Naval Aircrewman Mechanical (AWF) belong to a diverse community that is highly specialized to the platform they are assigned. AWFs serve as Flight Engineers on P-3, C-130 and E-6 aircraft. In addition, they serve as loadmasters and/or Crew Chiefs on C-2 and C-130 and Reel Operators on E-6 aircraft. Members also serve as Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) pilots and Mission Payload Operators on various platforms.

<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>26-30</td>
<td>AWFCM</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>CSEL, ECM, Lead Detailer</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Follow-on Shore Tours</td>
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<td>23-26</td>
<td>AWFCM AWFCS</td>
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<td>Department / Division / Branch</td>
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<td>Duty: VP/VQ/VPU/SRT/VRC.</td>
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<td>Qualification: NATOPS Instructor/</td>
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<td>NATOPS Evaluator / FIUTI /</td>
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<td>CRMI / SFF/Quality Assurance</td>
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<td>Supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-20</td>
<td>AWFCM AWFCS AWFC</td>
<td>23.6 Yrs 21.0 18.4</td>
<td>CWO, CSEL, Instructor Duty, ECM,</td>
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<td>3rd Shore Tour</td>
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<td>Placement Coordinator, Rating Specialist, OCS Leadership Instructor. SEA FA</td>
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<td>Billets: DET LCPO / DET SEL / CTF (Bahrain/Misawa)/FRS</td>
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<td>Operations/Training LCPO/ “A”</td>
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<td>School/ CNATTU/NACCS/Water</td>
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<td>Survival Instructor/MPRWS.</td>
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<td>QAR/Quality Assurance Supervisor</td>
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<td>14-17</td>
<td>AWFCS AWFC AWF1</td>
<td>21.0 Yrs 18.4 9.6</td>
<td>CWO, OCS, MECP, CSEL, Special Projects, SRT</td>
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<td>3rd Sea Tour</td>
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<td>Billets: NATOPS LPO/LCPO/ OPNAV</td>
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<td>SDC/Training LPO/LCPO/Operations</td>
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<td>Control/Quality Assurance</td>
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<td>Supervisor/Division/Branch</td>
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<td>LCPO/LPO</td>
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<td>Duty: VP/VQ/VPU/SRT/VRC Quality</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NATOPS Evaluator/SFF/SIUTI/QAR</td>
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Revised: December 2018
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEARS OF SERVICE</th>
<th>CAREER MILESTONE</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>11-14</td>
<td>AWFCS AWFC AWF1</td>
<td>21.0 Yrs 18.4 9.6</td>
<td>LDO, CWO, STA-21, NSWG UAS, Embassy Duty, Naval War College, OCS Leadership Instructor, Instructor Duty</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2nd Shore Tour Billets: NATOPS LPO/LCPO/Training LPO/LCPO/Operations LPO/LCPO/Division/Branch LCPO/LPO/Classroom Instructor/Schedules Petty Officer /NATOPS Instructor/NATOPS Evaluator/FIUTI/RDC/Recruiting Duty: VQ/VX/VXS/VRC/CTF (Bahrain, Misawa)/SRT/FRS Instructor/“A” School /CNATTU/NACCS/Water Survival Instructor Qualification: MTS/Fleet NATOPS Evaluator/NATOPS Instructor / CRMI/ACTC 400/ACTC 500 WTI/SIUTI/FIUTI/SFF/QAR/CDQAR/CDI</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>AWFC AWF1 AWF2</td>
<td>18.4 Yrs 9.6 3.7</td>
<td>LDO, CWO, OCS, STA-21, MECP.</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2nd Sea Tour Billets: NATOPS LPO/LCPO/Training LPO/LCPO/Operations LPO/LCPO/Maintenance Control Duty: VP/VQ/VPU/SRT/VRC Qualification: NATOPS Instructor Evaluator/ACTC 400/IUTI/CRMI/SFF/QAR/CDQAR/CDI</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>AWF2 AWF3</td>
<td>3.7 Yrs 1.6</td>
<td>STA-21, OCS, MECP, Naval Academy, NROTC</td>
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<td>1st Sea Tour Billets: Aircrewman Duty: VP/VQ/VRC Qualification: NATOPS Instructor/Positional Instructor/Plane Captain/NAWS/EAWS/CDI/CDQAR</td>
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<td>1+-</td>
<td>AWFAN AWFAA Accession Training</td>
<td>9 Months</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Recruit Training/NACCS/FRS and all schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes:

