

# SRI LANKA AIR FORCE OFFICER VACANCIES

- 1. VACANCIES exist for suitable Male / Female Commissioned Officers in the Regular / Volunteer Force of the Sri Lanka Air Force in the following Branches.
  - (a) Technical Engineering Branch
  - (b) Electronic Engineering Branch
  - (c) Logistics Branch
  - (d) Air Field Construction Branch
  - (e) Medical Branch
  - (f) Dental Branch

- (g) Administrative Legal Branch
- (h) Administrative Veterinary Branch
- (i) Administrative Education Branch
- (j) Administrative Band Branch
- (k) Administrative Audit Branch
- (1) Information Technology Engineering Branch
- 2. Applications are invited from those candidates possessing the professional qualifications given below.

#### **Basic Educational Qualifications:**

- (a) Minimum of six Credit (C) passes at the GCE (O/L) examination with compulsory Credit (C) passes for English language, Science, Mathematics and a Simple (S) pass and above for Sinhala / Tamil language in one sitting (additional and optional subjects are not considered).
- (b) Minimum of three simple (S) passes at the GCE (A/L) examination and passes may be from any stream in one sitting.
- (c) Pearson / Edexcel / International Ordinary / Advance Level, GCSE, GCE and Cambridge exam qualification may be considered subjected to a confirmation obtained from the Department of Examination, Sri Lanka to effect that it is equalant to above basic educational qualifications.

# **Professional / Academic Qualifications**

#### (a) Technical Engineering Branch

(1) Technical Engineering Officer (Research Officer) – Male (Volunteer) Bachelor's degree or above fields of Aeronautical, Electronic, Electrical and Material engineering.

Preference will be given to Island ranking in the GCE A/L, The graduates of competitive local government universities, Sophistication of the projects completed including final year project, the field of in-plant training and institution. Will be continue at the preliminary Interview.

#### (b) Electronics Engineering Branch:

(1) Electronics Engineering Officer - Male (Regular) Bachelors Engineering Degree in

Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering or Bachelors degree in Physical Science with Electronics / Telecommunication as a main subject from recognized University or National Diploma in Technology (NDT) in Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering Technology from the University of Moratuwa or Higher National Diploma in Electrical & Electronics Engineering (HNDE) from Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education or National Diploma in Engineering Science (NDES) in Electronics & Communication Engineering from Institute of Engineering Technology. Associate membership in IESL will be added advantage.

### (c) Logistics Branch

- (1) Mess Manager Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer) Bachelor Degree or Higher Diploma in Hotel Management or completion of all 4 levels of full time basic courses and completion of intermediate and advance level in hospitality industry training from a recognized local/ foreign Institute with minimum of 02 years post qualification experience in Star Class Hotel in Cookery in executive capacity.
- (2) Technical Officer Apparel Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer) Bachelor Degree in Science, Technology or Engineering, Preferably with a Postgraduate Diploma qualification in Textile and Clothing Technology or Diploma in Textile and Clothing from the Sri Lanka Institute or Textile and Apparel or any other recognized institute.

# (d) Air Field Constructions Branch:

(1) Civil/Electrical Engineering Officer - Male (Regular) Bachelors Degree in Engineering specialization in Civil/Electrical Engineering and Associated Membership in IESL or NDT/NDES/HNDE in Civil/Electrical Engineering or equivalent qualification. (Associated Membership in IESL will be an added advantage for the National Diploma Holders)

#### (e) Medical Branch

- (1) Consultant Physician Male/ Female (Volunteer)
  - (a) MD (General/Medicine) with board certification.
  - (b) Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) registration as a Consultant Physician.
- (2) Consultant Surgeon Male/ Female (Volunteer)
  - (a) MD (General Surgery) with board certification.
  - (b) Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) registration as a Consultant Surgeon.
- (3) Consultant Anaesthetist Male/ Female (Volunteer)
  - (a) MD (Anesthesiology) with board certification.
  - (b) Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) registration as a Consultant Anesthetist.
- (4) Consultant Pediatrician Male/ Female (Volunteer)
  - (a) MD (Pediatrician) with board certification.
  - (b) Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) registration as a Consultant Pediatrician.
- (5) Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist Male/ Female (Volunteer)
  - (a) MD (Obstetrics and Gynaecology)
  - (b) Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) registration as a Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist.

