Naval Aircrewman Mechanical (AWF) belongs to a diverse community that is highly specialized to the platform to which they are assigned. AWF’s serve as Flight Engineers on P-3 and C-130 aircraft. In addition, they serve as Crew Chiefs and/or Loadmasters on C-40, C-20, C-37 and C-130 and Second Loadmaster on C-40.

<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 ROTATION</th>
<th>TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-30</td>
<td>AWFCM</td>
<td>24.3 Yrs</td>
<td>CSEL, CMC</td>
<td>Not Defined</td>
<td>Billet: CMC, CSEL, TYCOM, FRC SEL, ECM, FLSW NATOPS LCPO</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>AWF1</td>
<td>9.9 Yrs</td>
<td>STA-21, OCS, MECP, NROTC</td>
<td>Not Defined</td>
<td>Billets: Aircrewman/Work Center Supervisor/ Schedules Petty Officer/ NATOPS Instructor. Maintenance Control LPO/QA LPO/Work Center LPO/Supervisor Duty: VR/VP/ETD Qualification: LM ANI/CC/FE/ CDI/QAR/SFF</td>
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### FTS/AWF CAREER PATH (AW/NAC)

<table>
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<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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>AWF2 AWF3</td>
<td>3.7 Yrs 1.4</td>
<td>STA-21, OCS, MECP, NROTC, RDC</td>
<td>Not Defined</td>
<td>Billets: Aircrewman/Instr/</td>
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<td>NATOPS/Oper/PO Duty: VR/VP/ETD/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NALO/ALTC/CNAFR Qualification: MT</td>
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<td>S/Positional qualification LM/CC/</td>
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<td>FE/2LM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-6</td>
<td>AWF2 AWF3</td>
<td>3.7 Yrs 1.4</td>
<td>STA-21, OCS, MECP, Naval Academy, NROTC</td>
<td>Not Defined</td>
<td>Billets: Aircrewman. Duty: VR/VP/</td>
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<td>ETD. Qualification: NATOPS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>positional qualification LM/2LM/</td>
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<td>Plane Captain/NAWS/EAWS/CDL</td>
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<tr>
<td>1+/-</td>
<td>AWFAN AWFAA</td>
<td>9 Months</td>
<td>STA-21, OCS, MECP, Naval Academy, NROTC</td>
<td>Not Defined</td>
<td>Recruit training/NACCS/ALTC and</td>
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<td>Accession Training</td>
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<td>all schools or training events</td>
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<td>operational command.</td>
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</table>

**Notes:**

1. “A” School is required

2. Upon completion of initial training pipelines, AWFs are typically closed-loop detailed by their NEC/platform until there is no longer a need for that particular NEC.

3. Member must volunteer for duty involving flying.

4. May be required to attend refresher training at a Fleet Replacement Squadron/Air Logistics Training Center upon completion of duty not involving flying. Annual NATOPS evaluations.

5. In addition to operational duties, all AWs are required to maintain minimum Naval Aircrew standards as well as maintain a SECRET or higher security clearance.

6. Due to the limited availability of Shore Duty, it is not uncommon for an FTS Aircrewman to complete an entire career on Sea Duty.

7. **ACRONYMS SPECIFIC TO THE AW RATE INCLUDE:**
   - PCMCPO: Production Control Master Chief
   - MMCPO: Maintenance Master Chief
   - MSCPO: Maintenance Senior Chief
   - CSEL: Command Senior Enlisted Leader
   - SEL: Senior Enlisted Leader
   - ALTC: Air Logistics Training Command
   - NATOPS: Naval Aviation Training Operations Procedures and Standardization
   - NACCS: Naval Aircrew Candidate School
   - QAR: Quality Assurance Representative
   - SFF: Safe for Flight
   - FE: Flight Engineer
   - CC: Crew Chief
   - LM: Loadmaster
   - 2LM: Second Loadmaster
   - NE: NATOPS evaluator

Revised: December 2018
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 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, BUPERS SDC, RDC, SRT, ECM/TECHAD, Detailer, Rating Specialist, Placement Coordinator, Overseas duty, PRDO.
- 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 Black/Green belt if assigned to a FRC
  - 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 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

Revised: December 2018
1. Sea Assignments

- VP/VR/ETD
- 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
- Full Systems QAR (FSQAR) Qualification attained at some point if attached to the Quality Assurance Division
- 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/Initiation involvement (committee lead or alternate / selectee sponsor)

2. Shore Assignments

- FRS Instructor, MPRWS, Instructor Duty, BUPERS SDC, RDC, SRT, ECM/TECHAD, Detailer, Rating Specialist, Placement Coordinator, Overseas duty, PRDO, NOSC CSEL.
- 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/Initiation 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

- VP/VR/ETD
- SEA (required)
- At least 12 months in a command role / billet any of the following:
  - Aircrew Readiness Manager
  - Senior Enlisted Aircrewman
  - Operations LCPO
  - NATOPS LCPO
  - CSEL
- 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/Initiation involvement (Committee Lead or Alternate)

2. Shore Assignments

• ECM, Lead Detailer, TYCOM, NAVAIR, FRC, FRS, STRATCOM, Schools Command, CSEL

• At least 12 months in a command role / billet any of the following:
  o Aircrew Readiness Manager
  o Senior Enlisted Aircrewman
  o SEL
• Command Collateral with documented impact
• CPOA active involvement
• Sailor 360/Initiation involvement (Committee Lead or Alternate)
• Should have served as LCPO in one of the following:
  o NATOPS
  o Training or Tactics
  o Operations
• Leadership impact across total force