1. A” School is required.

2. This rating is not a compression rating. The following service ratings were effective on 1 Oct 2008: AWR, AWS, AWO, AWF, AWV which fall under the general rating AW. Effective 28 Oct 2016, Senior Chief Petty Officers no longer compress to AWCM.

3. Upon completion of initial training pipelines, AWFs are typically closed-loop detailed by their NEC/platform to meet crew seat ratio until there is no longer a need for that particular NEC. In this regard Sailors may not be afforded the opportunity to serve in the same competitive Shore Duty assignments outside of their communities as are afforded to other ratings. IE: RDC/Recruiting.

4. In addition to the above career path, an AWF is advanced due to his/her proven leadership, performance and qualifications. In order to serve as an AWF, the Sailor must volunteer for duty involving flying and hold a SECRET security clearance.

5. Must attend refresher training at a Fleet Replacement Squadron if member was distributed to a billet not requiring regular flight duties exceeding 18 months for designated Type/Model/Series.

6. Career enhancing billets or tours and special qualifications include: FRS Instructor, MPRWS, Instructor Duty, RDC, SRT, ECM/TECHAD, Detailer, Rating Specialist, Placement Coordinator, Overseas duty.

7. Maintenance rated Fixed Wing Aircrewmen were merged into the AW rating in 2008 when the AW service ratings were established.

8. In addition to operational duties, all AWs are required to maintain minimum Naval Aircrew physical fitness standards.

9. Acronyms specific to the rate include:

- AAS: Advanced Airborne Sensor
- ACTC: Aircrew Training Continuum
- CDI: Collateral Duty Inspector
- CDQAR: Collateral Duty Quality Assurance Representative
- CNATTU: Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit
- CRMI: Crew Resource Management Instructor
- CTF: Commander Task Force
- EAWS: Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist
- ECM: Enlisted Community Manager
- FIUTI: Fleet Instructor Under Training Instructor
- FRS: Fleet Replacement Squadron
- LSRS: Littoral Surveillance Radar System
- MTS: Master Training Specialist
- MPO: Mission Payload Operator
- MPRWS: P-3 and/or P-8 Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Weapons School
- NACCS: Naval Aircrew Candidate School
- NAPP: Naval Aviation Production Process
- NATOPS: Naval Aviation Training Operations Procedures and Standardization
- NATTC: Naval Aviation Technical Training Center
- NAWS: Naval Aircrew Warfare Specialist
- QAR: Quality Assurance Representative
- SFF: Safe for Flight
- SIUTI: FRS Staff Instructor Under Training Instructor
- SRT: Special Reconnaissance Team
- STRATCOM: Strategic Command
- UAS: Unmanned Aerial System
Considerations for advancement from E6 to E7

1. Sea Assignments
   - Documentation of utilizing in-rate qualifications
     - Positional Qualification / 300 Level ACTC
   - At least one warfare pin (NAWS primary)
   - At least one command collateral duty (Primary or Alternate)
   - FCPOA active involvement
   - Sailor 360 Phase I involvement
   - Should have served as LPO or Assistant LPO in one of the following:
     - NATOPS
     - Training or Tactics
     - Operations
     - Maintenance Work Center (if assigned to the Maintenance Department)
   - Upper-level qualifications
     - NATOPS Instructor or Assistant NATOPS Instructor/ 400 Level ACTC
       - Not required but a good indicator of superior performance, considered to be the pinnacle of
         Aircrew qualifications.
     - Safe-For-Flight (SFF) Qualification
       - SFF qualification is not required for advancement to E-7 and does not fall into the normal job scope of
         a Naval Aircrewman, but is considered to be the pinnacle of aviation maintenance qualifications. E-6’s
         attached to the Maintenance Department holding the SFF qualification should be given the same
         consideration for advancement as those holding the 400 level ACTC qualification.