**Special Note**: Consultants below the age of 40 years as at 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020 will be considered for the selection. However, consultants over 40 years as at 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and having experience with additional qualifications will be considered for selection (Rank: Wing Commander) with the discretion of the Commander of the Air Force.

# (f) Dental Branch

- (1) Dental Officers Male/ Female (Regular/ Volunteer) BDS (Sri Lanka) or a degree equivalent to BDS from any recognized University of foreign country with full registration with the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
- (2) Pre Intern Trainees Male/ Female (Regular) Students who have successfully completed eight (08) semester of BDS (Sri Lanka) course or degree equivalent to BDS obtained from any recognized University of a foreign country which is accepted by Sri Lanka Medical Council and who have not completed Provisional registration at Sri Lanka Medical Council will also be considered. Those candidates who are selected have to qualify with full registration with the Sri Lanka Medical Council within 05 years from the date of enlistment.

#### (g) Administrative Legal Branch

- (1) Legal Officer Male / Female (Regular)
  Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court of Sri
  Lanka.
  - (a) At least three years working experience in the Magistrate's Court, District Court, High Court or Superier Courts.
  - (b) Should have knowledge on drafting agreements and deeds both in Sinhala and English languages.
  - (c) Should have knowledge on company secretarial services.
  - (*d*) Fluent in English and computer literate will be additional qualifications.

# (h) Administrative Veterinary Branch

(1) Veterinary Officer - Male (Regular)
Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Animal
Science or equivalent with full registration of
Sri Lanka Veterinary Council.

### (j) Administrative Education Branch

# (1) English Language Instructor - Male/ Female (Regular / Volunteer)

(a) Bachelors Degree with English Language as a subject or a Bachelors Degree B.Ed (Bachelor of Education) in English or a Bachelors Degree BA / BSc in English medium or Diploma in Education or Masters Degree (MA / MSc) with English Language as a subject or Master Degree (MA / MSc) in English medium. Should mandatorily have "01 year teaching experience (in respective medium) at a recognized institute" or "Has followed a Teacher Training course (not less than 06 months) at a recognized institute".

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- (b) Successful completion of three (3) years
  Teacher training course as an English
  Language Teacher at the "National
  College of Education" or Two (02) years
  Teacher Training Course as an English
  Language Teacher at the government
  Teachers Training College of Education or
  Successful completion of three (03) years
  Teacher Training from a government or
  government recognized foreign teacher
  training institute.
- (2) French and Chinese Language Instructors Male/ Female (Regular/Volunteer) One (01) year Diploma in French/ Chinese language with 03 years teaching experience in a government or government approved education institute.

#### (k) Administrative Band Branch

(1) Band Master - Western Music (Military Band) - Male (Regular) Bachelor degree or Diploma in Western Music or Postgraduate diploma in western music or passed Grade V or above in Theory or practical in music of Royal School of music, Trinity College London, London College of Music or Equivalent School with International Recognition.

# (1) Administrative Audit Branch

## (1) Internal Audit Officer - Male (Regular)

Bachelor Degree of Commerce / Management / Accountancy or Business Discipline from the recognized University of Sri Lanka with one or more professional qualifications mentioned below.

(a) Certified Business Accountant (CBA) of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka or similar qualification of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) of UK or Certified Management Accountants (CMA) of Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka Associate member of Association of Public Finance Accountant of Sri Lanka.

#### (m) Information Technology Engineering Branch

# (1) Network Administrator - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)

Bachelors Engineering Degree in a computer related stream or Bachelors Degree in a computer related stream or Bachelors Degree with Computer Science as a major subject or Higher Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering, National Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering Science (NDES) or equivalent with specialization knowledge and experience in data networks or server systems will be an advantage.

