



ENGINEERING

AIR ENGINEER OFFICER

In this technically demanding job, you are ultimately responsible for the people who keep the Royal Navy flying. On an operational squadron, you'll lead a team maintaining, updating, fitting and testing sophisticated propulsion, weapons, navigation, communications and control systems and keeping the aircraft constantly ready to fly from either ships or airfields. You will also be responsible for maintaining the airworthiness of the aircraft you operate. You may also work in a support and acquisition role. This means you will be a project manager, putting safety management schemes in place, or buying and delivering new systems, solutions and equipment in the aerospace industry. You could even serve on an operational tour in Afghanistan, supporting reconstruction and stabilisation efforts. Whatever direction you follow, you'll need technical expertise and acumen of the highest order and leadership skills to match. We'll help you develop both of these throughout your career.

What we're looking for

As well as excellent technical skills, you'll need to develop the ability to make decisions about complex engineering problems quickly and carry out risk management while under pressure. Lives are at stake, so you will have to be extremely safety-conscious, whatever the situation. Above all, you'll need to be concerned with the welfare, morale, training and development of the team of skilled technicians who'll look to you for expertise, management and leadership.

Initial training

You'll begin your career at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) in Dartmouth. You'll spend 30 training weeks here, with the course split into three 10-week phases. These are: Military Skills, Maritime Skills and Initial Fleet Time. The military skills phase includes learning leadership and teamwork skills and the principles of command and management. You will then put these into practice during several exercises on Dartmoor. During the maritime skills phase you'll be taught to handle small ships on the River Dart and there will be exercises to test you. In the third phase, Initial Fleet Time, you'll spend 10 weeks at sea, working in every department on board, learning how the ship operates and gaining first-hand experience of life in a warship. Finally, you'll return to BRNC for your passing out parade where your family and friends will have the opportunity to witness your joining the Royal Navy as an officer.

Professional training

Your professional training will begin with 12 weeks at sea to learn the engineering principles for your job. You will then begin the 12-month systems engineering and management course at the Defence College of Aeronautical Engineering at HMS Sultan in Gosport. Here you'll learn the principles of flight and get to grips with aircraft systems and components, including avionics, engines and weapon systems. You'll practise aircraft maintenance management in a simulated squadron environment, before spending three months doing the real thing at an operational Royal Naval Air Station (RNAS). During this time, you'll gain a detailed understanding of squadron operations and get your Certificate of Competency to be a practising Air Engineer Officer. Our training is recognised by the IET and RAes and forms part of the Royal Navy's streamlined route to professional registration.

Skills for life

You will have opportunities to study for an MSc or MA at a later stage in your career and your professional training forms part of the streamlined route to becoming a Chartered Engineer within a professional institution. All qualifications 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.

Promotion

For all officers, the opportunities for promotion are excellent. To help you progress 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 necessary level. After that, you'll be selected on merit for promotion to Lieutenant Commander and beyond.

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.

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 career potential and enjoy the time you spend with us to the full.

DO I QUALIFY?

AIR ENGINEER OFFICER

Age:	17 to 29.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	A degree in mechanical, electronic, aeronautical engineering, physics or a related subject, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.
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. Pass the medical, eye and pre-joining fitness tests.
7. Attend a formal interview at the Careers Office.
8. Pass the Admiralty Interview Board.
9. Join the Royal Navy.

