

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDANT OF CADETS

AIR FORCE CADET WING INSTRUCTION 36-3501

09 August 2024

Personnel

**CADET STANDARDS AND DUTIES****COMPLIANCE WITH THIS INSTRUCTION IS MANDATORY**

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The importance of the Air Force's mission and inherent responsibility to the Nation requires its members to follow higher standards than those expected in civilian life. As Airmen, we are proud of our high standards. Through self-discipline, we adhere to them and hold our fellow Airmen accountable to follow our standards. This is part of who we are and what we do as members of the Profession of Arms. Before entering the Air Force Cadet Wing (AFCW), each cadet takes two solemn oaths: the Oath of Office and the Honor Oath. Both of these include a commitment to perform one's duty; "... I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter," and "Furthermore, I resolve to do my duty and to live honorably (so help me God)." The Cadet Standards Instruction codifies the duties of a cadet at the Air Force Academy.

This instruction implements DAFPD 36-35, *United States Air Force Academy*, and DAFPD 36-29, *Military Standards*. It applies to cadets (AFCW) and Permanent Party (USAFA/CW) assigned to the AFCW. It is written to foster an environment in which each cadet's concept of duty is developed and strengthened through the Leader of Character Framework, as outlined in USAFA Manual 36-3526, *Developing Leaders of Character at USAFA*. It provides expectations and guidance and outlines **minimum** acceptable performance standards. The omission of subject matter does not constitute authorization to participate in an activity or conduct oneself in a manner that discredits the Profession of Arms. In the absence of written or oral instructions or when unable to determine a proper course of action, cadets should seek guidance from the chain of command. Violations of this instruction may be punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) (including, but not limited to, Article 92) and the Cadet Disciplinary System (CDS). Requests for waivers must be processed through command channels to the publication OPR for consideration. Refer recommended changes about this publication to the office of primary responsibility (OPR) using the DAF Form 679, *Department of the Air Force Publication Compliance Item Waiver Request/Approval*.

Ensure that all records created because of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained IAW AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and disposed of under the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS). This instruction may not be supplemented.

Chapter 9 – PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE

9.1. Uniform of the Day (UOD). Variations approved by the Commandant of Cadets, Vice Commandant of Cadets, or CW/DO.

9.1.1. Uniform Wear. UOD is mandatory when performing official military duties, conducting official military business, including class (including turning in assignments at instructors' offices), extra instruction, hospital appointments, laboratories, and evening lectures.

9.1.1.1. All changes to UOD must be authorized by either DF, CW, or AD. The exception to UOD will be reflected in the RO or SCA.

9.1.1.2. Cadet Security Team can wear OCPs only on days with parades and other major events requiring security details. OCPs are not authorized for NMF duties.

9.1.1.3. Cadet First Responders Team (CFRT) members are allowed OCPs when performing Emergency Medical Response (EMR) duties.

9.1.1.4. Cadets involved in airmanship-related duties may only wear FDU while conducting airmanship duties.

9.1.1.5. Except when signed out and departing Cadet Area, all cadets will be in authorized UOD from Release From Quarters (RFQ) until 1605 unless specifically authorized an alternate uniform on an AFCW Form 18 or AF469, which can be found at Aeromedical Services Information Management System (ASIMS). All cadets will adhere to uniform guidance in Table 9.1.

9.1.1.6. Civilian clothes are not authorized on the terrazzo from RFQ to 1800 during duty days (0625-1800 Monday – Friday and scheduled training weekends) regardless of SCA/pass status.

9.1.1.6.1. Cadets may exit from the northwest Sijan Tower in civilian clothes and use the sidewalks to leave the cadet area through the small chapel gate. Reference Figure 9.1.

Figure 9.1 Walkway between Sijan Hall and Chapel.



Table 9.1 Cadet Uniform Requirements

Time	Location	C4C Fall Semester¹	C4C Spring Semester²	C1C, C2C, C3C (C4Cs in Upgrade Training)³
RFQ until 1605	Inside Sq	UOD	UOD	UOD
	Outside Sq	UOD	UOD	UOD
	Off Base	Service Dress	Blues	Civilian, PTU, or UOD
1605-1800	Inside Sq	PTU or UOD	PTU or UOD	Civilian, PTU, or UOD
	Outside Sq	UOD	PTU or UOD	PTU or UOD
	Off Base	Service Dress	Blues	Civilian, PTU, or UOD
After 1800	Inside Sq	PTU or UOD	PTU or UOD	Civilian, PTU, or UOD
	Outside Sq	UOD	PTU or UOD	Civilian, PTU, or UOD
	Off Base	Service Dress	Blues	Civilian, PTU, or UOD

Note 1: C4Cs are authorized to be in PTU in their squadron after 1605, on Blue Weekends, after LMD on Training Weekends, and if remaining in the dorms during break periods. If departing the squadron, C4Cs will be in UOD.

Note 2: C4Cs are authorized to be in PTU after 1605, on Blue Weekends, after LMD on Training Weekends, and if remaining in the dorms during break periods.

Note 3: C1C, C2C, and C3Cs and C4Cs in Upgrade Training are authorized to be in civilian attire outside their squadron starting at 1800 on Friday for Blue Weekends, after LMD on Training Weekends, and if remaining in the dorms during break periods

9.1.2. C4C Uniform Requirements

9.1.2.1. **EXCEPTION:** All cadets may wear the authorized uniform while on an active Scheduling Committee Action (SCA).

9.1.2.2. **EXCEPTION:** May change into USAFA Cadet PTU while at any assigned sponsor family's residence or while undertaking an activity deemed to require PTU by their Sq/CC, such as community service. Transit in team gear is prohibited.

9.1.2.3. **EXCEPTION:** C4Cs may wear PTU while carrying a medically-approved AFCW Form 18 or AF 469. C4Cs on AFCW Form 18 or AF 469 will wear a reflective belt on their backpack while traveling on the Terrazzo to distinguish them from other C4Cs.

