



WEATHER OFFICERS (15Wx)

Meteorologists study weather conditions and prepare current and long-range weather forecasts.

Alternate Titles:

METEOROLOGISTS

Duties and Responsibilities:

WHAT THEY DO:

Meteorologists in the military perform some or all of the following duties:

Direct personnel who collect weather data

Observe weather conditions from airplanes

Interpret weather data received from satellites and weather balloons

Prepare short-range and long-range weather forecasts

Relay forecast updates and violent weather warnings to military and civilian authorities

Train staff in data collection and interpretation

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

Meteorology specialties involving air observation require applicants to pass a demanding flight physical exam.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

A 4-year college degree, with course work in meteorology, is required to enter this occupation.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Meteorologists usually work in weather stations or operations centers where weather information can be collected, analyzed, and plotted using computers. Sometimes they work outdoors while making weather observations.

TRAINING PROVIDED:

Job training consists of 6 to 15 weeks of classroom instruction. Course content typically includes:

Identification of common weather patterns

Methods of analyzing weather conditions

Use of radar and satellite systems for weather data collection

Use of computers for compiling, analyzing, and plotting weather data

Techniques and procedures of forecasting

