

# JOB DESCRIPTION: Air Crew / Flight Crew

## Flight Nurse



A Career as a MedEvac flight nurse

### Introduction

The Flight Nurse functions as a member of the critical care transport team and is responsible for the care of critically ill or injured patients transported by the STAT MedEvac system by supporting and upholding the mission, goals, and objectives at all times. As the Flight Nurse your responsibilities will include patient care incorporating assessment, stabilization, and intervention techniques consistent with standards and protocols approved by the Medical Director. You will also be expected to execute independent judgment in order to deliver appropriate care that is consistent with the clinical protocols, when contact with a medical command physician is not possible.

**Duties:** Responsible for advanced emergency and critical care patient management during air and ground transport of the critically ill or injured patient from the scene or outlying sites to participating secondary and tertiary care institutions. Provides intensive care monitoring, critical care intervention and advanced surgical skill procedures to critically ill and injured patients that include neonates through geriatric age groups. This includes the management of high-risk obstetrical, medical, surgical, respiratory and cardiovascular patients.

**The specialized training** of the Flight Nurse Specialist allows for the provision of care to critically ill and injured patients through the use of ventilatory support, continuous cardiac and hemodynamic monitoring, including intra-aortic balloon and other cardiac assist devices. Airway management and surgical skill intervention includes cricothyroidotomy, needle chest decompression, chest tube insertion, femoral line insertion and/or cut downs and various intubation techniques.

**Required Qualifications:** Licensed to practice professional nursing. A minimum of five years recent, active RN experience in a critical-care unit, some of which can be in the Emergency Department, or a minimum of three years RN experience in a critical-care unit combined with a minimum of two years as an active paramedic.

### **Possesses the following Certifications:**

- a. Basic Life Support (BLS)
- b. Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- c. Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- d. Certified EMT-Basic in the State of Ohio or obtains within 1 year of hire.
- e. Advanced Trauma Life Support audit or obtains within six months of hire.
- f. Neonatal Resuscitation Provider or obtains within six months of hire
- g. Board certified as CEN, CCRN, or CFRN or obtains within 1 year of hire. May be extended to 2 years with administrative approval. For PRN: Prior critical-care aeromedical transport experience within the last two (2) years.



**Preferred Qualifications:** Baccalaureate in Nursing (BSN). Prehospital, flight and/or critical care transport experience. A valid passport or visa allowing unrestricted, international access. A

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teaching certification for BLS, ACLS, PALS, NRP, PEPP, or TNCC and a commitment to teach. For PRN: Prior Metro Life Flight experience.

Flight nurses take care of patients in MedEvac helicopters and other methods of rapid air transport. More than EMTs of the sky, they are skilled nurses who provide care en route to larger emergency facilities. Becoming a flight nurse requires experience and education beyond that of a typical registered nurse, most importantly experience and certification in critical care nursing. It also is a physically and emotionally demanding profession that has more elements of danger than working in a traditional stationary hospital.



**Air Force Flight Nurse Duties:** Performs as a member of the aeromedical evacuation crew; Functions as the senior medical member of the aeromedical evacuation team on CONUS, intra-theater, and inter-theater flights; Provides comprehensive nursing care for all types of patients during aeromedical evacuation and airlift flights; Coordinates with and makes recommendations to staff agencies concerning aeromedical plans. All of the military branches have flight nurse positions and the definitions are similar to the Air Force Flight Nurse Duties described above.

**[Link to Flight Nurse Information click below:](#)**

<http://www.astna.org/faq.html>

<http://flightnurse.case.edu/>

<http://www.jobprofiles.org/heaflightnurse.htm>

<http://usmilitary.about.com/library/milinfo/afoffjobs/bl46fx.htm>

[AFROTC Nursing Paid Schooling Fact Sheet](#)

<http://www.af.mil/information/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=4486>



Courtesy: [getnursingjobs.com](http://getnursingjobs.com), [usmilitary.about.com](http://usmilitary.about.com), AFROTC

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