9.1.2.4. **EXCEPTION:** C4Cs may wear specialized civilian clothes while actively participating in a sporting activity not able to be accomplished in Service Dress or PTU. For example, running and biking must be accomplished in PTU, but activities such as snowboarding/skiing may warrant the wear of civilian attire. C4Cs must obtain approval from their AFCW Flt/CC to wear civilian clothes under these special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

9.1.2.5. Storage of civilian clothes shall be dictated by AFCW Flt/CC. If civilian clothes are needed frequently for an IC sport or club, AFCW Flt/CC may sign an MFR stating that civilian clothes may be stored in a locked drawer or trunk. MFR must be displayed in the room. Additionally, team gear may be stored in room if being packed for a competition.

9.1.2.6. Cadets shall only wear the bathrobe for showering, or when transiting to and from the restroom after Taps and before FMD. All cadets are prohibited from visiting other rooms while in a bathrobe. They must go directly to the restroom and back to their assigned dorm room.

9.1.2.7. Prior to Spring Semester C4Cs shall always have the following on their person (additional requirements may only be added via approval from the Commandant of Cadets):

9.1.2.7.1. Contrails. C4Cs shall always study directly from Contrails.

9.1.2.7.2. One writing utensil, either black/blue pen or pencil.

9.1.2.7.3. Entire squadron staff list and key wing and group permanent party and cadet staff members (Commanders, vices and deputies, SELs, Training Program managers).

9.1.2.7.4. C4Cs may wear pertinent IC or Club Team gear when actively participating in IC or Club sports activities.

9.1.2.8. **Inclement Weather.** Any changes to the UOD due to inclement weather (such as from blues to OCPs) will be determined by CW/DO and published in the RO.

9.1.2.9. **Summer Programs.** UOD is determined by the specific program Sq/CC/OIC in coordination with the summer AFCW/CC. Summer uniform requirements will not be less restrictive than this attachment's uniform restrictions and guidance.

9.2. General Appearance Standards. Military personnel will always adhere to standards and maintain a disciplined military image. Cadets are subject to all dress and personal appearance requirements set forth in this instruction. If no guidance is given, reference DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.2.1. **Exceptions.** These exceptions are intentionally more restrictive than DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.2.1.1. Hands are not permitted in pockets, except to insert or remove an item, and will not be pulled up inside sleeves at any time.

9.2.1.2. Grooming Standards (to include hair, tattoos/brands/body markings, body piercing/ornamentation, and body alteration/modification) will be maintained IAW DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.2.1.2.1. Cadets may not grow/wear mustaches and/or beards except while on break or with an approved religious accommodation request using the process outlined in DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.2.1.2.2. Cadets granted a shaving waiver from a medical official will have the waiver on them at all times.

9.2.1.2.3. Male cadets are not authorized to wear any objects on/in their ears, nose, eyebrows, lips, or tongue within the Cadet Area, including AD/DF facilities, while in uniform or in civilian attire.

9.2.1.2.4. **Tattoos/Brands/Body Markings.** (Unauthorized content/locations). Tattoos/brands/body markings will not be on the hands, head, neck (anything visible above the open collar uniform), face, tongue, lips, eyes, and scalp. Tattoos/brands/body markings anywhere on the body that is obscene, indecent, commonly associated with gangs, extremist, and/or supremacist organizations, or advocating sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious discrimination are prohibited in and out of uniform. Tattoos/brands/body markings with unauthorized content that are prejudicial to good order and discipline or the content of a nature that tends to bring discredit upon the Air Force are prohibited both in and out of uniform. Airmen may not cover up tattoos, brands, and/or body markings with bandages or make-up in order to comply with the unauthorized content tattoo policy. Failure by USAFA cadets to obey the mandatory provisions in this paragraph constitutes a violation of Article 92, UCMJ. *Exception:* ETPs may be signed by the Commandant of Cadets or Vice Commandant of Cadets during I-Day.

9.2.1.2.5. In addition to the requirements outlined in DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*, cell phones and other large or bulky items will not be kept in service dress, blues pants, or parade pants during any formation or parade.

9.2.2. **USAFA and USAF Awards and Decorations.** Cadets must wear earned USAFA and USAF awards and decorations on all uniforms as applicable.

9.2.2.1. **Badge Awarding Criteria.** Aviation, Instructor, Space, Cyber, Jump, and Bulldog (for example) awarding criteria are found in program syllabi.

9.2.2.2. **Merit List Awards.** Reference: USAFAI 36-3510, *Recognizing Cadet Achievement*.

9.2.2.3. Cadets who have served in other military services, refer to DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.2.3. **Cadet Rank.** Assigned based on leadership position. Wearing another rank is prohibited. Cadets will not borrow higher ranks for pictures/summer TDYs. Cadets will not wear the rank of their previous class and are considered “promoted” (e.g., C4C becomes C3C and so on) following completion of the USAFA Graduation Ceremony. Rank will be always worn.

9.2.3.1. **EXCEPTION:** Cadets may “swap” left-shoulder rank boards only at home football games with other cadets and officers. They must return the rank to owners no later than the end of the game. Team captain insignia will be worn by IC team captains only.

9.2.4. **Cadet Aiguillette Wear.** The USAFA Cadet Uniform Board maintains a list of all approved aiguillettes and shoulder cords. Refer to a memorandum published by the USAFA Cadet Uniform Board Secretary (CWT/CWTM) for approved items.

9.3. **Prohibited Uniform Wear.**

9.3.1. With exception of the PTU, do not mix any part of the uniform with civilian attire, including grade insignia, cap devices, badges, distinctive buttons, issued clothing items, etc.

9.3.2. Baseball style OCP, organizational caps, and the OCP Two Piece Flight Duty Uniform (2PFDU) are not authorized for cadets.

9.3.3. Items with sewn/stenciled nametags will not be worn by any cadet other than the cadet owning the item.

9.3.4. Cadets will not eat or drink in uniform while walking. Talking, texting, playing music, or using a cellular phone, including wearing a hands-free device while walking in uniform, is prohibited. *Exceptions are for emergencies or official business on government-issued devices.*

9.3.5. No non-uniform items other than a Common Access Card will be worn or carried in uniform during Parades. This includes sunglasses.