2. Shore Assignments
   - FRS Instructor, MPRWS, Instructor Duty, RDC, SRT, ECM/TECHAD, Detailer, Rating Specialist, Placement
     Coordinator, Overseas duty.
   - Strong consideration for certain successful tours which demonstrate leadership, character, and ability to
     communicate effectively.
     - Attainment of Master Training Specialist (MTS) qualification if eligible
     - Attainment of 500 Level ACTC Weapons Tactics Instructor (WTI) if eligible
     - RDC / Instructor / Recruiter / PERS / BUPERS
   - At least one command collateral duty (Primary or Alternate)
   - FCPOA active involvement
   - Sailor 360 Phase I involvement
   - Should have served as LPO or Assistant LPO in one of the following
     - NATOPS
     - Training or Tactics
     - Operations
   - Attainment and utilization of Instructor Qualifications
Considerations for advancement from E7 to E8

1. Sea Assignments
   - At least one warfare pin (NAWS primary)
   - NATOPS Instructor or Assistant NATOPS Instructor/ 400 Level ACTC position held
   - Safe for Flight (SFF) Qualification attained at some point if attached to the Maintenance Department
   - At least 12 months in a command role / billet
     - Division LCPO
     - Department LCPO
     - Maintenance Control CPO if attached to Maintenance Department
   - Command Collateral Duty with documented impact
   - CPOA involvement
   - Sailor 360 Phase I/II involvement (committee lead or alternate / selectee sponsor)

2. Shore Assignments
   - FRS Instructor, MPRWS, Instructor Duty, Special Projects, RDC, SRT, ECM/TECHAD, Detailer, Rating Specialist, Placement Coordinator, Overseas duty.
   - Strong consideration for certain successful tours which demonstrate leadership, character, and ability to communicate effectively.
     - Attainment of Master Training Specialist (MTS) qualification if eligible
     - Attainment of 500 Level ACTC Weapons Tactics Instructor (WTI) if eligible
     - RDC / Instructor / Recruiter / PERS / BUPERS
   - At least one command collateral duty (Primary or Alternate)
   - CPOA active involvement
   - Sailor 360 Phase I involvement
   - Should have served as LCPO in one of the following:
     - NATOPS
     - Training or Tactics
     - Operations
   - Attainment and utilization of Instructor Qualifications

Considerations for advancement from E8 to E9

1. Sea Assignments
   - Senior Enlisted Academy (required)
   - At least 12 months in a command role / billet any of the following:
     - Aircrew Readiness Manager
     - Senior Enlisted Aircrewman
     - Operations LCPO
     - NATOPS LCPO
   - Senior Enlisted Leader during absence of incumbent CMC/SEL
     - Not required for advancement however a positive indicator of responsibility, character, and integrity
   - Command Collateral with documented impact
   - CPOA involvement and holding a position
   - Sailor 360 Phase I/II involvement (Committee Lead or Alternate)

2. Shore Assignments
   - ECM, Lead Detailer, TYCOM, NAVAIR, FRS, STRATCOM, Schools Command
   - At least 12 months in a command role / billet any of the following:
AWF CAREER PATH
(NAC/AW)

- Aircrew Readiness Manager
- Senior Enlisted Aircrewman
- SEL

- Command Collateral with documented impact
- CPOA active involvement
- Sailor 360 Phase I/II involvement (Committee Lead or Alternate)
- Should have served as LCPO in one of the following:
  - NATOPS
  - Training or Tactics
  - Operations
- Leadership impact across total force