



# FLEET AIR ARM

## AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER

As an Air Traffic Control Officer, you'll head up the team responsible for maintaining the 'safe flow of air traffic'. To achieve it in a sky full of commercial airliners, private planes and other aircraft is a complex process even in peacetime. Add in the complications of political tension, natural disaster, conflict or bad weather and it's easy to see why you'll need a cool head and excellent analytical, communication and decision-making skills. They'll be equally vital whether you're in charge of a busy shore base or the fleet of helicopters and fast jets on board an aircraft carrier. In both cases, you'll rely on highly sophisticated radar and communications systems and your skilled team of Aircraft Controllers to keep the skies safe for everyone.

### What we're looking for

This job demands an analytical mind and the ability to gather, evaluate and process information from different sources, often at the same time. You'll also need to be able to make decisions quickly and while under pressure. Lives are at stake, so you will have to be extremely safety-conscious, whatever the situation or conditions. Above all, you must be a clear, effective and decisive communicator. A Pilot in a combat situation doesn't have time to repeat a question, or ask to have an answer clarified. As an officer, you'll need to be concerned with the welfare, morale, training and development of a highly-skilled team who'll look to you for expertise, management and leadership.

### Basic training

You'll begin your career at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) in Dartmouth. You'll spend eight months here, learning leadership and teamwork skills and the principles of command and management. You will put these into practice during several exercises on Dartmoor and the River Dart. Alongside your academic studies, you'll be taught to handle small ships and you will spend 10 weeks at sea, working in every department on board, learning how they operate and gaining first-hand experience of life in a warship.

### Professional training

Your training begins on state-of-the-art simulators at RAF Shawbury in Shropshire. It's demanding and intensive and you'll be working with skilled and experienced operators. From here, you'll move on to gain hands-on experience at one of the Royal Naval Air Stations, where you'll spend up to 12 months working with real aircraft under the supervision of experienced Air Traffic Control Officers. It generally takes about two years from joining Britannia Royal Naval College to being awarded your certificate of competency. Then you're ready to take on the challenges and responsibility of your first job as an Air Traffic Control Officer.

### Pay and conditions

Royal Navy pay compares well with similar civilian jobs. As well as basic pay, you'll get extra money for special skills, when you're promoted and when you're away at sea.

We also offer an excellent pension scheme, six weeks' paid holiday a year and free medical and dental care.

You'll generally join us on an initial commission, which is for 12 years. You may have the opportunity to serve beyond this, depending on what you want and the needs of the Royal Navy. If you want to leave, you can send us your request one year before completing your specified return of service. How long this return of service is, will depend on the branch you join. You will need to give 12 months' notice.

### Promotion

For all officers, the opportunities for promotion are excellent. To help you with your career, we'll offer you plenty of feedback, encouragement and training. You'll be promoted to Lieutenant automatically as long as you pass your professional training and perform to the level needed. After that, you'll be chosen on merit for promotion to Lieutenant Commander and beyond.

### Skills for life

During your professional training and throughout your career, you'll gain qualifications accredited by academic institutions and leading professional and industry organisations. All are recognised internationally and will be highly valued by civilian employers. This will greatly improve your prospects of a second career if you decide to leave the Royal Navy.

### Sport and recreation

We can offer you a fantastic range of sports and other activities. All our ships and shore bases have superb sports and fitness facilities and we play a huge number of team and individual games. You'll also have the chance to go on adventurous training, which could be anything from a jungle expedition to mountaineering and caving to parachuting.

## DO I QUALIFY?

### AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER

<b>Age:</b>	17 to 25.
<b>Nationality:</b>	British or British dual citizenship.
<b>Qualifications:</b>	180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.  For direct graduate entry, you'll need a degree or equivalent, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths. You'll also have to pass flying aptitude tests at RAF Cranwell.
<b>Sex:</b>	This job is open to both men and women.
<b>Starting salary:</b>	For current information, visit <a href="http://royalnavy.mod.uk/careers">royalnavy.mod.uk/careers</a>

## HOW TO APPLY

### GET IN TOUCH

1. Go to [royalnavy.mod.uk/careers](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/careers) or call **08456 07 55 55**.

### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

2. Go to an initial careers presentation.
3. Have an informal discussion with a Careers Adviser.
4. Take the recruit test.
5. Discuss your job options with a Careers Adviser.
6. Pass the medical, eye, pre-joining fitness tests, aptitude tests and the Admiralty Interview Board.
7. Join the Royal Navy.