# (2) Software Developer - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)

Bachelors Engineering Degree in a computer related stream or Bachelors Degree in a computer related stream or Bachelors Degree with Computer Science as a major subject or Higher Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering, National Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering Science (NDES) or equivalent specialization knowledge or experience in C#, ASP.Net 4.0 and above, WCF, MVC 5, Entity Framework, LINQ, Angular, Visual Studio 2015, Team Foundation Server (TFS), NET Core, Python, Big data analysis tools or MS SQL will be an advantage.

# (3) Information / Cyber Security Specialist - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer) Bachelors Engineering degree in a computer related stream or Bachelors degree in a computer related stream or Bachelors degree with Computer Science as a major subject or Higher Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering, National Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering Science (NDES) or equivalent sound knowledge and experience in Information / Cyber Security will be an advantage.

# (4) Web Designers - Male / Female (Regular / Volunteer)

Bachelors degree in Computer Engineering / IT / Computer Science or Bachelors Degree with Computer Science as a subject or Higher Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering National Diploma in IT or Computer Engineering Science (NDES) or equivalent sound knowledge in Web designing related responsibilities. Preference will be given those with experience and knowledge on HTML / XHTML / HTML 5, CSS (Cascade Style Sheet), JavaScript, JQuery, flash action script, PHP, MySQL, ASP.NET, MSSQL.

3. **Experience.**— Post qualification executive work experience in the relevant field of two years or more will be an added advantage to be considered by the interview board for the selection process.

# 4. Basic Entry Requirements:

(a) Nationality: Must be a citizen of Sri Lanka

(b) Civil Status: Married / Unmarried

(c) Gender : Male / Female (As applicable)

(d) Age : Not less than 18 years and not

more than

33 years as at 15th July 2020 for

all branches

(e) Height : Male - 167.5cm (5' 6") and above

for all branches 165.0cm (5' 5") and above for Medical/ Dental branches Female - 162.5cm (5' 4") and above for all branches 160.0cm (5' 3") and above for Medical/ Dental branches

(f) Weight : Male - 17 < BMI < 26 Female - 17 < BMI < 25

 $BMI = \frac{\text{Weight (Kg)}}{\text{Height (m)}^2}$ 

(g) Chest : Minimum 32" (Male)

(h) Colour : CP2 Vision Standard

(j) Visual Acuity: Left eye 6/6 and right eye 6/6

(Without spectacles/Contact Lens) Medical / Dental Branches 6/18 in each eye (corrected visual acuity with spectacle should be 6/6 in each eye.

## 5. Special Note:

- (a) Applications of candidates who do not fulfil the requirement of para 2, 3 and 4 will be rejected. On arrival for the first interview the height, vision and weight will be measured. Candidates whose height, vision and weight are below the standard specified in the *Gazette* Notification and who have no exceptional skill will not be interviewed.
- (b) Selected candidates will be commissioned in the rank of Flight Lieutenant or Flying Officer or Pilot Officer in keeping with their professional qualification and experience at the discretion of the Commander of Air Force
- (c) All Candidates who are selected are required to undergo a written, practical and an Officer Quality Test during the selection process.
- (d) All Candidates who are selected are required to undergo a medical screening test as per Sri Lanka Air Force Medical Standard during the selection process.
- (e) All Masters, Bachelors degrees and Diplomas should be awarded from a recognized University accepted by the University Grant Commission of Sri Lanka.

- (f) Any candidate who has special qualifications may at the discretion of the Commander of the Air Force be considered, even though he / she does not have any of above pre requisites, provided that he / she possess the requisite of the professional / special qualifications for the best interest of the Sri Lanka Air Force.
- (g) Due considerations will be given to current outstanding achievements in the field of sports.
- (h) Official Language Requirements: Selected candidates will be required to comply with any rules already made or may be made hereafter for giving effect to the Language Policy of the Republic of Sri Lanka and in particular for implementing the provisions in the Official Language Act, No. 33 of 1956.
- (j) Selected candidates will be required to undergo training at such places as decided by the Commander of the Air Force. If at any time during training, the officer is reported on by the authorities as being unsuitable for reasons of misconduct or due to causes within his / her control, he / she will be liable to have his / her commission withdrawn and / or be subject to other disciplinary action in accordance with the Sri Lanka Air Force Disciplinary Regulations.
- The conditions of service for an officer of the Sri Lanka Air Force are in terms of Sri Lanka Air Force Regulations published in Gazette No. 10,240 of 27th April 1951 and as amended from time to time. In terms of Section 10 of the Air Force Act, "Every officer shall hold his / her appointment during the President's pleasure". However an officer has no right to resign his / her commission unilaterally, but under provision of Section 11 of the Air Force Act may be allowed by the President to do so. The provisions of any Bond / Agreement envisaging a period of obligatory service in respect of training and subsequent courses will not supersede the provisions of Section 11 of the Air Force Act stated above. Retirement from the Air Force will be applicable under conditions specified in the Air Force Pensions and Gratuities Code.
- (*l*) All officers are liable to be posted for duty or training in any part of the world at any time.
- (m) All officers are governed by the Air Force Act and orders issued from time to time.

