

56th Healthcare Operations Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Medical Operations

Squadron on 21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹

Redesignated 56th Healthcare Operations

Squadron on 15 July 2019.

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996²
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998³
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁴
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁵
- [1 July] 2003-30 June 2005⁶
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁷
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁸
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁹
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁰
- 1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹¹
- 1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹²
- 1 July 2011-30 June 2012¹³
- 1 July 2012-30 June 2013¹⁴
- 1 July 2013-30 June 2014¹⁵



¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

² AETC SO GA-18, 15 November 1996

³ AETC SO GA-12, 9 November 1998

⁴ AETC SO GA-9, 8 December 2000

⁵ AETC SO GA-55, 29 April 2004

⁶ AETC SO GA-0052, 22 June 2006

⁷ AETC SO GA-045, 8 May 2007

⁸ AETC SO G-054, 28 February 2008

⁹ AETC SO G-071, 3 April 2009

¹⁰ AETC SO G-025, 11 March 2010

¹¹ AETC SO G-086, 9 May 2011

¹² AETC SO G-171, 17 April 2012

¹³ AETC SO G-036, 1 March 2013

¹⁴ AETC SO G-017, 1 February 2014

¹⁵ AETC SO G-029, 8 January 2015

Decorations. (Continued)

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)

1 July 2014-30 June 2015¹⁶
1 July 2015-30 June 2016¹⁷
1 July 2016-30 June 2017¹⁸
1 July 2017-30 June 2018¹⁹
1 July 2018-30 June 2019²⁰

Assignments. 56th Medical Group, 1 April 1994-.²¹

Stations. Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.²²

Emblem. Approved on 23 October 1997, Redrawn 30 May 2019.

Blazon. On a disc pily of nine Gules and Or, a base Azure, overall a stylized Staff of Aesculapius Proper; all within a narrow border Blue.

Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "56TH MEDICAL OPERATIONS SQ" in Blue letters.

Motto. None.

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The Staff of Aesculapius stands for hope, life and wisdom, as well as the unit's mission of providing quality patient health care. The alternating rays suggest twenty-four hour medical care.

¹⁶ AETC SO G-006, 14 October 2016

¹⁷ AETC SO G-022, 22 March 2017

¹⁸ AETC SO G-015, 19 Dec 2017

¹⁹ AETC SO G-057, 20 May 2019

²⁰ AETC SO G-013, 18 Dec 2019

²¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

²² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.

56th Medical Operations Squadron [1 April 1994-14 July 2019]

Col Reba Ray	1 April 1994 ²³	
Col Michael Gookin	20 October 1994 ²⁴	
Lt Col James N. Black	13 February 1997 ²⁵	
Lt Col Margaret B. Matarese	12 July 1999 ²⁶	
Lt Col Gail McCain	31 May 2001 ²⁷	
Lt Col Paul A. Friedrichs	22 May 2003 ²⁸	[Brigadier General]
Lt Col Janet T. Taylor	17 May 2005 ²⁹	
Col Dean L. Messelheiser	5 June 2007 ³⁰	
Col David C. Hall	20 May 2009 ³¹	
Col Nicola A. Choate	10 June 2011 ³²	
Col Constance I. Jackson	27 August 2013 ³³	
Col Stephen R. Boden	24 July 2015 ³⁴	
Col Joseph R. Beard	21 July 2017 ³⁵	
Lt Col Nathan T. Schwamburger	17 June 2019-14 July 2019. ³⁶	

56th Healthcare Operations Squadron [15 July 2019-.]

Lt Col Nathan T. Schwamburger	14 July 2019-Present. ³⁷
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Narrative.

The unit was constituted as the 56th Medical Operations Squadron on 21 March 1994 and activated on 1 April 1994 at Luke AFB, Arizona. On 15 July 2019, the unit was redesignated as the 56th Healthcare Operations Squadron. Assigned to the 56th Medical Group, the squadron provides outpatient/ambulatory clinical services to TRICARE Prime beneficiaries through its primary care and specialty clinics.

Locally Updated on 20 February 2020

Locally Updated by Rick Griset

²³ 56 MDSS SO GU-001, c. 12 May 1994

²⁴ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 17 October 1994

²⁵ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 30 January 1997

²⁶ 56 MDG SO GU012, 8 July 1999

²⁷ 56 MDG SO GU-005, 30 May 2001

²⁸ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, c. 1 May 2003

²⁹ 56 MDG SO G-05-02, 19 April 2005

³⁰ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, 31 May 2007

³¹ 56MSG SO G-031, 8 June 2009

³² 56 MSG SO G-014, 10 June 2011

³³ 56 MSG SO GS-28, 27 August 2013

³⁴ 56 MSG SO GS-10-15, 15 June 2015

³⁵ 56 MSG SO G-26-17, 20 July 2017

³⁶ 56 MSG SO G-19-28, 17 June 2019

³⁷ 56 MSG SO G-19-053, 11 Dec 2019