

RAF FORM 6424 COVERING LETTER

Dear Doctor,

You have been requested to complete an RAF Form 6424 for one of your young patients who is a member of the Royal Air Force Air Cadets (RAFAC) and is being given the opportunity to go flying in both light aircraft and gliders. Flying and gliding, although very safe activities, are not entirely without risk and, in the exercise of its Duty of Care, the RAFAC has set minimum medical standards (similar to DVLA Group 1) for cadet flying. The purpose of the F6424 is to assure the RAFAC that these standards have been met. When signed, please return the certificate to your patient.

To avoid confusion, be advised that you are not being asked to carry out a medical examination or make an assessment on your patient's fitness to fly. Except for circumstances outlined in the following paragraph, you are only being asked to confirm that there is nothing in your patient's medical history that would prevent them from achieving the DVLA medical standards for private driving.

While the baseline medical standard is DVLA Gp 1, some medical conditions, although perhaps not a bar to holding a private driving license, may be incompatible with flying and must be discussed with the Command Flight Medical Officer (CFMO) and any decision by the CFMO recorded in the box provided on the form, before you sign the certificate. Page 3 of the F6424 lists those medical conditions that will always require discussion.

The CFMO is an RAF GP specialist in Aviation Medicine and can be contacted via email at the address on Page 3 of the F6424. It would be very helpful if you could please send any recent specialist letters regarding any conditions requiring discussion to the CFMO. The CFMO's email address is secure and can only be accessed by the CFMO.

Your Practice may claim payment of a fee. A claim form is attached at Annex A; please ensure that all fields are completed. When complete please return the claim form to your patient who will forward for payment.

Thank you for your assistance

Yours Sincerely,

Royal Air Force Air Cadet Headquarters

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Medical Declaration & Certificate of Fitness for RAF Air Cadets Flying

Part A. To be completed by the ATC Sqn Cdr or CCF Con Cdr

Name of Cadet	Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)
Sqn (ATC) or Unit (CCF) 833 (ANTRIM) SQN	

Part B. Declaration of the Cadet shown in Part A. See Notes to Cadets overleaf

I have read and understood the "Note for Cadets" printed with this declaration. I have not withheld any relevant medical information from my doctor. I believe I am fit to fly at the standard indicated by my GP below. I give my consent for this form to be completed. I also give my consent for this information to be used by the RAF authorities as they see fit.

Signature of Cadet* Name Date

(*or Parent/Guardian if cadet under 18 years of age)

Part C. General Practitioner's Countersignature. See Notes to General Practitioners overleaf

- I am the general practitioner of the cadet named in Part A and have access to his/her medical records.
- I have read the "Notes for the General Practitioner" printed overleaf and the "Guidance on Medical Conditions for a Medical Declaration for Air Cadets" on page 3.
- I am aware of the DVLA medical requirements for private drivers and believe there is nothing in the applicant's medical history which would prevent him/her meeting said standards.
- If applicable, I have discussed the case with the RAF CFMO (see below) as per instructions overleaf.

I consider the above cadet (please tick **ONE** box only):

Fit DVLA Group 1 (private driving) medical standards. This would permit solo flying

Unfit DVLA Group 1 medical standards

Signature of GP

Name of GP.....

GMC Number.....

Date of Signing..... (The certificate is valid for 2 years from date of signing)

Practice Stamp (including Contact Details)

In case of discussion of the cadet with the CFMO the CFMO's decision has been:

Notes for Cadets and Parents

1. The F6424 Medical Declaration. The medical declaration must be signed by you (or parent/guardian if under 18 years of age) and countersigned by your GP to validate the certificate.

2. Information to Provide to your GP. You must provide your GP with all 3 pages plus Annex A of F6424. To be able to countersign the declaration, s/he must read this information which explains the procedure to be followed if you have a history of any of the specified medical conditions below. By signing, you grant permission for your GP to discuss your case with the RAF Command Flight Medical Officer if further advice is required.

3. Fitness to Fly. Whenever you intend to go flying, it is your personal responsibility to ensure that you are fit. Illness, injury, taking medication (unless already cleared), fatigue, pregnancy, medical procedures or surgical operations will usually result in temporary unfitness. **If in doubt, you should not fly.**

4. Reduction in Medical Fitness. Every time you receive new medication or treatment, medical investigation or procedure, or after any

serious illness or injury, you should consider your F6424 **suspended** and should not fly. You should inform your RAFAC Sqn OC/CCF and complete a new AvMed 1. If the medical condition on your current F6424 is one requiring GP discussion with the CFMO (or your new AvMed 1 includes such a condition) then, notwithstanding the 2-year validity, your **current F6424** will be **invalid**. You should not fly until you renew your F6424.

5. Corrective lenses. If you wear spectacles or contact lenses, a readily available spare pair of spectacles must be carried when flying.

6. Validity of your F6424. The F6424 is valid for two years since countersigned by your GP. You may not fly beyond that date. It is your responsibility to check this.

7. After Signing. Your F6424 must be handed back to your ATC Sqn OC / CCF (RAF) Section Cdr for confirmation in your F3822 or F7537D and not forwarded to HQ RAFAC or CFMO. You are to retain possession of the completed certificate which must be presented to the VGS / AEF before training can start.

