



AG CAREER PATH (IW)



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Aerographer's Mates (AG). AGs are the Navy's Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) experts, trained in the science of meteorology and physical oceanography. AGs provide full spectrum forecast of meteorological and oceanographic conditions and prepare and present briefings concerning environmental impacts and effects on military operations.					
YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/ShORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
25-30	AGCM	21.5 Yrs	CSEL, ECM, Rating Detailer	36	9 th & 10 th Tour Billet: METOC Manager/ECM/Detailer/Rating Lead Duty: CMC/Staff/OPS Command Completed: SEA/CMC-COB/ Master FCSTR
22-25	AGCM AGCS	21.5 Yrs 17.9	CSEL, ECM, Rating Detailer	36	8 th Tour Billet: CSEL/METOC Manager/DLCPO/ECM/Detailer/Rating Lead Duty: CMC/Staff/OPS Command Completed: SEA/CMC-COB/ Master FCSTR
19-22	AGCS AGC	17.9 Yrs 12.7	CSEL, CWO, OCS, MECP, Recruiter, RDC	36	7 th Tour Billet: CSEL/METOC Manager/DLCPO Duty: Operational Command Completed: SEA, Master FCSTR
16-19	AGCS AGC	17.9 Yrs 12.7		36	6 th Tour Billet: DLCPO/LCPO/INSTR/FCSTR Duty: SGOT, FWC, MIW, NOAC, NOSWC, IWTG, CNATTU, NOOC, Instructor Qualification: Master FCSTR, Master Training Specialist
13-16	AGC	12.7 Yrs		36	5 th Tour Billet: LCPO/INSTR/FCSTR Duty: SGOT, FWC, MIW, NOAC, NOSWC, IWTG, CNATTU, NOOC, Instructor Qualification: Master FCSTR, Master Training Specialist



AG CAREER PATH (IW)



YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/SHORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
10-13	AGC AG1	12.7 Yrs 6.5		36	4 th Tour Billet: LCPO/LPO/INSTR/FCSTR Duty: SGOT, FWC, MIW, NOAC, NOSWC, IWTG, CNATTU, NOOC, Instructor Qualification: Master FCSTR, Master Training Specialist
7-10	AG1	6.5 Yrs	OCS, MECP, Recruiter, RDC	36	3 rd Tour Billet: LPO/INSTR/FCSTR Duty: SGOT, FWC, MIW, NAVO, NOAC, NOSWC, IWTG, CNATTU, NOOC, Instructor Qualification: Forecaster IW/SW/AW/EXW
4-7	AG1 AG2	6.5 Yrs 3.5	STA-21, OCS, MECP, Naval Academy, NROTC, Recruiter, RDC	36	2 nd Tour Billet: Forecaster Duty: SGOT, FWC, MIW, NOAC, NOSWC, IWTG, NOOC Qualification: Forecaster, IW/SW/AW/EXW
1-4	AG2 AG3	2.9 Yrs 1.5	Naval Academy, NROTC	36	1 st Tour (See Note 2.) Billet: Analyst/Forecaster Duty: SGOT, FWC, MIW, NOAC, FST, NOOC Qualification: Analyst, IW/SW/AW/EXW
1+/-	AGAN AGAA Accession Training	9 Months			Recruit Training and all schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command

Notes:

1. AG-A1 School and a valid security clearance is required.
2. The METOC Community is aligned under different warfare areas. These areas include Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW); Mine Warfare (MIW); Strike Warfare (STW); Naval Special Warfare (NSW); Aviation (AVN); and Maritime (MAR). Sea duty commands provide direct support to deployed units (SGOT, NOAC, NOSWC), while shore duty commands provide 24/7 worldwide support (FWCs, NOOC). NOMWC offers sea duty in the form of deployable “fly-away” teams. AGs will typically work in several warfare areas during their career.



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AG CAREER PATH (IW)



3. AGs may qualify for multiple warfare designation (EIWS/EAWS/ESWS/EXWS/SG/NAO) based upon assignment/platform type.
4. Enlisted Warfare pins are expected, when available. As of the release of COMNAVIFORINST 1414.1C, EIWS is not mandatory but should remain a factor of consideration when identifying “Best Qualified” candidates for advancement.
5. AGs follow a sea/shore flow of 36/36 and should be maintained unless otherwise articulated in evaluation.
6. Possible NECs held:
 - J00A: Meteorological and Oceanographic Forecaster (until promotion to Chief)
 - J01A: Master Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) Forecaster
 - 805A: Instructor
 - 804G: Expeditionary Force – Combat Skills
 - 789A: Unmanned Undersea Vehicle (UUV) Operator
 - 700C: Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) Mine Countermeasures (MCM) Planner and Evaluator

NOTE

- The J01A NEC is awarded upon completion of Advanced Forecasting Techniques (AFT) CIN: S-420-0618
- Master Forecaster is attained upon completion of the Master PQS NAVEDTRA 43203-H Ch-1 303. AFT is a prerequisite for Master Forecaster qualification.

