

Enlisted Force Structure

9

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Purpose

This lesson guide is designed to support the local development of Flight Commander Leadership Course materials. Selected facilitators should use this guide as they prepare presentation materials. For more information on how lessons are structured, or how to use them in the course, see the **Course Director's Handbook** or online Facilitator Resources.

Scope

The enlisted force is comprised of a multitude of functionally and operationally specialized Airmen and Guardians which make up the backbone of the Department of the Air Force. Due to the vast differences across functional and operational lines, a standardized approach to force development and career progression is paramount.

As a Flight Commander, you are responsible to appropriately assign roles and delegate responsibilities necessary to achieve your mission. The structure of the enlisted force inherently provides a framework for supervisors to set and enforce standards applicable to the various responsibilities inherent to each rank of the enlisted force. Flight Commanders should charge enlisted members with the trust and authority to operate at a level commensurate with the education, training, and experience of their respective rank.

Recommended Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the participant should be able to:

- 1. Understand the tiers, ranks, and roles within the enlisted force.
- 2. Comprehend the general responsibilities of each rank and tier within the enlisted force.
- 3. Understand appropriate interactions and relationships between each rank and tier within the enlisted force.

Recommended POC / Presenter

• Unit CEM or appropriate NCO

Recommended Length:

• 30 minutes inclusive of Q & A

Recommended Approach

Present informal slides (covering content areas of *The Enlisted Force Structure* and *The Profession of Arms: Our Core Values*, more commonly known in the DAF as the "Brown" and "Blue" books, as well as information on enlisted development from *The Blueprint*) with time for Q & A

Lesson Connections

- **Building and Busting Teams**-each rank/tier within the enlisted force levies certain requirements and duties upon those members which must be incorporated into building an effective team.
- **Manning**-each rank/tier within the enlisted force also requires members to attain/maintain a certain level of technical proficiency within their job/mission set.
- **Professional Development**-certain PME milestones exist at various levels within the careers of enlisted Airmen or Guardians while at the same time, they continually seek to develop through various other methods of self-improvement.
- **EPRs**-performance reports are required throughout most of the career of an enlisted Airman or Guardian wherein they are *honestly* and *realistically* measured against their peers.