

Career in the Skies: Participate in Competitions for the 133rd AUPC Course and 18th AUFP of the Italian Air Force

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The landscape of top professional opportunities in our country is enriched by one of the most ambitious and selective stages of the year. The publication of the competitive announcement for titles and exams for admission to the **133rd Complementary Pilot Officer Cadets Course (AUPC)** and the **18th Fixed-Term Officer Cadets Course (AUFP)** of the Italian Air Force represents much more than a simple recruitment announcement. It is an exceptional opportunity, a true passport to a prestigious future, offering winners an elite training path of the highest level, entirely supported and financed by the State.

An imposing investment in terms of resources, technologies and expertise that the Air Force puts at the disposal of the most motivated young people, ready to wear the insignia and fly the skies in service of the community and national security. With a total of **50 positions** overall

distributed among the various roles and specializations, the selections are aimed at those who possess not only rigorous physical and aptitudinal requirements, but above all a strong dedication, resilience and firm determination to excel in a highly technological and dynamic context.

The Heart of the Program: The 133rd Complementary Pilot Officer Cadets Course

For those who have always cherished the dream of military flying, the 133rd AUPC course represents the privileged gateway. With a presumed start in January 2027, the training program will begin at the historic and prestigious **Air Force Academy of Pozzuoli**, in the province of Naples, an authentic temple of Italian aeronautical training. Those admitted to the course, including military personnel who may already be in service and whose positions will be reconsidered upon assumption of the new status, will be enlisted with the rank of **Complementary Pilot Officer Cadet Aviator**, mandatorily committing to a twelve-year voluntary service.

The process allows no uncertainty but rewards every effort with an extraordinary and stimulating career progression. During the first months of service, cadets will be promoted to *Selected Aviator* upon completion of the third quarter of service, then take a further step forward upon obtaining their airplane pilot certification, at which point they will hold the rank of *Complementary Pilot Sergeant*.

The culmination of this first phase is realized at the end of the training cycle, when attendees who have successfully passed the practical tests for military pilot certification and the related theoretical exams will receive the appointment as **Complementary Pilot Second Lieutenant**, conferred by ministerial decree. Even in cases where the cadet passes the rigorous flight tests but encounters obstacles in theoretical exams, the regulations provide for protection of acquired skills with the appointment as military pilot in the capacity of Complementary Sergeant, still guaranteeing valuable professional expertise in the aerospace sector.

Top Alternatives: The 18th AUFP Course for Regular and Special Roles

Alongside the flight component, the announcement regulates access to the **18th Fixed-Term Officer Cadets Course (AUFP)**, with a presumed start expected for March 2027. This channel is aimed at graduates and diploma holders possessing specific educational qualifications, intending to place their specialized skills at the service of the Italian Air Force in special roles of the Arms, the Commissariat Corps and the Air Engineering Corps.

The winners of this competition will undertake an initial voluntary service of **thirty months**, during which they will attend an intensive cycle of studies and military training at the Pozzuoli Academy. The economic and regulatory treatment guaranteed to fixed-term officer cadets reflects the excellence standards of the Armed Forces, ensuring preparation aimed at covering positions of operational, logistical or administrative responsibility.

Passing the end-of-course exams leads directly to the appointment as **Fixed-Term Second Lieutenant**, opening scenarios of the highest professional profile. The regulations also provide important safeguards and career flexibility: fixed-term officers may indeed submit applications to be placed on leave starting from the eighteenth month of service, or evaluate participation in subsequent competitions for transition to permanent effective service, should they wish to transform the temporary experience into a definitive professional choice within the Armed Forces or, thanks to the clearances provided, in other State corps and public administrations.

The Value of Training and Career Prospects

A path of this magnitude represents an extraordinary opportunity for professional and personal growth, thanks to an advanced training program that includes the use of modern aircraft, flight hours with highly qualified instructors, logistical and health support, and a wealth of theoretical and practical skills of inestimable value.

The career prospects that open at the end of the training paths are solid and structured to reward merit:

- **For Complementary Pilots:** After two years of seniority in the rank of Second Lieutenant, one accesses evaluation for promotion to First Lieutenant. At the end of the twelve-year service, officers can compete for transition to the special role in permanent effective service or benefit from an important severance bonus.
- **For Fixed-Term Officers:** Evaluation is provided for advancement by seniority to the higher rank upon completion of the second year of service, in addition to the concrete

possibility of participating in dedicated competitions for admission to regular or special roles in permanent effective service.

Furthermore, the announcement provides that officers and non-winning eligible candidates may be required to give consent for possible employment with Information and Security Organizations, confirming how the skills acquired within the Italian Air Force are highly spendable and considered strategic for the security of the State in all respects.



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How to Participate and Why Choose the Italian Air Force

Taking on a competition of this magnitude requires preparation, discipline and profound motivation. The selections include rigorous psycho-physical checks, aptitude tests, physical fitness tests and selective interviews aimed at identifying exclusively the best candidates, those who will be able to demonstrate emotional balance, quickness of reflexes and leadership skills.

The submission of applications must occur exclusively via telematic means, accessing the **Ministry of Defense Online Competitions Portal** or through the national platform **inPA**, carefully following the technical instructions indicated in the official announcement. It is essential to verify possession of all participation requirements – from age to educational qualifications, to psycho-physical eligibility – to avoid exclusions during the initial phases of the selection process.

Choosing to participate in this competition means refusing mediocrity to embrace a rigorous, stimulating life path rich in unique satisfactions. Becoming an Officer of the Italian Air Force means entering a large, cohesive family, where the value of teamwork, sense of duty and

passion for technological excellence guide every single mission. If you have the makings of a leader and look at the sky not as a limit, but as your professional future, this is the opportunity you cannot miss.

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