



**FC CAREER PATH
(SW)**



Fire Controlmen (FC). FCs are technicians responsible for the operation, maintenance, testing, troubleshooting and repair of: RADARs, computers, networks, data display systems and integrated weapon system components. Fire Controlmen are knowledgeable in basic electricity/electronics, digital fundamentals, synchros, servos, RADAR principals, the fire control problem, gun ballistics, missile systems and computer fundamentals. FCs serve on most classes of surface ships and are trained in maintenance and operation of variety of weapon systems.

YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO PROMOTE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/ShORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
28-30	FCCM	20.1 Yrs	CSEL, Enlisted Comm. Mgr.	36	4 th Shore Tour Billet: ECM/TECHAD, CSEL, Training Manager, FC Administrator. Duty: BUPERS, FFC, SURFOR, TSC, NAWCD, CSCS, OPTEVFOR
24-28	FCCM FCCS	20.1 Yrs 17.8	CSEL, CWO	48	4 th Sea Tour Billet: CSSE/Dept LCPO, Fleet/Staff TSM. Duty: CVN, LHA, LHD, Fleet Staff/CSG, DESRON Qualification: TAO/SUWC/Strike Officer
21-24	FCCM FCCS FCC	20.1 Yrs 17.8 12.4	CWO, CSEL Instructor, RDC, Recruiter, Detailer, Enlisted, Senior Enlisted Academy	36	3 rd Shore Tour Billet: ECM/TECHAD, Fire Control Administrator Lead Instructor, Combat System Development / Test / Evaluation. Duty: BUPERS, ATG, CSCS, TSC, OPTEVFOR, NAVSEA, SURFOR. Qualification: CDO/SDO
17-21	FCCS FCC FC1	17.8 Yrs 12.4 7.1	CWO, CSEL, Senior Enlisted Academy	48	3 rd Sea Tour Billet: Lead Fire Controlman, Dept. LCPO, CSSE, Fleet/Staff TSM Duty: CVN, LHD, DESRON Fleet Staff/CSG. Qualification: Warfare Coord, TA/LAC, Boarding Officer, ITT Member, CSTT Leader
14-17	FCCS FCC FC1	17.8 Yrs 12.4 7.1	LDO, CWO, Instructor, RDC, Recruiter, Detailer	36	2 nd Shore Tour Billet: Instructor, RDC, Recruiter, Tech Rep, Trainer, Detailer. Duty: ATG, CSCS, TSC. Millington. Qualification: ATS, MTS, CDO/SDO.



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9-14	FCC FC1 FC2	12.4 Yrs 7.1 3.2	LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP	60	2 nd Sea Tour Billet: Lead Technician, LPO, LCPO, Staff TSM, TSM. Duty: Ship, Fleet Staff, CCSG. Qualification: CSC, CSOOW, SUWC, TSC/LAC, ECO, EAWS CSTT Evaluator, ABO, ATTT Team Leader/or assistant
6-9	FC1 FC2	7.1 Yrs 3.2	LDO, STA-21, OCS, MECP, Instructor, RDC, Recruiter	36	1 st Shore Tour Billet: Instructor, RDC, Recruiter, Maintenance Tech. Duty: ATG, CSCS, TSC, RTC, NRD. Qualification: ATS, MTS
2-6	FC2 FC3	3.2 Yrs 1.6	STA-21, Naval Academy, NROTC	60	1 st Sea Tour Billet: Maintenance Technician. Duty: Ship. Qualification: CSMC, Area Supervisor, WCS, CSTT, ATTT Member SCAT/VBSS Team Member, ESWS
1+/-	FCSA/SN	11 Months			Recruit Training, "A" and "C" Schools

Notes:

