Aviation Boatswain’s Mates – (Handler) (ABH).  ABHs play a major role in launching and recovering naval aircraft from land (Naval Air Stations) or ships (CVN/LHA/LHD/LPD).  Duties include:  supervising the movement, spotting and securing of aircraft and equipment ashore and afloat; performing crash rescue, fire fighting, crash removal, and damage control duties in connection with launching and recovery of aircraft.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARS OF SERVICE</th>
<th>CAREER MILESTONES</th>
<th>AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE</th>
<th>COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS</th>
<th>SEA/SHORE FLOW</th>
<th>TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27-30 ABCM</td>
<td></td>
<td>23.1 Yrs 21.3</td>
<td>CSEL, ECM, AB Detailer/Rating Specialist</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>4th Shore Tour Billet: LCPO/CSEL/ Dept LCPO Duty: Staff/School Qualification: SEA</td>
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<td>20-23 ABCM</td>
<td>ABHCS</td>
<td>23.1 Yrs 21.3</td>
<td>CSEL, CWO, ECM, Rating Detailer/Rating Specialist, Placement Coordinator, Naval Air Station</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3rd Shore Tour Billet: Instructor/Operations LCPO/Terminal LCPO/Field Support LCPO Duty: Staff/School/NAS Qualification: Local JQR/PQS/MTS</td>
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<td>13-16 ABHC</td>
<td>ABH1</td>
<td>16.7 Yrs 10.2</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>2nd Shore Tour Billet: Instructor/ Crash (OLF) Site CPO/ LPO/ Transient Line CPO/LPO/ Terminal CPO/LPO Duty: Staff/School/NAS Qualification: Local JQR/PQS/MTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-13 ABH1</td>
<td>ABH2</td>
<td>10.2 Yrs 5.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>2nd Sea Tour Billet: Flight Deck Chief /Flight Deck LPO/FLY PO/Bay PO/Crash ALPO/WCS/A/C Director/Deck PO/Amphib Shooter/LSE Amphib Duty: CVN/LHA/LHD/LPD/ESB Qualification: Local JQR/PQS</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEARS OF SERVICE</td>
<td>CAREER MILESTONES</td>
<td>AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE</td>
<td>COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS</td>
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<td>TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>ABH2, ABH3</td>
<td>5.2 Yrs</td>
<td>MECP, STA-21, Naval Academy, NROTC, Recruiter, RDC, USS CONSTITUTION, Brig Duty, NATTC Pensacola</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1st Shore Tour Billet: Recruiting/Instructor/RDC/General Duty Crash Crewman (OLF)/Shore Based A/G/ Transient Line/Air Terminal Duty: Staff/School/NAS Qualification: local JQR/PQS/MTS</td>
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<td>1-5</td>
<td>ABH2, ABH3</td>
<td>5.2 Yrs</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>1st Sea Tour Billet: Flight Deck LPO/FLY PO/Bay PO/Crash ALPO/WCS/A/C Director/Deck PO/Amphib Shooter/LSE Amphib Duty: CVN/LHA/LHD/LPD/ESB Qualification: Local JQR/PQS</td>
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<td>1+/-</td>
<td>ABHAN, ABHAA</td>
<td>9 Months</td>
<td>Recruit Training and all schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

1. “A” School is not required.

2. This is a compression rating – ABE/ABH/ABF compress to AB at Master Chief.

3. Common acronyms associated to the career path:

- **ABH**: Aviation Boatswains Mate (Handler)
- **ADTT**: AIR Department Training Team (CVN)
- **ATT**: Aviation Training Team (LHA/LHD/ESB)
- **ATG**: Afloat Training Group
- **BUPERS**: Bureau of Naval Personnel
- **CMEO**: Command Managed Equal Opportunity
- **CNAF**: Commander Naval Air Forces
- **CNAL**: Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic
- **CNAP**: Commander, Naval Air Forces Pacific
- **CNATT**: Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training
- **COMFRC**: Commander Fleet Readiness Center
- **CORR CTRL**: Corrosion Control
- **CPOA**: Chief Petty Officer's Association
- **CSEL**: Command Senior Enlisted Leader
- **CWO**: Chief Warrant Officer
- **DCTT**: Damage Control Training Team
- **DET**: Detachment
- **EAWS**: Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist
- **ECM**: Enlisted Community Manager
- **ESB**: Expeditionary Sea Base
- **FCPOA**: First Class Petty Officer's Association
Considerations for advancement from E6 to E7

