A Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship is an organisation and wherever you have people, you need efficient administration. As the Logistics and Supply Officer (LSO), it’ll be your job to make sure your crewmates all get fed, paid and equipped and you’ll also manage their employment and legal issues. You’ll be responsible for a large budget and an inventory worth millions of pounds. You’ll also be in overall charge of the catering on board. This puts you right at the heart of the team, with a huge influence on how effective your crewmates are as well as their well-being and morale.

As a Royal Fleet Auxiliary officer, you’ll be expected to lead by example and maintain the highest standards of dress and professional and personal conduct, according to the requirements of the service.

**What we’re looking for**

This role includes managing cash flow, catering, stores and supplies and personnel administration, so you’ll need to be flexible, conscientious and have exceptional planning, organisational and leadership skills. You’ll also need to be resourceful and inventive, with the ability to solve problems in demanding conditions. We must be able to rely on you to perform at your very best at any time of the day or night. You need to be equally happy working on your own, or as part of a skilled team. Above all, you’ll need to be concerned with the welfare, morale, training and development of the ratings and, as your career progresses, junior officers, who’ll look to you for expertise, management and leadership.

**Training**

You’ll begin your career at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) in Dartmouth, learning leadership and teamwork skills, and the principles of command and management.

From Dartmouth, you’ll go on to HMS Raleigh in Cornwall, where you’ll spend six weeks at the Defence Maritime Logistics School gaining the skills and knowledge you need to complete your first sea phase as a Logistics and Supply Officer. Much of your further training will be ‘on the job’. As an officer, you may also have opportunities to gain higher degrees and management qualifications.

**Pay and conditions**

Pay in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary compares well with similar jobs in the Merchant Navy. You’ll receive 84 days’ ‘earned voyage leave’ on full pay after every four months at sea. We offer a choice of excellent Civil Service pension schemes. You can leave at any time by giving three months’ notice.

**Promotion**

You’ll start your career as a Third Officer. With some experience and further training, you could be promoted to Second, then First Officer. As Chief Officer, you’re one step away from becoming a Captain. You’ll be chosen for promotion on merit, so if you work hard, you can quickly progress up the chain of command.

**Skills for life**

Training will be a constant feature of your time with us. We’ll help you gain additional academic qualifications, paying related fees and providing any study leave you need.

**Sport and recreation**

When you’re in a UK port, you’ll be able to use the superb sports and fitness facilities on offer at Royal Navy shore bases. Most RFA ships have gyms and other facilities on board. Overseas, you’ll be free to explore when you are off duty.

**HOW TO APPLY**

1. Go to rfa.mod.uk or call 08456 04 05 20 and ask for an application form.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

2. Application form check.
3. Pass the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Admiralty Interview Board.
4. Pass the Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA) medical fitness examination (ENG 1) and other checks.
5. Join the Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

Salary and pay details correct (1 March 2010).