9.4. **Miscellaneous Policies.**

9.4.1. **Alternate Uniform.** Must be approved by respective Sq/CC with a recommendation from the Cadet Clinic doctor using the Cadet Injury/Illness Report (AFCW Form 18) or AF469. Written authorization must be carried at all times.

9.4.1.1. Tennis shoes/sneakers will not be worn with the Service Uniform.

9.4.2. **Mess Dress.** Refer to DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.4.3. **Sunbathing.** Sunbathing is only allowed in inner dormitory quadrangles. Attire must be conservative and good taste. Outer garments must be worn to and from quads (e.g., running suit, sweat suit, PTU).

9.4.4. **Outdoor Physical Fitness.** Within the black gates of the Cadet Area, cadets must wear shirts during physical activity.

9.4.5. **Out-processing.** After signing a letter of resignation or disenrollment and being issued the formal resignation accomplished in JA or formal notification of disenrollment issued by the Superintendent, cadets will wear UOD, adhere to grooming/uniform standards, and participate in squadron duty/training activities until out-processed.

9.4.6. **Donating Uniforms.** Do not donate, sell, or loan uniform items to civilians or military personnel. Exceptions are giving to other cadets or approved charity clothing drives. Remove all AF and name tapes prior to donating.

9.4.7. **Organizational Equipment Clothing.** Cadet Clubs requiring special clothing not procured through cadet issue, and purchased via organizational or individual funding, will coordinate requests through the Cadet Co-Curricular Activities Board (CCAB).

9.5. **Uniform When Traveling.**

9.5.1. **Official Business (Team Travel and TDY).** When representing USAFA, the travel mode and location determine the uniform. Coaches, OICs and officer representatives are responsible for ensuring travel attire represents USAFA and is worn by the entire group.

9.5.1.1. **Air/Ground Transportation.** During official business, short-sleeved blue shirts and athletic jackets are standard attire for commercial air travel. When traveling by military air, FDU/OCP is authorized. For ground travel, an approved uniform or modest civilian attire is standard if team uniform is not available. Teams traveling as part of a contingent will wear the uniform prescribed by this regulation unless the commander of troops has coordinated for an alternate option (such as team sweats) with the appropriate OIC, or an unforeseen situation arises.

9.6. Civilian Clothing.

9.6.1. C4Cs may only wear civilian clothes after authorization IAW Table 9.1. When civilian clothing is authorized, cadets must wear appropriate clothing. Appropriate civilian clothing does not include the following:

9.6.1.1. Clothing that bears symbols or statements that are profane, lewd, offensive, or obscene.

9.6.1.2. Bare chests, tank tops, halter tops, sleeveless shirts, cut-off pants/shorts, or shirts that expose private areas of the body or undergarments.

9.6.2. When using USAFA athletic facilities, authorized cadets may wear civilian clothing during posted non-duty hours. Civilian attire must be professional, functional, and consistent with DAF and Cadet Standards (AFCWI 36-3501 and DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*). When participating in fitness related activities, clothing must be clean, serviceable and athletic in nature. In addition, closed toe shoes and clothing that covers the entire torso, with bottoms extending to at least quarter thigh, are required. Sport-specific attire may only be worn in designated areas. For specific details, cadets should reference the current USAFA Athletic Facility Uniform Policy memorandum posted within the Cadet Fitness Center.

9.7. Service Dress.

9.7.1. **Nametags.** Only the blue plastic nametag is authorized. Cadets will wear a nametag on their service coat and LS blues shirt underneath.

9.7.2. **Rank.** Hard shoulder board ranks will be worn on the service coat as well as soft shoulder board ranks on the LS blues shirt underneath.

9.7.3. **Lapel Pins.** One standard issued pair of officer US pins will be worn on the lapel of the service coat.

9.7.4. **Tie/Tie Tabs.** The issued tie will be worn with the service dress uniform. The tip of the tie will be touching the belt buckle but not below it. If worn, a tie clip will be worn halfway between the tip of the tie and the bottom of the knot. Tie tabs will be worn with the service dress uniform for female cadets.

9.7.5. **Prop and Wings.** One pair of standard chrome plated prop and wings will be worn, as shown in the table below and Fig 9.2. Gold Prop and Wings are authorized for direct descendants of the Army Air Corps, Women Airforce Service Pilots, or parent USAFA Graduates.

9.7.6. **Ribbons.** All ribbons will be worn on the service coat.

9.7.7. **Wings/Badges.** Wear of Air Force aeronautical, space, cyberspace, multi-domain warfare and missile operations badges are mandatory on the service dress uniform. Prior enlisted cadets may wear their previous AFSC badges.

9.7.7.1. **German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency.** If earned, the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency will be worn on the service dress uniform. Also, any badges awarded at a sister service academy may be worn if the placement does not interfere with the placement of Air Force Badges.

9.7.8. **Merit Pins.** If earned from the previous semester, the wear of a merit pin is mandatory on the service coat (see FIG 9.20.).

9.7.9. **Aiguillette.** Wearing an aiguillette as designated for PEER, SAPR, White Rope, D&I, Stan/Eval, and summer Director of Training responsibilities is optional on the service dress uniform.

9.7.10. **Arnold Air Society Devices.** The wear of Arnold Air Society Devices is optional on the service dress uniform.

9.7.11. **Headgear.** Will be worn IAW 9.8.10 and other sections of this publication.

9.7.12. **Footwear.** Will be worn IAW DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel* regarding service dress footwear with the following modifications.

9.7.12.1. Female C1Cs, C2Cs, and C3Cs, and female C4Cs that are in Spring Semester may wear pumps and flats with the service dress uniform so long as it does not impede on their ability to march during Noon Meal Formation.

9.7.12.2. C4Cs in the Spring Semester may wear the parade issued “Corfram” high gloss finished.

9.7.13. **Additional female uniform guidance.** The items below are optional for wear for female cadets in service dress.