1. "A" School and Security Clearance is required.
2. Deployable Sea and Land components located in the 7th Fleet AOR, 6th Fleet AOR and 5th Fleet AOR are extremely arduous with deployable units being out of homeport well above CONUS average.
3. Instructor Duty and Training Support Center billets can prevent a member from being in a leadership position. This fact is due to the sheer number of Chief Petty Officer and First Class billets at schoolhouses/TSC.
4. Billet base for E5 imbalanced for shore duty, which may preclude a Sailor's opportunity for an in-rate shore tour. Sailors electing to stay at sea might not follow normal sea-shore flow.
5. Tours at NPC and BUPERS require special screening and are highly competitive in nature.
6. Typically, on smaller platforms, FCs are substantially involved in ATTT.
7. The Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) uses a Train to Qualify (T2Q) concept. These Sailors will be in a T2Q (ACC 106) status while they receive the unique training required to fill these hybrid billets. LCS' hybrid billets require significant training time, up to 18 months. Periodic and transfer evaluations while in T2Q will normally be "Not Observed" or will lack competitive rankings. T2Q time does not count against sea tour requirement. Sea shore flow may appear abnormal due to significant training time required. "Off-hull" time is used for unit level training,



FC CAREER PATH (SW)



qualification, technical schools, and leave. Unplanned losses may cause a Sailor to transfer from one crew to another crew and should not be seen as negative.

a. Shore duty

- COMLCSRONONE and COMLCSRONTWO are the LCS ISIC's and are responsible to train and certify crews in most mission areas. ISIC training teams are similar to Afloat Training Group (ATG) in their scope of responsibility to train and certify.
- LCS is not a closed-loop community. Transferring from sea to shore, or shore to sea, is highly desirable because it recycles experience within the program.
- The Littoral Training Facility (LTF) provides the unit level training that is traditionally conducted during basic and intermediate phase. LTF scores are equivalent to ATG level warfare area drills and inspections.

b. Mission Packages

- Per CNO direction, Surface Warfare (SUW), Antisubmarine Warfare (ASW), and Mine Warfare (MIW) Mission Packages permanently merged with "core" crews. This will reflect as a mid-tour UIC shift and is not derogatory.
- Before the merger, Mission Packages were independent from the crew with their own OIC and SEL, similar to deployed helicopter detachments. Any qualification of crew watch stations (DSO, CSM, TSCE) was outside of their normal scope of duty.
- VBSS is a primary warfare area for Surface Division ships.

c. Watch equivalents and acronyms

- CSM – Combat Systems Manager (only on the Independence variant. LCS-2, LCS-4, LCS-6, LCS-8 etc.). CSM combines the duties of SUWC, EW Sup, RSC, and CSRO
- DSO – Defensive Systems Operator (only on the Freedom variant, LCS-1, LCS-3, LCS-5, LCS-7 etc.). DSO combines the duties of SUWC, EW Sup, RSC, and CSRO
- GCO – Gun Console Operator
- JOOD – Significant responsibility in LCS due to limited number of underway bridge watchstanders.
- MPC – Mission Package Coordinator
- MPCE – Mission Package Computing Environment
- TSCE – Total Shipboard Computing Environment. Interchangeable in the LCS community with CSOOW

In addition to the above career path, an FC is advanced due to their proven leadership, qualifications and performance against competition, regardless of billet assigned.

Considerations for promotion from E6 to E7

1. Sea Assignments (all)

- Manning structure aboard a ship limits opportunity to serve in LPO positions
- Qualified (I/P) OOD, CSOOW, Duty Dept. Head; (U/W) CSOOW; (LCS) GCO
- Advanced Qualifications (I/P) ATTWO; (U/W) SUWC, AAWC, ADWC, TSC/LAC/TA, CSC; (LCS) MPC
- Achieve all Warfare qualifications available at command
- Training Team member (Primary CSTT/ATTT) (VBSS and ITT)
- Asst. Command Collateral for major program with documented impact
- Active First Class Mess involvement with documented impact
- Sailor 360 involvement, preferably leading a committee

2. Shore Assignments (all)

- Billet base for FC is sea duty centric, which may preclude opportunity for an in-rate shore tour
- FC "A" or "C" School Instructor/Course Supervisor/ CSCS Det. (MTS during tour); Advanced Qualification: Training Manager



FC CAREER PATH (SW)