- (n) A single officer is required to live in the Officers Mess. He / She are provided with furnished accommodation and food. Batman service will also be provided. A single officer's ration allowance and batman allowance are paid to the Mess.
- (p) A married officer may be provided with a married quarter if available. Recovery of rental will be as per the Establishment Code. Married officers not in occupation of married quarters will be entitled to a rental allowance as stated in para 6. e. (11).

# 6. Pay and Allowances:

(a) Since a consolidated revision is in progress at present, and same revision completes in year 2020, followings are the amounts payable in 2019. Further it is to be noted that all consolidated salaries indicated below are the initial step of particular grade.

Year	2020
Rank	(Annual)
Pilot Officer (Cadet)	Rs. 463,260.00
Pilot Officer (Non Cadet)	Rs. 502,860.00
Flying Officer	Rs. $571,380.00 - (30x16020) = Rs. 1,051,980.00$
Flight Lieutenant	Rs. $667,500.00 - (24x16020) = Rs. 1,051,980.00$
Squadron Leader	Rs. 731,580.00 – (22x16020) = Rs. 1,084,020.00
Wing Commander	Rs. 751,140.00 - (17x19560) = Rs. 1,083,660.00

(b) Pay applicable to Medical Officers:

Year	2020
Grade	(Annual)
Preliminary Grade	Rs. 651,480.00 (2x16,020-7x16,140-2x19,560- 16x26,040) = Rs. 1,252,260.00
Grade II	Rs. 699,660.00 (6x16140-2x19560- 16x26040)= Rs. 1,252,260.00
Grade I	Rs. 861,660.00(15x26040) = Rs. 1,252,260.00
Specialist Grade	Rs. 1,056,000.00 (12x32,400)= Rs. 1,444,800.00

(c) Pay applicable to Dental Officers

Year	2020
Grade	(Annual)
Grade II	Rs. 635,460.00 (3x16,020-7x16,140-2x19560- 16x26,040)= Rs. 1,252,260.00
Grade I	Rs. 861,660.00 (15x26,040) = Rs. 1,252,260.00
Specialist Grade	Rs. 1,056,000.00 (12x32400)= Rs. 1,444,800.00

- (d) Other allowances applicable to Medical and Dental Officers
  - (1) Pensionable allowances

Preliminary Grade - Rs.1,700.00 per month
Grade II - Rs.1,700.00 per month
Grade I - Rs.3,400.00 per month
Specialist Grade - Rs.3,400.00 per month

(2) Non Pensionable allowances

Preliminary Grade - Rs.2,125.00 per month Grade II - Rs.1,700.00 per month Grade I - Rs. 400.00 per month

(3) DAT allowances - Rs.35,000.00 per month

(4) Extra duty payments

Preliminary Grade - Rs. 687.00 per hour Grade II - Rs. 796.00 per hour Grade I - Rs. 1,101.00 per hour Specialist Grade - Rs. 1,302.00 per hour

(5) Language proficiency allowance

Preliminary Grade - Rs.1485.00 per month Grade II - Rs. 1495.00 per month Grade I - Rs.2320.00 per month Specialist Grade - Rs.2850.00 per month

