



ABH CAREER PATH
SELECTED RESERVE (SELRES)

Aviation Boatswain's Mates (ABH) – (Handler) 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, firefighting, crash removal, and damage control duties in connection with launching and recovery of aircraft.

YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO PROMOTE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/ShORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
26-30	ABCM	24.1 Yrs	CSEL	N/A	Billet: LCPO, CSEL, Duty: Squadron, CNIC FES. Qualification: SEA.
23-26	ABCM ABHCS	24.1 Yrs 19.9	CSEL, CWO	N/A	Billet: Unit LCPO, SEL, Air Dept LCPO, Station Chief, Det Leader. Duty: FES, EOC Qualification: SEA.
20-23	ABHCS	19.9 Yrs	CSEL, CWO	N/A	Billet: Unit LCPO, SEL, Handling LCPO. Duty: FES, EOC Qualification: JQR,PQS
16-20	ABHCS ABHC	19.9 Yrs 16.7	MECP, STA-21, OCS, CWO	N/A	Billet: Flight/Hangar LCPO/CPO, Crash CPO. Duty: FES, ROC, NAVSTA Qualification: Local JQR,PQS
12-16	ABHC ABH1	16.7 Yrs 13.1	MECP, STA-21, OCS, LDO, CWO	N/A	Billet: Crash (OLF) Site CPO/ LPO, Transient Line CPO/LPO, Terminal CPO/LPO. Duty: FES, NCHB, NSA, EOC, Squadron. Qualification: CDI, JQR, PQS.
8-12	ABH1 ABH2	13.1 Yrs 7.1	MECP, STA-21, OCS, LDO	N/A	Billet: Firefighter, Aircraft Handling LPO/Supervisor Duty: FES, NCHB, EOC, Squadron. Qualification: CDI, Local JQR/PQS
5-8	ABH2 ABH3	7.1 Yrs 3.4	MECP, STA-21, Naval Academy, NROTC	N/A	Billet: Crash Crewman (OLF), Transient Line, Air Terminal. Duty: EOC, FES, NCHB, Squadron. Qualification: JQR, PQS.
1-5	ABH2 ABH3	7.1 Yrs 3.4		N/A	Billet: Air Terminal Team, Firefighter, Aircraft Handler Duty: Squadron, NCHB, FES. Qualification: CDI, Local JQR/PQS.
1+/-	ABHAN ABHAA Accession Training	9 Months		N/A	Recruit Training and all schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command.



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NOTES:

1. "A" school is not required.
2. This is a compression rating – ABF/ABH at the Master Chief paygrade.
3. NECs held by ABHs: D12A: Shipboard Aircraft Rescue, Firefighting and Salvage Specialists
D13A: Shore Base Airport & Aircraft Firefighter
700B: LCAC Loadmaster ¹
749A: Air Transportation Specialist
805A: Master Training Specialist ¹
830A: Hazardous Material Control Management Technician ¹
833A: Disaster Preparedness Operations and Training Specialists ¹

NEC Notes:

(1) NEC not applicable to SELRES billets – NEC may be previously earned on Active Component and carried over to Reserve Component affiliation

4. ACRONYMS SPECIFIC TO THE ABH RATE INCLUDES:

CDI	Collateral Duty Inspector
CNIC	Commander, Installations Command
EAWS	Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EURAFSWA	Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia
FES	Fire & Emergency Services
GLS	Global Logistics Support
HM	Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron (MH-53E platform)
HSC	Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (MH-60S platform)
HSM	Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (MH-60R platform)
LCAC	Landing Craft Air Cushion
LRC	Logistics Readiness Center
NAVSUP	Naval Supply Systems Command
NCHB	Navy Cargo Handling Battalion
NFPA	National Fire Protection Agency
OLF	Outlying Landing Field
SEL	Senior Enlisted Leader
VAQ	Electronic Attack Squadron (EA-18G platform)
VAW	Carrier Airborne Early Warning (E-2/C-2 platform)
VFA	Strike Fighter Squadron (F/A-18A platform)
VFC	Fighter Squadron Composite (F/A-18A platform – providing adversary training)
VP	Patrol Squadron (P-3/P-8 platform)
VR	Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (C-20/C-37/C-40/C-130 platform)