1. Sea Assignments (all)
   - Should have served as DIV LPO/ALPO/FLY PO/BAY PO/CRASH LPO
   - Should be qualified JOOD/OOD(I/P) for CVN. OOD(I/P) for L-Class and ESB platforms
   - Should have earned at least two warfare pins
   - Special consideration should be given to those with Afloat Training Specialist if ATS program is available.
   - ADTT/ATT is expected. Special considerations should be given for DCTT team or other Training Team member. Repair Locker Leader or other Damage Control organization involvement
   - Should have CVN qualifications (i.e. Flight/Hanger/Crash CPO, Deck Caller, Hanger Deck LPO/ Crash LPO, Fly PO/Hanger Bay PO if member has served on or is currently serving on a CVN.
   - Aircraft Handling Officer is an advanced qualification on a CVN.
   - Should have LHA/LHD qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck/Hanger Deck/Crash CPO, Flight Deck/Hanger Deck/Crash LPO, Fly PO) if member has served on or is currently serving on an LHA/LHD.
   - Should have LPD/LSD qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck Aircraft Director) if member has served on or is currently serving on a LPD/LSD
   - Should have ESB qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck Aircraft Director) if member has served on or is currently serving on an ESB.
   - Command Collateral Duty with documented impact
   - FCPOA involvement. Elected position is highly favorable
   - Sailor 360 active involvement

2. Shore Assignments (all)
   - Personnel assigned to ABH “A” School or “C” school instructors with 805A NEC are carefully screened and selected to that assignment and are highly valued by the ABH community
   - Personnel Assigned to RTC as a Recruit Division Commander are carefully screened and selected for this high priority assignment
   - FCPOA involvement; FCPOA elected position is highly favorable
   - Sailor 360 active involvement
   - Command Collateral with documented impact
Considerations for advancement from E7 to E8

1. Sea Assignments (all)
   - Successfully served as the DIV, or DEPT LCPO
   - Should be qualified JOOD/OOD(I/P) for CVN. OOD(I/P) for L-Class and ESB platforms
   - Primary or Assistant Section Leader, and other outside the normal scope (ie: ATTWO)
   - Should have earned at least two warfare pins
   - ADTT/ATT member. DCTT, Repair locker leader or other Damage Control organization involvement is highly favorable
   - Special consideration should be given to those with Afloat Training Specialist if ATS program is available.
   - Should have CVN qualifications (i.e. Flight/Hanger/Crash CPO, Deck Caller) if member has served on or is currently serving on a CVN.
   - Aircraft Handling Officer is an advanced qualification on a CVN.
   - Should have LHA/LHD qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck/Hanger Deck/Crash CPO) if member has served on or is currently serving on an LHA/LHD.
   - Should have LPD/LSD qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck Aircraft Director) if member has served on or is currently serving on a LPD/LSD
   - Should have ESB qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck Aircraft Director) if member has served on or is currently serving on an ESB.
   - Command Collateral with documented impact
   - CPOA involvement. Elected position is highly favorable
   - Sailor 360 active involvement and Initiation Committee lead

2. Shore Assignments (all)
   - Personnel assigned to TYCOM Staff, ATG, ABH “A” School or “C” School Instructors with 805A NEC are carefully screened and selected to that assignment and are highly valued by the ABH community
   - Personnel Assigned to RTC as a Recruit Division Commander are carefully screened and selected for this high priority assignment
   - Command Collateral with documented impact
   - CPOA involvement. Elected position is highly favorable
   - Sailor 360 active involvement and Initiation Committee lead

Considerations for advancement from E8 to E9

1. Sea Assignments (all)
   - Successfully served as the DIV, or DEPT LCPO
   - Should be qualified OOD(I/P) for CVN. OOD(I/P) for L-Class and ESB platforms
   - Should have served as a Senior Section Leader
   - Should have earned at least two warfare pins
   - ADTT/ATT member. DCTT, Repair locker leader or other Damage Control organization involvement is highly favorable
   - Special consideration should be given to those with Afloat Training Specialist if ATS program is available.
   - Should have CVN qualifications (i.e. Flight/Hanger/Crash CPO, Deck Caller) if member has served on or is currently serving on a CVN.
   - Aircraft Handling Officer is an advanced qualification on a CVN.
   - Should have LHA/LHD qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck/Hanger Deck/Crash CPO) if member has served on or is currently serving on an LHA/LHD.
   - Should have LPD/LSD qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck Aircraft Director) if member has served on or is currently serving on a LPD/LSD
   - Should have ESB qualifications (i.e. Flight Deck Aircraft Director) if member has served on or is currently serving on an ESB.
   - Command Collateral with documented impact
   - CPO mess involvement. Elected position is highly favorable
   - Sailor 360 active involvement and Initiation Committee lead
2. Shore Assignments (all)
   - Personnel assigned to TYCOM Staff, ATG, ABH “A” School or “C” school instructors with 805A NEC are carefully screened and selected to that assignment and are highly valued by the ABH community
   - Personnel Assigned to RTC as a Recruit Division Commander are carefully screened and selected for this high priority assignment
   - Command Collateral with documented impact
   - CPOA involvement. Elected position is highly favorable
   - Sailor 360 active involvement and Initiation Committee lead