9.7.13.1. **Skirts.** The standard issue cadet skirt may be worn in service dress by female C1Cs, C2Cs or C3Cs, and by female C4Cs that are in the Spring Semester. Skirts may not be worn if they impede the execution of a required event.

9.7.13.2. **Semi form-fitting blouse.** Female C1Cs, C2Cs, and C3Cs and female C4Cs that are in the Spring Semester are authorized to wear the semi-form fitting blouse in service dress, so long as it is tucked in and not visible underneath the service coat.

Table 9.2. Men’s Service Dress Accouterment Placement.

Nametag	Grounded and centered above the wearer’s right pocket. The bottom of the nametag will rest on but not over the top edge of the pocket.
Ranks	The hardboard rank will be worn on each shoulder, with the lapel tucked underneath the tip of the board.
Lapel Pins	The US insignia is placed halfway up the seam of the lapel, resting on but not over it. The “US” letters are parallel with the ground.
Prop and Wings	The Prop and Wings insignia will be centered horizontally on the lapel in line with the point with the wings parallel to the ground.
Ribbons	Grounded and centered on the left pocket. The bottom of the ribbons will rest on but not over the top edge of the pocket.
Badges/Wings	Max of four (including a merit pin), with only two above the ribbons, on the service dress coat. First badge or pair of wings will be centered above the ribbons by ½ inch. Wear in order of precedence as shown in section 6.8.5.1 of this publication. Parachutist wings are optional on the service dress uniform, but when worn, will be placed

	above an AFSC badge and below aeronautical, space, or cyber badges.
Merit Badge	Centered on the wearers left pocket both horizontally and vertically. If a prior enlisted badge belongs in the same place, the prior enlisted badge takes precedence.
Aiguillette	Attached underneath the wearers left hardboard shoulder rank.
German Armed Forces Badge for Military proficiency (GPB)	Centered on the wearers right pocket. Other foreign awards may be worn so long they do not interfere with the wear of mandatory items.
Arnold Air Society devices	The aiguillette will be worn IAW the section in this table for “Aiguillette” and will have follow the “Gold, Blue, Gold” Pattern. The Arnold Air Society pin will be centered ½ inch above the nametag.

Table 9.3. Women’s Service Dress Accouterment Placement.

Nametag	Centered on right side between arm seam and line of buttons or lapel, even with or 1.5 inches higher/lower than the first exposed button and parallel with the ground.
Ranks	The hardboard rank will be worn on each shoulder, with the lapel tucked underneath the tip of the board.
Lapel Pins	The US insignia is placed halfway up the seam of the lapel, resting on but not over it. The “US” letters are parallel with the ground.
Prop and Wings	The Prop and Wings insignia will be centered horizontally on the lapel in line with the point with the wings parallel to the ground.
Ribbons	Centered on left side between arm seam and line of lapel. Bottom of ribbons even with bottom of nametag.
Badges/Wings	Max of four (including a merit pin), with only two above the ribbons, on the service dress coat. First badge or pair of wings will be centered above the ribbons by ½ inch. Wear in order of precedence as shown in section 6.8.5.1 of this publication. Parachutist wings are optional on the service dress uniform, but when worn, will be placed above an AFSC badge and below aeronautical, space, or cyber badges.
Merit Badge	Centered ½ inch above the nametag. If a prior enlisted badge belongs in the same place, the prior enlisted badge takes precedence.
Aiguillette	Attached underneath the wearers left hardboard shoulder rank.
German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency (GPB)	Centered ½ inch above the nametag. If a merit badge is worn, GPB will be placed above the merit pin. Other foreign awards may be worn so long they do not interfere with the wear of mandatory items.
Arnold Air Society devices	The aiguillette will be worn IAW the section in this table for “Aiguillette.” The Arnold Air Society pin will be centered ½ inch above the nametag. If worn, the Arnold Air Society pin will be placed below a GPB and above a merit pin.



Figure 9.2. Service Dress with P&W



Figure 9.3. Service Dress.

9.8. Service Uniform (Blues). Worn in long and short sleeve variants determined by the Commandant of Cadets.”

9.8.1. Nametag. Only the blue plastic nametag is authorized and will be worn on the service uniform.

9.8.2. Ranks. A pair of soft shoulder boards will be worn on each shoulder.

9.8.3. Ribbons. All, some, or none will be worn on the service uniform.

9.8.4. Tie/Tie Tabs. The issued tie will be worn with the long sleeve variant of the service uniform and will be optional for the short sleeve variant, unless being worn with the service dress uniform. The tip of the tie will be touching the belt buckle but not below it. If worn, a tie clip will be worn halfway between the tip of the tie and the bottom of the knot. Tie tabs will be worn with the same rules regarding long and short sleeve variants.

9.8.5. Wings/Badges. Wear of Air Force aeronautical, space, cyberspace, multi-domain warfare and missile operations badges are mandatory on the service uniform. Prior enlisted cadets may wear their previous AFSC badges.

9.8.5.1. Wings/ Badges Precedence. From top to bottom, wings and badges will be worn in the following order.

9.8.5.1.1. Any prior service flight badge.

9.8.5.1.2. Soaring Instructor Pilot Wings.

9.8.5.1.3. Cadet Aviation Club Wings.

9.8.5.1.4. Cadet Flight Wings.

9.8.5.1.5. Cadet Space Wings.

9.8.5.1.6. Parachutist Wings.

9.8.5.1.7. Any prior service AFSC Badges.

9.8.5.1.8. USMC Black/Gold Ancho.

9.8.6. Merit Pins. If earned from the previous semester, the wear of a merit pin is mandatory on the service uniform.

9.8.7. **Aiguillette.** Wearing an aiguillette is mandatory if it is for a primary duty (e.g., Standardizations and Evaluations). Wearing an aiguillette is not mandatory if it is for an additional duty (e.g., squad White Rope, squad Teal Rope). Summer BCT Director of Training aiguillette is mandatory on the service uniform.