- (6) Service allowances indicated in paragraph e (18) are to be calculated separately as applicable.
- (e) Service Allowances:-
  - (1) Cost of living allowance Rs.7, 800.00 per month.
  - (2) Incentive allowance of Rs. 250.00 per month after five years of service.
  - (3) Hard allowance Rs. 620.00 per month.
  - (4) Additional Hard allowance Rs. 4,380.00 per month for those serving in operational areas.
  - (5) Special allowance Rs. 3,100.00 per month.
  - (6) Interim allowance Rs.1,000.00 per month. (The existing rate is amend as per the budget proposal in 2019-Amounted rate Rs.2500.00 per month).
  - (7) Uniform upkeep allowance Rs.525.00 per month.
  - (8) Batman allowance Rs. 637.50 per month (if permitted to live out).
  - (9) Ration allowance Rs. 24005.47 per month (Rs.774.37 per day, if permitted to live out).
  - (10) Qualification pay where applicable (up to a maximum of Rs. 637.50 per month).
  - (11) A rent Allowance for married officers who do not occupy in the Government quarters. Pilot Officer to Squadron Leader and above Rs.3,200.00 to Rs. 8,500.00 per month.
  - (12) Telephone bill allowance. Wing Commander to Air Vice Marshal Rs.2,500.00 to Rs. 5,000.00 per month.
  - (13) Three sets of holiday railway warrants per year (for officer, spouse and children).
  - (14) An additional set of railway warrants or the reimbursement of bus fare for officers living in Messes to travel from the Mess to the hometown once a month.
  - (15) Free issue of uniforms and ancillary items.
  - (16) Free medical facilities (including for families if applicable).

- (17) Married Officers permitted to live out are entitled to a free bus pass from the Sri Lanka Transport Board to travel from residence to place of work within 30 miles radius.
- (18) Service allowance Rs.300.00, Rs.400.00, Rs.500.00 as applicable (Payable to service Medical and Dental Officers in consideration to the number of complete years of service)
- (19) Additional service allowance Rs.1, 500.00 per month (applicable to service Medical and Dental Officers only)
- (20) 1/20 Allowance Con pay x 1/20 x 3 days (Maximum) per month (applicable to service Medical and Dental Officers only)
- (21) Extra Duty Payments 120 hrs (Maximum) per month (applicable to service Medical and Dental Officers only)
- (22) Telephone bill allowances -

Specialist Doctors: Rs. 8,000.00 per month Other Doctors: Rs. 4,000.00 per month

7. Pensions/Gratuities: - Payable in terms of the Air Force Pensions & Gratuities Code 1981 and as amended from time to time. All officers are contributors to the Widows and Orphans Pension (Armed Forces) Scheme. Rates of contributions are as per Widows and Orphans Pension (Armed Forces) Scheme Regulations 1970.

# 8. Instructions to applicants:

- (b) Candidates who are in Government Service /Corporations /Boards/ Civil Establishments should forward their applications through their Heads of Department/ Corporations/Boards/Civil Establishments and should bear a certificate to the effect that the candidate will be released if selected.
- (c) Candidates will be required to produce the originals with certified photo copy of the following documents when summoned for interviews or when called upon to do so:-
  - (1) Certificate of Registration of Birth with a photo copy (Certificate issued for the purpose of the education code will not be accepted).
  - (2) National Identity Card and a photo copy.
  - (3) Original certificates in support of the educational and professional qualifications required for the branch applied and a photo copy.
  - (4) Certificates of trade / technical training and / or experience (if any) obtained from a recognized institution and a photo copy.

- (5) Two recent certificates of character (within 06 months obtained). One of these should be from the Principal of the last school attended and the other from a responsible person who has knowledge of the applicant for more than two years or from the present employer (if employed).
- (6) Original certificates in support of sports activities and Extra Curricular activities and a photo copy.
- (7) A plain folder with file tag.
- (8) Two colour photos of 2x2½ inches certified by the Grama Niladari.
- (d) Applications of candidates who fail to produce documents when requested to do so will not be considered.
- (e) No documents or original copies of documents should be attached to the application form.
- (f) The Air Force will not be responsible for loss of any originals of certificates if enclosed with the application form
- 9. Any statement in the application which is found to be incorrect will render the applicant liable to disqualification if the inaccuracy is discovered before the selection and to dismissal if discovered after the selection.