Notes for General Practitioners

1. **Validating F6424.** F6424 is a fit to fly medical declaration form, which must be validated by:
 - a. **the cadet** (or parent/guardian) signing to confirm that they have read the above notes about present and future fitness to fly and,
 - b. **their GP** (a UK licensed GP with whom the cadet is registered) countersigning to verify that there **is nothing in their medical history that would prevent them from reaching a DVLA Group 1 standard**. NB: there is no requirement to perform a physical examination, unless you wish to check a specific health parameter.

You are not being asked to decide on the cadet's fitness to fly or drive but to confirm **absence of any medical condition** which would preclude holding a DVLA Group 1 (**private driving**) license (with modifications for certain conditions, see page 3). **No clinical diagnosis is to be written in the form.**

2. Guidance on Medical Conditions for GPs. A list of common medical problems is listed within the *Guidance for GPs* at page 3. They will **always** require further discussion with the Command Flight Medical Officer (CFMO) who is a RAF GP specialist in aviation medicine matters. Please ensure the cadet (or parent/guardian) has signed the form in order to discuss the case with CFMO.

3. Further Advice. If at any stage you have doubts about a cadet's fitness to fly, and the DVLA "At a Glance" notes raise queries, then the CFMO is your point of contact for advice.

4. Payment of Doctors Fee. Once this form is completed, please give it back to the cadet in the envelope provided. Your practice may claim payment of a fee by completing and signing Annex A to RAF F6424. Please note that **all details** need to be completed to ensure payment. Please hand the claim form back to the cadet who will forward for payment.

Guidance for GPs on Medical Conditions for a Medical Declaration for RAF Air Cadets

Good vision and hearing, together with the strength/coordination equivalent for driving a car, are the key functional abilities for exposure to RAF Air Cadets flying. Most cadets will fly with an instructor; some may progress to solo flying. Medical incapacitation, particularly if unheralded, can pose more of a risk in the air as the cadet would not be able to “pull-over”. Also, pilots may be subjected to hypoxia or cold with increasing altitude.

The RAF has accepted that medical standards for the RAF Air Cadet flying are very similar to those established by the DVLA for driving. Group 1 (private) driving standards are considered acceptable for solo flying or flying with another suitably qualified pilot. The DVLA “At a glance guide to the current medical standards of fitness to drive” for medical practitioners (available in the internet) can be used as if advising a patient on their fitness to drive. However, the **DVLA must not be approached** for advice on flying.

There are some conditions (see below) that will always require discussing before signing the form. Others may not be straightforward, or the DVLA guide recommends a limitation or perhaps arranging independent testing, or the cadet is suffering from more than one condition. In any case, if in doubt, advice must be sought from the **CFMO**. S/he is an RAF GP specialist in Aviation Medicine matters and can be contacted via email:

AirCOSSpt-CAM-CFMO-GpMbx@mod.gov.uk

When doing so, please provide full clinical details of the Cadet. Rest assured that an MOD email address is as safe as an NHS one. Please include a telephone number where you could be contacted should further information be required.

CFMO must also be consulted when there is a change in symptoms, new investigations or therapies as a temporary period of unfitness may be necessary. Medical review to continue flying may be required more frequently than the routine revalidation periods.

Conditions that will ALWAYS require discussion with the CFMO:

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma: symptomatic or requiring use of oral steroids, antibiotics or long-acting β_2 agonists within the past 6 months. <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes treated with potentially hypoglycaemic medication. <input type="checkbox"/> Angina/coronary disease <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Pacemaker <input type="checkbox"/> Heart Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Cardiac Valve Replacement <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Lung Disease <input type="checkbox"/> Pneumothorax <input type="checkbox"/> Medical condition necessitating carrying Adrenaline autoinjectors. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Autism Spectrum Disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Antidepressant medication <input type="checkbox"/> Psychotic Disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Personality Disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol/substance Misuse <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Any Transplant <input type="checkbox"/> Malignant Disease <input type="checkbox"/> Medication likely to cause drowsiness or incapacitation <input type="checkbox"/> Epilepsy <input type="checkbox"/> Cerebral Disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Recurrent Syncope |
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RAF FORM 6424 – CLAIM FORM FOR DOCTOR’S FEE

Name of Cadet		Date of Birth	
Sqn (ATC) or Unit (CCF)		Sqn/Unit UIN	

For completion by the medical practice:

Practice name							
Partnership or company (If a partnership, please enter the lead Dr’s name)?							
Please enter VAT registration number (if a partnership)							
Please provide DUNS number (if a company)							
Payee Name (if paying a Dr rather than the surgery please include National Insurance number)							
Bank Account No							
Sort Code			-			-	
Practice Address							
Post Code		Email address					
Telephone Number							

I can confirm that the Form 6424 has been completed and returned to the cadet

I can confirm that the mandatory fields above have been completed and an invoice attached

Signature:	Date:
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This completed form, and invoice, must be handed to the cadet to be sent to Wing HQ or CCF Con Cdr.

WExO or CCF Con Cdr Details and Signature		Issuing Stamp	
Signature		Date	

This claim form is invalid without the WExO or CCF Con Cdr details, signature, and unit stamp.

DPA 2018. This form contains personal data as defined by the DPA 2018. The RAFAC will protect the personal data provided and ensure that it is not passed to anyone who is not authorized to see it. The Information provided will be processed in accordance with the regulation contained in the Act and the RAFAC privacy notice which is available at the links below: <https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets/the-hangar/staff-resources/> [RAFAC Privacy Notice Cadet](#) [RAFAC Privacy Notice CFAV](#)