9.8.8. **German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency.** If earned, the German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency will be optionally worn on the service uniform. Additionally, any badges awarded at a sister service academy may be worn so long the placement does not interfere with the placement of Air Force Badges.

9.8.9. **Arnold Air Society Devices.** The wear of Arnold Air Society Devices is optional on the service uniform as deemed appropriate by the Arnold Air Society Squadron Commander.

9.8.10. **Headgear.** Wear issued unaltered service/flight cap IAW DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel* and this publication with the following exceptions. For C1Cs, C2Cs, C3Cs, and C4Cs in Upgrade Training, a standard issue prop and wing insignia will be worn in place of a rank insignia. Reference para. 9.7.5 for regulations about gold prop and wings.

9.8.10.1. Headgear will only be worn indoors during official inspections and when bearing arms.

9.8.10.2. Blue Berets are not authorized to be worn as part of the Cadet Service Uniform during the academic year. Instead, it is expected that all cadets wear their issued cadet flight cap.

9.8.11. **Additional female uniform guidance.** The items below are optional for wear for female cadets in service uniform.

9.8.11.1. **Skirts.** The standard issue cadet skirt may be worn in service dress by female C1C, C2C, and C3Cs and C4Cs in Spring Semester. Skirts may not be worn if they impede the execution of a required event.

9.8.11.2. **Semi form-fitting blouse.** Female C1C, C2C, and C3Cs and C4Cs in Spring Semester are authorized to wear the semi-form fitting blouse.

Table 9.4. Men's Service Uniform Accouterments Placement.

Nametag	Grounded and centered above the wearer's right pocket. The bottom of the nametag will rest on but not over the top edge of the pocket.
Ranks	The soft shoulder board rank will be worn on each shoulder. Metal stiffeners are authorized underneath.
Ribbons	Grounded and centered on the left pocket. The bottom of the ribbons will rest on but not over the top edge of the pocket.
Badges/Wings	Max of four (including a merit pin), with only two above the ribbons. First badge or pair of wings will be centered above the ribbons by ½ inch. Wear in order of precedence as shown in section 6.8.5.1 of this publication. Parachutist wings are optional on the service uniform, but when worn, will be placed above an AFSC badge and below aeronautical, space, or cyber badges.
Merit Badge	Centered on the wearers left pocket both horizontally and vertically. If a prior enlisted badge belongs in the same place, the prior enlisted badge takes precedence.

Aiguillette	Attached to the button of the epaulet with the loop on the cord. Will be worn underneath the shoulder board.
German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency (GPB)	Centered on the wearers right pocket. Other foreign awards may be worn so long they do not interfere with the wear of mandatory items.
Arnold Air Society devices	The aiguillette will be worn IAW the section in this table for “Aiguillette.” and will have follow the “Gold, Blue, Gold” Pattern. The Arnold Air Society pin will be centered ½ inch above the nametag.

Table 9.4. Women’s Service Uniform Accouterments Placement.

Nametag	The name tag will be centered, even within 1 ½ inches higher or lower than the first exposed button on the wearers right side.
Ranks	The soft shoulder board rank will be worn on each shoulder. Metal stiffeners are authorized underneath.
Ribbons	Centered on the wearers left, parallel to the ground. Align bottom of the ribbons with the bottom of the name tag.
Badges/Wings	Max of four (including a merit pin), with only two above the ribbons. First badge or pair of wings will be centered above the ribbons by ½ inch. Wear in order of precedence as shown in section 6.8.5.1 of this publication. Parachutist wings are optional on the service uniform, but when worn, will be placed above an AFSC badge and below aeronautical, space, or cyber badges.
Merit Badge	Centered ½ inch above the nametag. If a prior enlisted badge belongs in the same place, the prior enlisted badge takes precedence.
Aiguillette	Attached to the button of the epaulet with the loop on the cord. Will be worn underneath the shoulder board.
German Armed Forces Badge for Military Proficiency (GPB)	Centered ½ inch above the nametag. If a merit badge is worn, GPB will be placed above the merit pin. Other foreign awards may be worn so long they do not interfere with the wear of mandatory items.
Arnold Air Society devices	The aiguillette will be worn IAW the section in this table for “Aiguillette.” The Arnold Air Society pin will be centered ½ inch above the nametag. If worn, the Arnold Air Society pin will be placed below a GPB and above a merit pin.

9.8.12. Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP). Worn IAW DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*, with the following provisions for the AFCW:

9.8.12.1. **Rank insignia.** Placed on Velcro patch area centered.

9.8.12.2. Wear of Operational AF Aeronautical badges is mandatory.

9.8.12.3. Wear of the class year patch on the left shoulder is mandatory.

9.8.12.4. **Aiguillette Wear.** The daily aiguillette will be worn over the left shoulder and attached under the outer layer of the collar fold. The aiguillette will be affixed with a button or safety pin which is not visible when the collar is properly worn.

9.8.12.5. Morale patches are not authorized to be worn on the OCP uniform.

9.8.12.6. **Headgear.**

9.8.12.6.1. **Patrol caps.** Worn by lower three classes. Will rest squarely on the head with band horizontal to the ground and no hair protruding in front. Female hair must not interfere with proper wear. Refer to Figure 9.7.

9.8.12.6.2. **Blue Berets.** Blue Berets are not authorized to be worn as part of the OCP uniform during the academic year. Instead, it is expected that all cadets will wear OCP Patrol Caps.

9.8.12.6.2.1. Cadets performing duties as BCT cadre will wear cadet metal rank in place of prop and wings.

9.8.12.6.3. **Class colored baseball hats.** Worn only when directed by summer programs or approved in wing-level training plan or when approved by Commandant of Cadets, Vice Commandant of Cadets, CW/DO, or CWOV.

9.8.12.6.4. Organizational caps, except for EMTs and course cadre, are not authorized.

9.8.12.6.5. **Boonie Hat.** Only worn as authorized for summer programs in field training areas. May not be worn at any time on the Terrazzo. Use of “shemagh” or field scarf is authorized for wear by Combat Survival Training (CST) and Special Warfare (SW) cadets



Figure 9.4. Service Uniform.