#### 10. Selection Interview:

- (a) Preliminary selections will be made amongst those candidates who fulfil the above conditions. Candidates so selected from the Preliminary Interview will be required to undergo a medical test as may be prescribed by the Commander of the Air Force. The final selection will then be made after an interview appointed by the Ministry of Defence.
- (b) Candidates selected for interviews will be informed in writing of the place, time and date of such interviews. No travelling or other expenses will be paid in this respect.
- (c) On every occasion an applicant is summoned for an interview he / she is to produce his / her National Identity Card issued by the Department of Registration of Persons.
- (d) Candidates likely to be suitable following their final interviews will be required to present themselves before an Air Force Medical Board.
- (e) Anyone who desires to recommend a candidate should do so by giving his / her testimonial. Any form of canvassing or attempt to influence in the selection of a candidate will result in disqualification of such candidate.
- (f) Candidates who are found unsuitable for enlistment will not be notified.

DLS DIAS,
RWP, RSP and three Bars, VSV, USP, MSc (Def & Strat Stu), ndc, psc
Air Marshal.
Commander of the Air Force.

Headquarters, Sri Lanka Air Force, PO Box 594, Colombo 02.

	Official use only
	APPLICATION FOR COMMISSION IN THE SRI LANKA REGULAR VOLUNTEER / AIR FORCE IN THEBRANCH
01.	Nationality:———.
	(State whether citizen of Sri Lanka by descent or by registration and if latter, quote number and date of certificate)
02.	Full Name (As per the National Identity Card):——.
03.	National Identity Card Number :———.
04.	Branch Applied:——.
05.	Post applied:———.
06.	Permanent address:——.
07.	Nearest Police Station to permanent address:———.
08.	School Attended:——.
09.	Postal address:——.
10.	E-mail address:——.
11.	Date of birth:——.
	(Age as at 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2020) : Years : Months : Days :
12.	Height:cm (feetinches)
13.	District:——.
14.	Electorate:——.
15.	GN Division and Number :———.
16.	Telephone number :———.
17	Civil status :

18. Particulars of School and /or University and qualifications obtained:-

University/ Other/Professional

Name of School	Type of Examination	Year and Index number of the Examination	Subjects passed (including grading)
	Ordinary Level		
	Advanced Level (To mention whether qualified or not to apply for University admission)  Yes No		General English Common General Test

Year and Index number

Subjects passed

Common General Test

	Name and Address of Employer		Nature of	Nature of Employment		Period of Service		
					Fro	om	То	
	Particulars of parents:-							
	Full Name Father's & NIC			Occupation		Present Address		
	Mother's		Pa	st Pr	resent			
	Details of current achievem			s of teams and c	ompetitions	participated	l with dates / years	
	and standards / levels achiev	ved) :	<del></del> .					
. Other achievements of note at School / University (Island ranking, Projects Completed, field of in-plant training ar institution) or with outside organizations. (Give details with dates / years etc):————.								
. Any previous service in the Armed Force or Volunteer Force, Cadet Corps or Boy Scout Organization :————————————————————————————————————								
. Have you applied earlier to join the Sri Lanka Air Force or any of the Armed Services or Police, if so give details at the outcome of such applications:————.								
	Have you being convicted of	or bound ove	r by a civil or 1	military court, if	so give deta	ils :	<del></del> .	
7. If earlier employed in a Government Department or in the Public Sector / Board / Corporation (including the Cent Bank, National Bank, Universities, Joint Stock Companies controlled by the Government etc.) reasons for terminati of employment:————.								
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	of employment :		rnation	Po	stal Address	y		
	of employment :  Particulars of testimonials:-		-	Po	stal Address	5		
	of employment :  Particulars of testimonials:-  Name	Desig	nation	Ро	stal Address	<u> </u>		
	Of employment:  Particulars of testimonials:-  Name  Declaration to be signed by	Desig	mation					
.1	of employment :  Particulars of testimonials:-  Name	Design the applicant that answers stood the pro	nation  nt:- given to the alcedure which v	bove questions a	re true and c	correct to the	e best of my knowl	