5. SELRES in firefighting billets work for Commander Navy Installations Command.

- Currently, there are three Fire and Emergency Service Detachments:
 - Det A - Fort Dix, New Jersey
 - Det B - San Diego, California
 - Det C - Jacksonville, Florida.
- To get qualified, SELRES have three options:
 - DoD fire academy at Goodfellow AFB in Texas (four months)
 - Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
 - Southside Regional Fire Academy in Portsmouth, Virginia.

The civilian academy options require 30 days of ADT and 14 days of additional AT to get qualified. Once the school is completed, the member will be awarded the NEC D13A, which gives the same certification as National Fire Protection Agency Standards for airport firefighters in addition to their structural firefighting qualifications.



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6. ABHs may be assigned to squadrons or other units in non-traditional billets in the roles of Aircraft Handling and Line Divisions, etc. Although on an alternate path, if the member is achieving the qualifications where they are working, regardless of how traditional, they should not be viewed as negative qualities to board members.

Considerations for advancement from E6 to E7

1. Sea Assignments (all)

- At least one warfare pin (AW primary)
- Should be assigned as Leading Petty Officer (LPO) of assigned department or division to include: Lead Firefighter, Line Division, Aircraft Handling or Airlift Scheduler
- Should be qualified CDI or Lead Firefighter
- Command Collateral duties with documented impact.
- First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- SAILOR 360 with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.

2. Shore Assignments (all)

- At least one warfare pin (AW primary)
- Should show active support to Training UIC assigned
- Should be assigned as Leading Petty Officer (LPO)
- Command Collateral duties with documented impact.
- FCPOA with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- SAILOR 360 with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.

Considerations for advancement from E7 to E8

1. Sea Assignments (all)

- At least one warfare pin (AW primary)
- Should be assigned as Leading Chief Petty Officer (LCPO) of Fire Detachment, Aircraft Handling Air Terminal or Airlifting Scheduling
- Should be qualified as Lead Firefighter or Aircraft Handler
- Command Collateral duties with documented impact.
- Chief Petty Officer Association (CPOA) with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- CPO Initiation with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- SAILOR 360 with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.

2. Shore Assignments (all)

- At least one warfare pin (AW primary)
- Should show active support to Training UIC assigned
- Should be assigned as Leading Chief Petty Officer (LCPO)
- Command Collateral duties with documented impact.
- CPOA with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- CPO Initiation with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
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Considerations for advancement from E8 to E9

Aviation Boatswain's Mates ratings are compressed at the Master Chief level and Senior Chief Petty Officers will compete amongst qualified candidates in the ABF and ABH ratings for advancement to ABCM.

1. Sea Assignments (all)

- At least one warfare pin (AW primary)
- Senior Enlisted Academy or other service equivalent (required)
- Should be assigned as Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL) or Leading Chief Petty Officer (LCPO) of Emergency Operations Center Detachment, Fire and Emergency Service or Department/Division Leading Chief Petty Officer
- Should be qualified as Lead Firefighter
- Command Collateral duties with documented impact.
- CPOA with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- CPO Initiation with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- SAILOR 360 with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.

2. Shore Assignments (all)

- At least one warfare pin (AW primary)
- Senior Enlisted Academy or other service equivalent (required)
- Should show active support to Training UIC assigned
- Should be assigned as Leading Chief Petty Officer (LCPO) or Senior Enlisted Leader (SEL)
- Command Collateral duties with documented impact.
- CPOA with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- CPO Initiation with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.
- SAILOR 360 with strong involvement and documented impact. Special consideration should be given to those in leadership positions.