Figure 9.5. Wear of optional Service Uniform Skirt

during training, but not in the Cadet Area. These items may only to be worn with OCP or other-service field uniform.

9.8.12.7. Sister Service Uniforms. Upon selection for commissioning into a sister service (e.g., Space Force, Army, Navy, Marines), cadets may wear sister service utility uniforms when OCPs are UOD. Cadets must complete a satisfactory uniform inspection conducted by a sister service Sq/CC, or sister service officer from DF/AD, in the sister service uniform before regular wear sister service uniform wear. See Section 9.15 for USSF guidance.

9.8.12.7.1. When required for UOD, cold weather gear will match that worn by the rest of the AFCW.

Figure 9.6. OCP Uniform



Figure 9.7. Patrol Cap.



Figure 9.8. Right Arm Patches



Figure 9.9. Left Arm Patches



Figure 9.10. Rank Placement



9.9. Flight Duty Uniform (FDU).

9.9.1. FDU sleeves will be down during all formations (e.g., Noon Meal Formation, etc.).

9.9.2. Nametag is worn above the left pocket. Includes name, "USAFA CADET," and class year. Cadets may also include aviation, space, or jump wings. The nametags will have standardized class-colored backgrounds, white borders/insignia/lettering for red and blue backgrounds, and black borders/insignia/lettering for gray and yellow background colors. Class year worn must be reflective of graduating class regardless of status. The USAFA Flying

Team is authorized to wear black leather nametags. The USAFA Parachute Team, the Wings of Blue, is authorized to use nametags with blue borders/insignia, lettering, and white background.

9.9.3. For US Cadets, an American flag will be worn on the left shoulder. The assigned squadron patch will be worn on the right shoulder. Spice Brown color criteria patches for the OCP are not authorized for wear with the FDU.

9.9.4. The following are the only authorized organizational patches for wear.

9.9.4.1. Wing Airmanship Staff.

9.9.4.2. Cadet Soaring Instructor Pilots.

9.9.4.3. Advanced Soaring.

9.9.4.4. Wings of Blue.

9.9.4.5. USAFA Flying Team.

9.9.4.6. ROTC Detachment, Service Academy, and Foreign Exchange patches.

9.9.4.7. Currently assigned Squadron, Group, or Wing patches.

9.9.4.8. **Morale patches of any kind are not authorized.**

9.9.5. Undergarments, footwear, and socks will be IAW DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.9.6. Winter flying “Bunny cap” worn only with an outer garment; not authorized outside Airfield Flight Line.

9.10. Cadet Physical Training Uniform (PTU).

9.10.1. **Fitness Programs.** The Directorate of Athletics allows wearing colored shirts with the



Figure 9.12. PTU.



PTU to distinguish and identify fitness program commanders and cadets-in-charge while performing relevant duties. Fitness programs include Athletic Reconditioning (RECONDO) and Cadet Fitness Center (CFC) Cadet in Charge (CIC).

9.10.2. PTU T-Shirt must have the pre-printed name above USAFA lettering.

9.10.3. PTU Shorts must be issued USAFA PT shorts.

9.10.4. PTU will only be worn when proceeding directly to and from the Cadet Area and athletic areas. Intramural jerseys may be worn over the PTU but must be tucked into the PT shorts only during IM seasons.

9.10.5. Squadron-customized intramural jerseys may be worn during intramural competitions; design and color require Sq/CC and AD approval. IC cadets will not wear AD-issued gear on the terrazzo or to and from practice. IC cadets will wear PTU while in the CFC during the duty day (0625-1645), except RECONDO and CFC CICs.

9.10.6. Shirts will be tucked into shorts or running pants at all times.

9.10.7. The running suit jacket will be zipped above the USAFA emblem. Both pant legs will extend below the ankles and be zipped within one inch of the bottom.

9.10.8. USAFA grey hooded sweatshirts and Air Force-related grey, blue, white or black hooded sweatshirts may be worn underneath a running suit jacket for added warmth. Logos will not be visible. Any other civilian attire is NOT authorized for wear with PTU.

9.10.9. **Headwear.** Only issued black watch caps are authorized.

9.10.10. Footwear, socks, watch caps, and undergarments will be worn IAW DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel* instructions on Physical Training Gear (PTG).

9.10.11. The Parka may be worn with a hood up or down and unzipped over the PTU pants and jacket. A watch cap and gloves are required.

9.10.12. The Directorate of Athletics will determine authorized deviations/alternative PE uniforms based on safety and mission requirements for certain PE courses.

9.11. **Mess Dress.** Refer to DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

9.11.1. Merit badges will not be worn in Mess Dress

9.12. **Parade Uniform.**

9.12.1. **Jacket.** Extend to the bottom of the hipbone, be equal distance from the floor at all points, and overlap trousers by no less than 2 inches. One set of standard props and wings will be worn on the parade collar. They will be placed on each side, measuring 1 ½" from the front of the collar. Center each prop and wing between the top and bottom edge of the collar and place parallel to a collar (see Figure 6.12.).

9.12.2. **Trousers.** Fitted trim, but it is not tight. The front of the trouser leg rests on the front of the shoe with a slight break in the crease; the back of the trouser leg must be approximately 7/8 of an inch longer than the front. Honor Guard may wear stripes during program activities.

9.12.3. **Accessories:**

9.12.3.1. Headgear – white parade cap.

9.12.3.2. Gloves – white.

9.12.3.3. Suspenders – white, blue, or black (solid color only).

9.12.4. **Belt.** White parade belt with buckle. C1Cs wear gold or silver sash/tassels. Cadets joining the United States Space Force will wear the silver sash and tassel. Tassel is worn on

the left side, slightly behind the hipbone. Note: Honor Guard, Drum and Bugle, and Saber Drill Team may wear the parade sash as required.

9.12.5. **Footwear.** Black low quarters with plain black socks.

