



FLEET AIR ARM

AIRCREWMAN

As an Aircrewman, you'll be a member of the crew in the Royal Navy's Anti-Submarine Merlin Helicopter or Commando Merlin Helicopter. You will participate in all aspects of planning and execution of the mission and be a valuable member of its crew. In the Anti-Submarine Merlin you will operate sophisticated detection equipment in a multitude of roles assisting the Observer (Navigator). As a Commando Aircrewman you will be responsible for everything in the rear of the aircraft from loading personnel and equipment, to the operation of the aircraft's weapon system. Becoming an Aircrewman is a challenging but rewarding career which brings with it accelerated promotion opportunities.

What we're looking for

You must have commitment, enthusiasm and common sense. As a member of the crew in an aircraft, you'll also need to be confident, methodical and self-disciplined. You must be calm under pressure and able to think on your feet. Instant reactions and split second timing are crucial and, as lives maybe at stake, you must be a clear and effective communicator.

Initial training

Prior to your selection as an Aircrewman, you will need to successfully complete a two-day Flying Aptitude Test at RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire. This test is designed to assess your suitability to undertake flying training. You will also be required to pass an Aircrew medical during your selection process. Having achieved these pre-requisites your Royal Navy career begins with 10 weeks' basic training at HMS Raleigh. It sounds like a ship, but in fact it's a shore base near Plymouth. The discipline, teamwork, organisational, fire fighting and weapon handling skills you'll learn here will stay with you right through your Royal Navy career. Aim to get yourself as fit as you can before you arrive. You'll be doing a lot of physical exercise, and you'll find it much easier if you're in good shape. There's also a swimming test, so if you can't swim, make sure you've learned by the time you join us. You can find out more about HMS Raleigh at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Professional training

To qualify as an Aircrewman you will need to complete a complex training package. After HMS Raleigh you will undertake a number of courses which will prepare you for Flying Training. This Flying Training commences with the Joint Aircrewman Course at RAF Shawbury in Shropshire which is 40 weeks in duration. During this intense training you will be selected to conduct the relevant specialist training as either an Anti-Submarine Warfare or Commando Aircrewman. Both courses vary in length and involve flying in helicopters within the simulated and airborne environments. Anti-Submarine Warfare Aircrewman training is conducted at the Royal Naval Air Station (RNAS) Culdrose in Cornwall and lasts for 16 months, whilst Commando Training is conducted at RNAS Yeovilton in Somerset and is 7 months in duration. On successful completion of your specialist course, you will then be assigned to a relevant Naval Air Squadron to begin your first job as a qualified Aircrewman.

Skills for life

Training will be a constant feature of your time with us. We'll help you gain academic qualifications such as GCSE's, A-Levels and even a degree. You can work towards NVQs and other vocational awards. Further specialist training opportunities are available during your career. As well as helping you develop your Royal Navy Career, everything you achieve will be valued by a future civilian employer.

Promotion

You will enter the Royal Navy as an Able Rate and, if you are successful during your flying training you will achieve automatic promotion to Leading Hand. After that you'll be chosen for promotion on merit. If you work hard you may go on to become a Petty Officer, Chief Petty Officer and then a Warrant Officer. With the right commitment, skills and ability you could become a Commissioned Officer. Throughout your career, we'll help you succeed by providing encouragement and a wide range of opportunities for further training.

Pay and conditions

Royal Navy pay compares well with similar civilian jobs. As well as basic pay, you'll get extra money when you complete your Aircrewman training. 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 a full career, which is for 18 years or to age 40, whichever is later. You may have the opportunity to serve beyond this, depending on what you wish to do and the needs of the Royal Navy. If you want to leave, you will need to give 12 months' notice. This means you can send us your request one year before completing your specified return of service. This return of service depends on the branch you join.

Not just a job, a way of life

There is a lot more to joining the Royal Navy than doing a job. For a start, all our ships and shore bases have superb sports and fitness facilities. We can offer a fantastic range of sports and other activities. 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. From the moment you join, you'll be part of a team that lives, works and relaxes together, forming friendships and experiences that can last a lifetime. It's a unique way of life, and the opportunities we offer will allow you to reach your potential and enjoy the time you spend with us in full.

DO I QUALIFY?

AIRCREWMAN	
Age:	16 to 25.
Nationality:	British or British Dual Citizenship.
Qualifications:	Two GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard Grades or equivalent.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	For current information, visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

HOW TO APPLY

GET IN TOUCH

1. Go to royalnavy.mod.uk/careers or call **08456 07 55 55**.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

2. Go to an initial careers presentation.
3. Fill in a short application form.
4. Take our recruit test.
5. Discuss your job options with a Careers Adviser.
6. Attend a formal interview at the Careers Office.
7. Pass our medical, eye and pre-joining fitness tests.
8. Pass our Aircrew Aptitude Test.
9. Pass our Pre-Royal Navy Course.
10. Join the Royal Navy.