



**AO CAREER PATH
(AW)**



Aviation Ordnancemen (AO). AOs are aircraft armament (weapons) specialists and are in charge of storing, servicing, inspecting and handling all types of weapons and ammunition carried on Navy aircraft.					
YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/SHORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
28-30	AOCM	22.1 Yrs	CSEL, Rating Detailer	36/36	Follow-on Shore/Sea Tours
24-28	AOCM AOCS	22.1 Yrs 19.8	CMC, Rating Detailer	48	4 th Sea Tour Billet: Av ORD, DIV CPO, Dept LCPO CSC, SEA, Duty: Squadron/Ship's Co.
21-24	AOCS AOC	19.8 Yrs 16.4	CWO, CSEL, CSC, Placement Coordinator, Naval Academy Company Advisor, Brig Duty	36	3 rd Shore Tour Billet: Ord Tech, Trng Manager, Ammo Mgr, Div Sup, QA Sup, Maint/Prod Ctrl Sup/Coord, System's Analyst/ Project Specialist, Duty: FRC, NAS, NMC, CVW, NPC, Qualification: SEA
17-21	AOCS AOC AO1	19 Yrs 16.4 9.3	MECP, CWO, CSC, RDC, Naval Academy Company Advisor, Enlisted Detailer, Manpower Analyst, Equal Opportunity Advisor, Brig Duty.	48	3 rd Sea Tour Billet: Maint Tech, PC Sup, QAR/ARM INSP, DIV Sup, Maint/Prod Ctrl Coord, Duty: Squadron/Ship's Company, CVW. Qualification: Full System Maint/QA; Div. LCPO/LPO; DLCPO for LHD..
14-17	AOC AO1	16.4 Yrs 9.3		36	2 nd Shore Tour Billet: Arm Tech, SEAOPDET Coord, Trng Coord, Supervisor, QAR, Maint/Prod Ctrl Sup, Special Programs, Instructor. Duty: FRC, Squadron, NRD, RDC, CNATT, Wing, NATTC. Qualification: Instructor, Supervisor, QAR, Maint/Prod Ctrl Sup, Range Master
9-14	AO1 AO2	9.3 Yrs 5		60	2 nd Sea Tour Billet: Maint Tech, Supervisor, QAR. Duty: SEAOPDET/AIMD, Ship's Company, CVW, Squadron, Weapons Det. Qualification: ESWS, CDI, LPO, QAR TL/QASO.
6-9	AO2 AO3	5 Yrs 3.2	MECP, STA-21, Naval Academy, NROTC, LDO, RDC, Recruiter, Enlisted Detailer, USS CONSTITUTION, Brig Duty	36	1 st Shore Tour Billet: Corr Ctrl, Maint/Weps Tech/Loader, Sup, Instructor, Special Programs. Duty: Squadron, NMC, AIMD, FRC, NRD. Qualification: PC, CDI, Sup Instructor, TL.



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YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/ShORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
1-6	AO3	3.2 Yrs	MECP, STA-21, Naval Academy, NROTC, USS CONSTITUTION,	54	1 st Sea Tour Billet: Maint/Weps Tech/Handler, Corr Ctrl, PC. Duty: FRC SEAOPDET, CVW, FRC SEAOPDET. Qualification: EAWS, PC, TM/TL.
1+/-	AOAN AOAA Accession Training	9 Months			Recruit Training (8 weeks) "A" School for aircraft platform/AIMD/WPNS Assembly billet.

Notes:

1. "A" school is not required
- 2 This rating utilizes a large amount of general or special duty billets for shore duty instead of in-rate billets, due to a lack of in rate shore duty options. Filling a billet outside the AO rating ashore will likely be required during a Sailor's career.
3. Career enhancing billets or tours include: RDC, Recruiting, Enlisted Detailer, Placement, Instructor Duty (NATTC, CNATT), FRS.
4. Extended sea tours and early return to sea are in the best interest of the AO community.
5. List of common acronyms applicable to this career path:

AIMD	Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Dept
ALPO	Assitant Leading Petty Officer
AMMT	Aviation Maintenance Management Team
APU	Auxiliary Power Unit
APT	Aviation Program Team
ATG	Afloat Training Group
ATS	Afloat Training Specialist
ATTWO	Antiterrorism Tactical Watch Officer
AV/WEP	Avionics / Weapons
BUPERS	Bureau of Naval Personnel
CDI	Collateral Duty Inspector
CDQAR	Collateral Duty Quality Assurance Rep.
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
DLCPO	Departmental Leading Chief Petty Officer
EAWS	Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist



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ECM	Enlisted Community Manager
FCPOA	First Class Petty Officer's Association
FRC	Fleet Readiness Center
FRS	Fleet Readiness Squadron
GFRC	Ground and Flight Risk Clause
GGR	Government Ground Representative
LCPO	Leading Chief Petty Officer
LDO	Limited Duty Officer
LPO	Leading Petty Officer
MCI	Material Condition Inspection
MECP	Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program
MPA	Maintenance Program Assist
MTS	Master Training Specialist
NAS	Naval Air Station
NATEC	Naval Air Technical Data and Engineering Service Command
NATTC	Naval Air Technical Training Center
NAWDC	Naval Aviation Warfighting Development Center
NMC	Navy Munitions Command
NPC	Navy Personnel Command
NROTC	Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps
OCS	Officer Candidate School
OOD	Officer of the Deck
PC	Plane Captain
PERS	Personnel
PMA	Program Management Activity
QA	Quality Assurance
QAR	Quality Assurance Representative
QAS	Quality Assurance Supervisor
QASO	Quality Assurance Safety Observer
RDC	Recruit Division Commander
SEA	Senior Enlisted Academy
SEL	Senior Enlisted Leader
SEAOPDET	Sea Operational Detachment
STA-21	Seaman To Admiral
TL	Team Leader
TM	Team Member

Considerations for advancement from E6 to E7

1. Sea Assignments:

- Should be qualified Quality Assurance Safety Observer
- CDQAR/QAR for squadron and/or AIMD
- Dual warfare qualified
- Asst. Command Collateral or primary departmental collateral duty
- Weapons Training Team onboard a CVN/LHD
- LPO or Production LPO(only G-3 has a Production LPO)
- Gunnery Liaison Officer/Gun Control Officer (LHD/LHA)
- Sailor 360 Involvement
- FCPOA involvement

2. Shore Assignments:

- Should include an RDC, Instructor (MTS required) and/or Recruiting Tour
- In rate assignments: FRS, Inspection Team, Major NMC, NAWDC
- Aviation Program Team (APT)
 - APT provides oversight of contract requirements in support of the GFR, GGFR, and COR in areas to include maintenance management, safety, QA, and property control



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- GGR's are responsible for surveillance and oversight of contractor aircraft ground operations as part of an Aviation Program Team. Designation as a GGR is considered an advanced qualification for E-6's and may only be granted to top-performing E-6's in a program team
- Community Service
 - Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal
- Civilian Education
- Military Education PMEs
- Navy COOL and/or USMAP Apprenticeships
- Sailor 360 Involvement
- FCPOA involvement

Considerations for advancement from E7 to E8

1. Sea Assignments:
 - Division LCPO
 - Command Collateral Duty
 - Departmental 3MA
 - Qualified ATTWO
 - Safe for flight/Full system QAR
 - QAS
 - Qual/Cert Board Member/Qualifier
 - CPOA involvement
 - Sailor 360 / Initiation involvement
 - Leading a committee a plus / Selectee Sponsor
2. Shore Assignments:
 - Should include an RDC, Instructor (MTS required) and/or Recruiting Tour
 - In rate assignments: FRS, Inspection Team, Major NMC, NAWDC
 - Aviation Program Team (APT)
 - APT provides oversight of contract requirements in support of the GFR, GGFR, and COR in areas to include maintenance management, safety, QA, and property control
 - Community Service
 - MOVSM
 - Civilian Education
 - Military Education PMEs
 - CPOA involvement
 - Sailor 360 / Initiation involvement
 - Leading a committee a plus / Selectee Sponsor

Considerations for advancement from E8 to E9

1. Sea Assignments
 - Dept. LCPO
 - G3/G5 LCPO
 - CSEL
 - Command Collateral Duty
 - Maint. Control or Prod Control Chief
 - CPOA involvement
 - Officer position
 - Sailor 360 / Initiation involvement
 - Leading a committee a plus / Selectee Sponsor
2. Shore Assignments:
 - Should include an RDC, Instructor (MTS required) and/or Recruiting Tour



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- In rate assignments: FRS, ATG(ATS required), Inspection Team, Major NMC, NAWDC, Ground Government Representative
- Community Service
- MOVSM
- Civilian Education
- Military Education PME
- Senior Enlisted Academy
- CPOA involvement
 - Officer position
- Sailor 360 / Initiation involvement/ Initiation Lead
- Leading a committee a plus / Selectee Sponsor