

# Communication Infrastructure Technician (CIT) (RAF Reserves) Cyberspace

*Installing, terminating, testing and certifying communications infrastructure components in support of the RAF worldwide.*

## KEY POINTS

- Provide the communications backbone for the RAF's digital infrastructure ecosystem.
- Install, maintain and repair data and voice network infrastructure.
- Work at height on masts and towers to assemble, install, maintain and recover antenna systems.

## TRADE OVERVIEW

Communications Infrastructure Technicians (CIT) ensure that the RAF communicates effectively and remains at the forefront of a progressive cyber engineering industry. You will be part of a highly trained workforce responsible for planning, installing, maintaining and recovering a huge array of communications infrastructure. Voice and data networks are a key element to the RAF's capability and CIT's provide the vital planning, installation, configuration and certifying of these. For example, you could be responsible for the installation, testing, and commissioning of services within external pits and ducts and trunking containment within a building. This installation could also include termination of the feeds in a wall socket, network cabinets, or internet access point providing critical communications services to personnel all over the world. CITs are the subject matter experts on Working at Height, across all three Armed Services, as such you will be required to work at heights in excess of 100 metres on support structures such as masts, towers and radomes. You will be trained in safe working practices for Working at Height using the various types of climbing, safety, fall arrest and rescue equipment. CITs can spend many months of the year on the road so there will be frequent opportunities for travel around the UK or overseas bases on operations and exercises worldwide.

## TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:

The skills you acquire as a RAF Reserve will not just prepare you for the RAF Reserves, they will enhance your work and civilian life. Similar roles include: Wind turbine Technicians, Network & Data Communications Engineers, Mast & Towers Telecoms Technicians & Power Engineers.

## RECRUIT TRAINING

Your training will start with a Basic Recruit Training Course consisting of 4 weekends at No 607 Squadron, RAF Reserves at RAF Leeming in North Yorkshire, followed by a 15 day residential training course at RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire. This training course will prepare you for Service life in one of the most respected military forces in the world; it is also designed to help you tune into the military environment and way of life. As well as military training, you will learn about the core values, code of conduct and history of the RAF, as well as its unique lifestyle.

## SPECIALIST TRAINING

After graduating from Phase 1 training you will complete specialist Communication Infrastructure Technician courses in stages as you progress. Element 1 is a 2-week Advanced Fibre Optic course at RAF Digby, designed to prepare you for your first assignment by giving you necessary skill sets and knowledge of the Communication Infrastructure Technician Trade.

Element 2 of your training will be a 1-week copper data infrastructure course at Blandford Camp in Dorset.

Element 3 of your training will be a 1-week confined spaces course in Portsmouth, designed to prepare you for installing network cables into underground enclosures.

Element 4 of the course will see you complete the working at height rigging course at RAF Digby, installing antennas and associated feeders to masts and towers.

## RESERVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

### Communications Infrastructure Technician (CIT) (RAF Reserves)

**Age:** 18 – 54\*

\*must attest before 55<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

#### Qualifications:

Two GCSEs at Grade C (Grade 4 to 5 WEF Aug 17) or above, or Scottish National 5 (Grade A – C) equivalent in English Language and Mathematics.

**Pay:** For current information visit:

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/lifestyle-benefits/life-as-a-reserve/>

**Selection:** You will be assessed on physical fitness and medical eligibility. Additionally, you will be required to attend and pass a Selection Interview and pass an Airmen's Selection Test to a standard appropriate to your choice of trade. Furthermore, you must pass a 2-day Climbing aptitude test at RAF Digby, Lincolnshire before being accepted for selection into the RAF Reserves.

**Residency:** Whether or not you were born in the United Kingdom, you should have resided there for the 5 years immediately preceding your application. However, candidates with a minimum of 3 years will be considered.

### ONGOING TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As a Communication Infrastructure Technician, there are various opportunities to developing your skill sets. As you undertake new roles, you will have the chance to take courses that will help you meet the challenges in your new posts, such as; CISCO networking, CIDA and Project Management.

### COMMITMENT AND LOCATION

You will be assigned to No 607 Squadron, RAF Leeming. Working alongside experienced CITs you will be part of small teams responsible for maintaining various RAF communications within the UK or overseas. You will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills which include maintenance of aircraft ground support and navigational aids, fibre optics and structured cabling, radome maintenance and installations and mast and tower construction.

You will initially join the RAF Reserves for a period of up to 12 years. Each year includes a 15-day block for general RAF training, and 12 separate days for extra training or exercises.

You might be deployed to a UK or overseas base for up to 6 months after the first year.

### YOUR FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS AND PROGRESSION:

After a year, you will be eligible for promotion to Senior Aircraftman/woman when you pass the Trade Ability Test. Further promotion to the rank of Corporal and beyond is by competitive selection and will require the completion of further periods of Command and Management Training to prepare you for the demands of your new rank. If you reach Flight Sergeant, you will then move out of the Communications Infrastructure Technician trade and become an ICT Manager.

### Nationality:

You must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or dual UK/Other nationality.

**A Modern Force:** The RAF recognises the value of a person's ability no matter their ethnicity, social background, religion or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status/civil partnership.



**Register your interest in this role:**

**On line:**

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>

**Or**

**Telephone: 0345 606 9069**

This information was last updated on 01 Oct 21 but may have changed since. If you have any queries, please check with RAF Staff at any Armed Forces Careers Office or RAF Reserves Squadron.

**Search online for other trades both Regular and Reserve**  
<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>



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