9.12.6. **Sabre.** The Sabre strap is located under the sash. Saber and scabbard rest on the left hip in front of the tassel.

9.12.7. **Undergarments.** Mandatory and must be plain white or match skin tone with no pattern or design.

Figure 9.13. Parade Uniform.



Figure 9.14. Parade Dress Prop and Wings.



9.13. **Cadet Informal Uniform (CIU).** When authorized by club CICs and OICs, cadets are authorized to wear the CIU. Cadets will obtain the CIU when authorized and will maintain proper care of it.

9.13.1. **Shirt.** Shirts will be short sleeve, royal blue polo-style, with the officially recognized “US AIR FORCE” contemporary symbol on front, upper left chest tucked into khaki pants.

9.13.2. **Trousers.** Trousers must be procured by cadets and will be khaki in color (shorts and Capri pants are not authorized).

9.13.3. **Belt.** The belt will be black or brown with a silver or gold clasp.

9.13.4. **Footwear.** Shoes may be black or brown casual low quarters or athletic style. The color of the shoes must match the color of the belt. Socks will be black or khaki with small logos and must match the belt.

9.13.5. **Hair.** Hair will be groomed per DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel* and para 9.2, General Appearance Standards.

9.13.6. **Travel.** The CIU will be worn during commercial air travel and at the club CIC/OIC’s direction. Wear/use of an earpiece, or any wired or wireless technology, while in uniform, indoors or outdoors, is prohibited unless specifically authorized for the execution of official duties.

9.13.6.1. **EXCEPTION:** Headphones and earphones are authorized during air travel and/or passenger travel. Use of a hands-free device is authorized while operating a motor vehicle in uniform.

9.13.7. **Customs and Courtesies.** Proper military customs and courtesies honoring the flag during reveille/retreat will apply (this means coming to full attention and rendering a proper salute when outdoors.) Saluting is required with rank recognition.

9.14. Outer Garments

9.14.1. **A-Jacket.** The A-Jacket may be worn indoors or outdoors over the service uniform with a flight cap or service cap. The A-Jacket may be worn with gloves and earmuffs. Watch caps and scarves will not be worn when the A-Jacket is worn as an outer garment.

9.14.1.1. **Patches.** Special Activity Patches may only be worn on Athletic Jacket. Send requests for new or redesigned club or activity patches, including a color drawing of a patch, to Cadet Co-Curricular Activity Board (CCAB) Patches. Must not exceed 3 ½" in diameter.

9.14.1.2. CCAB is chaired by the Chief of Training Operations Division (CWT) and is the final approval for patches. CCAB maintains an approved list of patches.

9.14.2. **Parka.** The Parka may be worn over service uniform outdoors only. An A-Jacket, gloves, and scarf must be worn with the Parka. When the hood is worn down, the zipper should be even with the top of the name tape, and the hood must be unzipped.

9.14.3. **Raincoat.** The Raincoat may be worn over the service uniform with a flight or service cap and only outdoors. Metal rank is pinned to a rank tab on the front of Raincoat. Cold-weather accessories are optional.

9.14.4. **Overcoat.** The Overcoat may be worn over a service dress outdoors only with a service cap or flight cap. Scarf and gloves must be worn with a service coat. Earmuffs are optional. Collar flaps are folded down and buttoned. Service dress shoulder boards are worn on the Overcoat like the service dress jacket.

9.14.5. **Cold Weather Accessories.** Cold weather accessories such as gloves, scarves, pullovers, cardigans, and earmuffs may be worn IAW DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel*.

Figure 9.15. Overcoat.



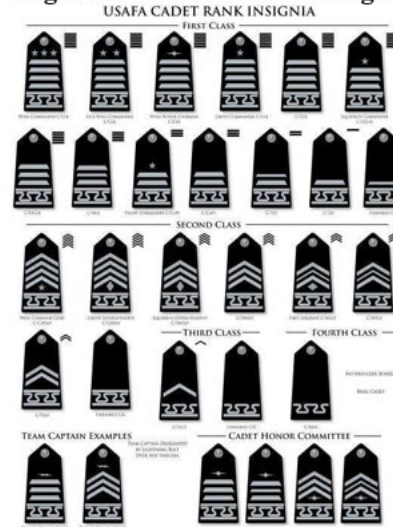
Figure 9.16. Parka



Figure 9.17. Athletic Jacket.

Figure 9.18. Rank on Rain Coat

Figure 9.19. Cadet Rank Insignia



Note: Team captains may be ranked as C/Maj or higher (C1C), C/TSgt or higher (C2C), or C/SSgt (C3C) and are identified as such by a lightning bolt engraved on their shoulder boards. Team captain lightning bolt added to any rank on which it will fit horizontally to the ground.

9.15. Guardian Uniforms. C1Cs selected for commission into the United States Space Force are authorized modifications to the cadet uniform. Cadets will adhere to section 1.1 of SPFGM2022- 36-01, which contains specific provisions for Guardians-in-training at USAFA. The following modifications are authorized to cadet uniforms:

9.15.1. Service Uniform. The Space Force Distinguished Lapel Insignia is optional on the blue shirt or blouse. When worn on the blue shirt or blouse, only one of the USSF Distinguished Lapel Insignia will be centered ½ inch above the nametag (see Figure 9.22).

9.15.1.2. Service Dress Uniform. The Space Force Distinguished Lapel Insignia is mandatory on Service Dress Uniforms and will be centered ½ inch above the nametag (see Figure 9.27)

9.15.2. Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP). C1Cs selected for the USSF are authorized to wear of “Space Blue” name/service tapes (see Figure 6.23) on both the OCP and cold weather gear.

9.15.2.1. Left Sleeve. The colored U.S. flag patch is mandatory and centered on the left sleeve at the top of Velcro®. The colored USAFA headquarters patch will be worn on the left sleeve centered underneath the U.S. Flag. Once cadets have been through the USSF Patching Ceremony, cadets are authorized wear of the Space Force patch in place of the USAFA headquarters patch (see Figure 9.24).