- TSC- Barracks LPO (NMTI with MTS during tour)
- ATG (ATS during tour)
- RMC Maintenance Technician with documented repairs
- NPC (Detailer)
- RDC (MTS during tour)
- Enlisted Recruiter
- LCSRON or DIVRON Training Team (ATS during tour)
- Littoral Training Facility (MTS during tour)
- Asst. Command Collateral for major program with documented impact
- Active FCPOA involvement with documented impact
- Sailor 360 involvement, preferably leading a committee

Considerations for promotion from E7 to E8

1. Sea Assignments (all)
 - Successful Divisional LCPO/ CSSE tour at an operational command; (LCS) SUW Det. SEL tour
 - Achieve all Warfare qualifications available at command
 - Qualified (I/P) Section Leader; (U/W) CSOOW, SUWC, ADWC, TSC/LAC/TA, Boarding Officer (if VBSS); (LCS) MPC
 - Advanced Qualifications (I/P) ATTWO; (U/W) CICWO, CSC, CSRO, AAWC, Strike Officer; (LCS) DSO, CSM, LCS JOOD
 - Training Team Member/Lead (Primary CSTT/ATTT) (VBSS and ITT)
 - Command collateral with documented impact
 - Active CPO Mess involvement with documented impact
 - Sailor 360 involvement and leading a committee
2. Shore Assignments (all)
 - Course Supervisor/Training Manager at FC "A" or "C" School/ CSCS Det. (MTS during tour)
 - TSC- Barracks LCPO (NMTI with MTS during tour)
 - Waterfront Trainer and Assessor ATG (ATS during tour)
 - RMC Maintenance Technician and Trainer
 - NPC (Detailer)
 - RDC (MTS during tour)
 - LCSRON or DIVRON Training Team/Lead (ATS during tour)
 - Littoral Training Facility (MTS during tour)
 - Command collateral with documented impact
 - Active Mess/CPOA involvement with documented impact
 - Sailor 360 involvement and leading a committee.
 - Qualified Assessor, ACDO/CDO/SDO

Consideration for promotion from E8 to E9

1. Sea Assignments (all)
 - Successful Dept. LCPO / CSSE tour at an operational command; (LCS) SUW Det. SEL tour
 - Multiple warfare qualifications (Achieve all Warfare qualifications available at command)
 - Qualified (I/P) Section Leader; (U/W) CSC, CSRO, CICWO, ADWC; LAC/TA (LCS) DSO, CSM
 - Advanced Qualifications (I/P) CDO, Senior Enlisted Section Leader (CVN), Senior Enlisted Watch Bill Coordinator; (U/W) AAWC, Strike Officer; (DESRON) STAO, (CVN) TAO, (LCS) LCS JOOD
 - Training Team Leader/Member (Primary ATTT Overall/CSTT) (VBSS and ITT)
 - Major command collateral with documented impact
 - Active CPO Mess (with documented leadership and involvement)



FC CAREER PATH (SW)



- Sailor 360 involvement and Leader/Coordinator
2. Shore Assignments (all)
- Training Manager/ Lead Instructor/ Maintenance Lead at FC “A” or “C” School/ CSCS Det. (MTS during tour)
 - TSC- Dept. LCPO (NMTI with MTS during tour)
 - Waterfront Trainer and Assessor ATG(Team Lead, ATS Program Coordinator, qualified ATS during tour)
 - RMC Field Maintenance Technician with documented repairs
 - BUPERS (ECM/ TECHAD)
 - NPC (Lead Detailer)
 - RDC (MTS during tour)
 - LCSRON or DIVRON Training Team Lead (ATS during tour)
 - Littoral Training Facility (MTS during tour)
 - SURFOR/PAC/LANT (Fire Control Administrator)
 - OPTEVFOR (System Development/Evaluation)
 - Qualified Assessor, ACDO/CDO/SDO/AOIC.
 - Major command collateral with documented impact
 - Active Mess/CPOA involvement with documented impact
 - Sailor 360 involvement and Leader/Coordinator