Some of the curriculum is expected to be completed to in receive credit for possible use as an USAFX cadet (should the student desire to continue training as a High School student). Those wanting to move up in the Club program will also get leadership opportunities each year as they return for subsequent years membership. Rewards exist at all levels of the Club to honor achievement in a variety of ways.

Some of the other topics to be covered at a Club UTA:

#### Fact or Fiction

- So, what is Basic Training really like?
- Do you have to run and be timed for physical fitness assessment?
- Can I pick my career field?
- Can I be stationed in Japan?
- What about taking a friend with me to Basic?
- What if I want to go home after Basic Training? Can I quit?

This section discusses the many myths around military service. Students are invited to bring in their questions and comments about military service. Students can discuss these issues as well to come up with logical conclusions with group discussions. Factual information is very important to bring to the forefront so they can make informed decisions about their future. Learning now to help them later is always asking the questions now.

#### National Security (NATSEC) Briefing

At each session, a cadet will give students a briefing on the current U.S. National Security posture to show world wide deployment with security implications. From Afghanistan to Iran and Syria, students will understand what it is to see actual information up to date and relate this to their social studies current events. In addition, students may be required to work up certain topics of discussion or briefings on this important subject matter at certain Club locations.

### **World SITREP (Situation Report)**

We live in a very complex world at which we are learning from various sources about the world, which in many cases is not factual at all. This section of training deals with showing the facts, brutally honest and truthful the Club student is exposed to what the world is really all about. Especially from a foreign government perspective, which may be masked under the guise of other non-governmental entities. This may also flow into historical perspectives from a military slant. Students may be asked to prepare topics of discussion as well or look at presentations to give in a public speaking arena.

### **Training Day Subject**

Each training session is geared for a main topic of discussion. One session may discuss the U.S. Army. Roles & missions, weapon systems, different combat arms, units and stations in the U.S. and overseas. Another session may cover Combat Survival Training (CST) in which personnel learn about survival in different environments such as water, desert, tropical, and arctic climates. Knowledge and understanding of POW incidents in different conflicts allow students to appreciate the military Code of Conduct training. Some of the skills taught during this phase of training include land navigation, Escape and Evasion procedures, combat search and rescue operations and signaling. Team training concept is taught to show individuals the importance of cooperation and survival behind enemy lines.

### **Guest Speakers & Exercises**

Club members may opt for a guest speaker to come in to relate their personal military experience. An USMX Infantry Officer, USAF Fighter Pilot or USN Surface Warfare Officer are among selected guest speakers a Club may invite. Local veterans from various wars such as WWII, Korea, Vietnam, or Southwest Asia may enlighten a student. Exercise comprising of elements learned during the semester or at the end of the school year depending on the number of students desiring to participate. Practicing drill and ceremonies, survival training techniques or possibly a field trip to a local museum to learn outside the campus environment. Achieving learning highlights during the year are among the most valued elements of the Club experience.

### **Unit Locations**

Currently there are only a few USMX Clubs operating in the United States with 2 different armed branches represented. The Army Explorers are currently operating a Club at Bakersfield, CA and in Appleton, WI. Air Force Explorers have a Club in operation at Scottsdale, AZ.

### **Admission**

Any student Interested in learning about the military is invited to attend an Orientation Briefing. Bringing a parent along is a plus so they too can learn about what the Club is all about. After preliminary discussions, the student can fill out their paperwork, bring in the prescribed admission fee and attend their first Unit Training Assembly (UTA). It is recommended that the student possess good grades as they will be subjected to some albeit small homework requirements to complete Club training requirements.

### **Club Startup**

A middle school desiring to start a Military Club needs to talk with a USAFX Recruiting Officer. They will look for a unit in the local area to see if a Military Unit is present, then get info for the administration point of contact.

#### **Point of Contact United States Air Force Explorers**

U. S. AIR FORCE EXPLORERS - National Headquarters  
Attn: Recruiting Officer  
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Goldwater ANGB, Arizona 85282--7263  
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