9.15.2.2. Right Sleeve. Wear of the class year patch on the right shoulder is mandatory and centered on the right sleeve at the top of Velcro®. The cadets colored squadron patch will be worn on the right shoulder centered underneath the class year patch (see Figure 6.25). Morale patches are authorized to be worn in place of the cadet squadron patch only on Fridays, in accordance with DAFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of the United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel* and this instruction. Morale patches may be PVC or embroidered. Approved morale patches consist of: Space Delta 13 Det 1, CSOPS, other operational USSF approved unit patches.

9.15.2.3. Rank. USSF-selected cadets will continue to wear the cinnamon spice brown rank, centered on their chest, until cadet issue is able to provide “Space Blue” rank patches.

9.15.3. Mess Dress. The Space Force Distinguished Lapel Insignia is mandatory on Mess Dress Uniforms. The Lapel Insignia should be worn on the wearer’s right side, centered between the lapel and arm seam, and adjacent to the top row of medals (see Figure 9.26).

9.15.4. Cold weather gear. When required for UOD, will match that worn by the rest of the AFCW with the exception above for OCPs.

Figure 9.20. Cadet Merit Badges.



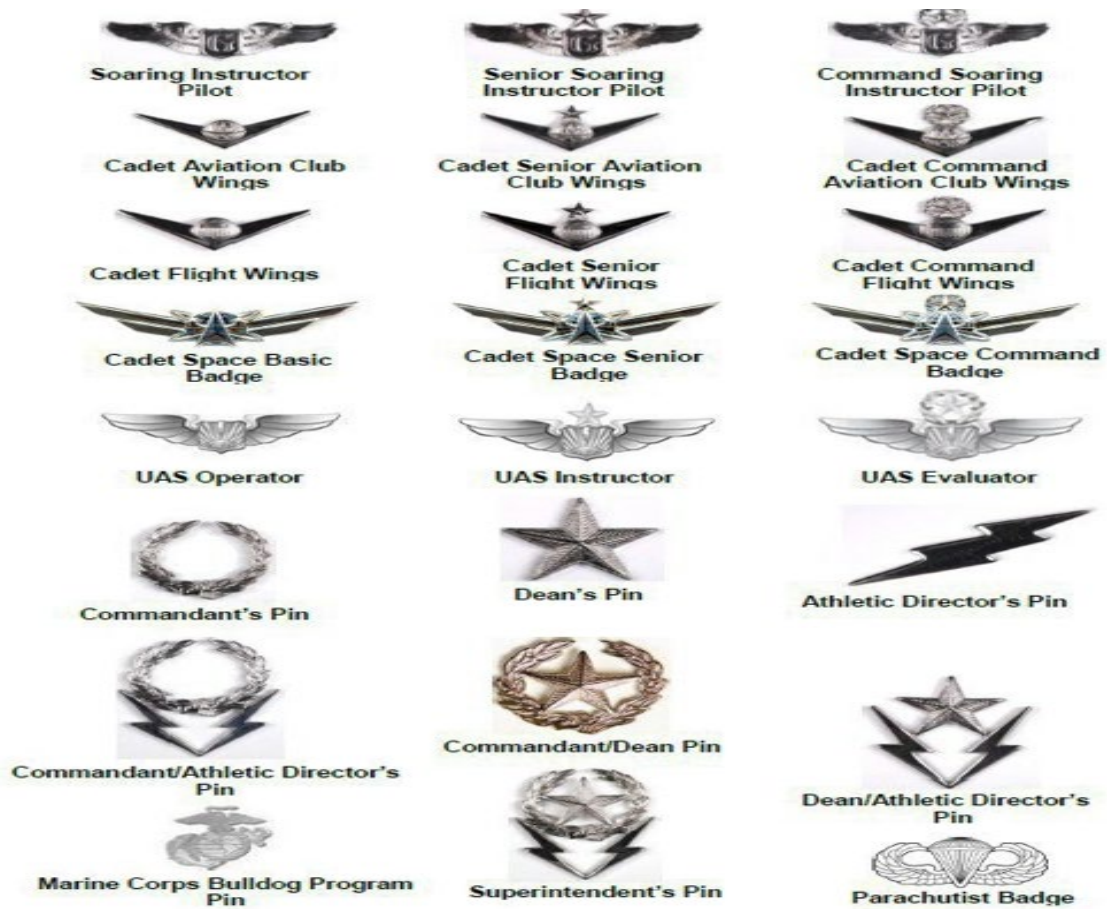


Figure 9.21 AAS Fourragère



Figure 9.22**Figure 9.23****Figure 9.24****Figure 9.25****Figure 9.26****Figure 9.27**

Table 9.5 Exchange Cadet/Midshipmen Equivalent Uniforms

USAFA	USMA	USNA	USCGA
Mess Dress	Full Dress Grey Dress Mess	Dinner Dress	Dinner Dress
Parade Dress	Full Dress Over White	Full Dress Blue	Service Dress with Combination Cover
Service Dress with Service Caps as specified	Dress Grey (Winter) White Over Grey (Summer)	Service Dress Blue (Winter) Summer White (Summer)	Full Dress Blue
Service Uniform	As For Class	Working Blues and Khakis	Tropical Blue Long (Summer) Winter Dress Blue (Winter)
FDU	FDU	FDU	FDU
OCP	OCP	Navy Work Uniform	ODU
Athletic Uniform (as appropriate for sport)	AFPU Jacket	PT Gear (or team uniform applicable to sport)	Gym (or team uniform applicable to sport)
Overcoat	Long-O	Overcoat	Bridge Coat
Parka	USMA Parka	Reefer	Parka
Service Cap	Service Cap	Combination Cover	Combination Cover
Flight Cap	Garrison Cap	Flight Cap	Garrison Cover
Athletic Jacket	Black Athletic Jacket	Ike Jacket	Blue Windbreaker

Note: Exchange cadets/midshipmen wear cadet winter uniform options when USAFA cadets wear service dress with service caps in parades, march-on, or retreat formations.