



April 6, 2026

The U.S. Air Force Academy Band
520 Otis Street
Peterson SFB, CO 80914-1620

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for inquiring about auditioning for the Tenor Saxophone position with the United States Air Force Academy Band. This musical audition will be conducted in two parts: (a) a prescreening by e-mailing Google Drive or Dropbox links to MP3 files (encoded at 320kbps for best quality), a one page résumé, professional reference letter of recommendation (no more than three) and (b) a live audition for those selected from the initial screening. Details concerning both prescreen submission and the live auditions are attached. Please review these requirements carefully to determine if you are prepared to take the audition at this time. The following information outlines the requirements and important dates.

May 26th, 2026	Deadline for receipt of all musical prescreening materials and résumé.
May 29th, 2026	Each candidate will be notified whether or not he/she is invited to participate in the live auditions.
Jul 20-24, 2026	Live audition at <u>Peterson Space Force Base</u> , Colorado Springs, CO.

In addition to passing the musical audition, you must also meet other criteria in order to become a member of an Air Force. Before applying, you must meet the following Air Force eligibility requirements.

Age:	You must be able to enlist in the Air Force between the ages of 17–42.
Weight:	Individuals must meet weight requirements in order to enlist in the Air Force.
Medical:	Individuals must be qualified for worldwide duty. Chronic medical problems, congenital defects etc., may be disqualifying factors.
Financial:	A severe financial problem could be a disqualifying factor.
Criminal:	A criminal record could be a disqualifying factor.
Citizenship:	You must be a natural born citizen, naturalized, or able to complete the naturalization process within four years.

For more precise information on becoming a member of the U.S. Air Force, please visit www.airforce.com

*****Prior Service and Active Duty members - please contact the USAFA Band Auditions team for additional information prior to submitting materials.*****

If you are invited to the live audition, you will be required to meet with an official Air Force recruiter to be pre-qualified for basic military training. If you have any questions that pertain to the aforementioned eligibility requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you so much for contacting the United States Air Force Academy Band regarding our upcoming audition. We hope you have a great experience during this process and wish you the best of luck. Please let me know if I can help you with anything. Do not hesitate to contact me directly at (618) 767-1477 or email usafbandauditions@gmail.com if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

CHRIS M. JACKSON, TSgt, USAF
The USAF Academy Band
NCOIC, Auditions

Attachments:

1. Audition Requirements (pre-screen)
2. Qualifications



ANNOUNCES A PREMIER BAND OPENING FOR:

Tenor Saxophone

PRE-SCREENING REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- Resume
- Professional reference letter of recommendation (no more than three)
- Audio Recordings (Can be on tenor and a combination of other saxophones):
 - Classical solo of candidate's choice showcasing lyrical and technical playing (Opt. 1 or 2 tracks)
 - Jazz selections: four tracks with either live rhythm section or background track. For each, play the melody and at least 2 choruses of improvisation.
 - Medium swing
 - Up-tempo (at least 240bpm)
 - Ballad (melody/ornaments + one chorus of solo)
 - Funk
 - An additional selection of candidate's choice
 - Flute and clarinet: submit 1 excerpt or etude on each instrument, about 1 min. each.

All résumés and pre-screening materials must be received by May 26th, 2026

LIVE Audition Date:
July 20-24, 2026, Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado Springs,
CO

Each candidate will be notified of pre-screen results by May 29th, 2026. Live audition is by invitation only.

E-mail MP3 Files (encoded at 320kbps), Résumé and References, both via Google Drive or Dropbox to:
usafbandauditions@gmail.com

Promotion to the rank of Technical Sergeant (E-6)
Starting Salary: \$70,152- 75,588 Annually
Permanent Duty Assignment
Full Medical and Dental Benefits
30 Days Paid Vacation Per Year
Post9/11 GI Bill for College up to \$80,000

Call (618) 767-1477, E-mail usafbandauditions@gmail.com, or visit our website
<https://www.music.af.mil/Bands/US-Air-Force-Academy-Band/> for further information.
The United States Air Force is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Saxophone

Qualifications: Must be an expert saxophone player with the ability to perform in diverse music performance teams including professional jazz groups, popular music groups, chamber/concert ensembles, and ceremonial/marching band units. Must possess outstanding stylistic command over diverse musical genres, including as a big-band section player and jazz soloist. Strong improvisatory skills and doubling skills on flute and clarinet are a must. The ability to move between different sizes of saxophone (soprano through bari) and sound authentic is also a highly-valued skill. Must produce outstanding characteristic tone and control of the instrument's sound to enhance musicality at the highest level. Must have outstanding sight-reading (which also includes reading and soloing on unfamiliar chord changes), performance technique, and the ability to master advanced literature quickly. Must perform with very accurate pitch, and the ability to move seamlessly through different tempo, meters, and rhythmic subdivisions. Must demonstrate effortless and creative phrasing and dynamics, both written and implied in diverse musical styles.