7. Common acronyms associated with the AG career path.

AG	Aerographer’s Mate
ARTS	Annual Readiness and Training Symposium
BWC	Battle Watch Captain
ABWC	Assistant Battle Watch Captain
CDO	Command Duty Officer
CMC/COB	Command Master Chief/Chief of the Boat course
CMEO	Command Managed Equal Opportunity
CNATT	Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training
CPOA	Chief Petty Officer's Association
CSEL	Command Senior Enlisted Leader
CWO	Chief Warrant Officer
DCTT	Damage Control Training Team
DET	Detachment
EMW	Electromagnetic Maneuver Warfare
EAWS	Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist
EIWS	Enlisted Information Warfare Specialist
ESWS	Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist
EXWS	Enlisted Expeditionary Warfare Specialist
ECM	Enlisted Community Manager
FCPOA	First Class Petty Officer's Association
FCSTR	Forecaster
FST	Fleet Survey Team
FWC	Fleet Weather Center
INSTR	Instructor
IWTG	Information Warfare Training Group



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AG CAREER PATH (IW)



LCPO	Leading Chief Petty Officer
LCS	Littoral Combat Ship
LPO	Leading Petty Officer
MECP	Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program
MIW	Mine Warfare
MTS	Master Training Specialist
NATTC	Naval Air Technical Training Center
NAVO	Naval Oceanographic Office
NAO	Naval Aviation Observer
NOAC	Naval Oceanography Anti-Submarine Warfare Center
NOMWC	Naval Oceanography Mine Warfare Center
NOSWC	Naval Oceanography Special Warfare Center
NOOC	Naval Oceanography Operations Command
NPC	Navy Personnel Command
NROTC	Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps
OCS	Officer Candidate School
OOD	Officer of the Deck
OTSR	Optimum Track Ship Routing
PERS	Personnel
PO	Petty Officer
RDC	Recruit Division Commander
RPDO	Resource Protection Duty Officer
SEA	Senior Enlisted Academy
SGOT	Strike Group Oceanography Team
SG	Qualified for Submarines but not in source rating
SRO	Ship Routing Officer
STA-21	Seaman To Admiral
STW	Strike Warfare
USW	Undersea Warfare

Considerations for advancement from E6 to E7

NOTE: Intermediate Leader Development Course (ILDC) and Advanced Leader Development Course (ALDC) will be a prerequisite for advancement to E6 and E7 respectively, beginning in calendar year 2025.

– Fully Qualified for E6 to E7 (Sea)

- FULLY qualified if they have strong leadership and documented mission impact serving as an LPO or in a key leadership position with documented success.
- Demonstrated and documented expertise in forecasting for a specified tactical mission set.
- Graduate of AG-C1 School with J00A NEC.
- Qualified Journeyman Forecaster (NAVEDTRA 43203-H CH-1 thru watchstation 302).
- Qualified EIWS.
- FCPOA Involvement.
- Sailor 360 Involvement.



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AG CAREER PATH (IW)



– Best Qualified for E6 to E7 (Sea)

- Meet all FULLY qualified requirements AND qualified and/or performed above paygrade or position equivalent AND have documented success in a deployed or operational environment AND has documented impact to command and mission success
- Served as a Department LPO with documented team success
- Attained advanced qualifications (e.g. Military Hydrographer 2, NOAT Team Lead, Mission Commander, Flight Meteorologist, Advanced Shipboard Qualifications, CDO)
- Qualified in other Enlisted Warfare areas when available at commands
- Qualified as JOOD/OOD(I/P) and/or ABWC/BWC in an operational construct
- At Sea Training Team member, Repair locker leader and/or other Damage Control organization involvement with documented impact
- Rating/Community impact through documented participation in Training Readiness Reviews (TRR), Personnel Qualification Standards review, Occupational Standards, Annual Readiness and Training Review (ARTS), etc
- FCPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- Sailor 360 leadership/facilitator with documented impact
- AGs assigned as CCCs are considered experts in their rate and are selected for the additional command responsibility

– Fully Qualified for E6 to E7 (Shore)

- FULLY qualified if they have strong leadership and documented mission impact serving as an LPO or in a key leadership position with documented success
- Demonstrated and documented expertise in forecasting a specified tactical mission set
- Graduate of AG-C1 School with J00A NEC
- Qualified Journeyman Forecaster (NAVEDTRA 43203-H CH-1 thru watchstation 302)
- Qualified EIWS
- FCPOA Involvement
- Sailor 360 Involvement

– Best Qualified for E6 to E7 (Shore)

- Meet all FULLY qualified requirements AND qualified and/or performed above paygrade or position equivalent AND has documented impact to command and mission success
- Served as a Department LPO with documented team success
- Attained advanced qualifications (e.g. CDO, BWC, SRO, HDO)
- Attained Master Training Specialist (MTS) qualification if having filled or currently in an 805A NEC billet with time to do so
- Rating/Community impact through documented participation in Training Readiness Reviews (TRR), Personnel Qualification Standards review, Occupational Standards, Annual Readiness and Training Review (ARTS), etc
- FCPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- Sailor 360 leadership/facilitator with documented impact
- AGs assigned as CCCs are considered experts in their rate and are selected for the additional command responsibility



AG CAREER PATH (IW)



Considerations for advancement from E7 to E8

NOTE: Leadership Development Course will be required for advancement to E8 commencing with the FY2026 selection board. Senior Enlisted Academy is not required as there are limited E7 quotas to attend.

– Fully Qualified for E7 to E8 (Sea)

- FULLY qualified if they have documented and measurable success serving as an LCPO or in a key leadership position that supports their command's mission and have documented success
- Demonstrated and documented technical knowledge in assigned paygrade and billet
- Completed Advanced Forecasting Techniques (CIN: S-420-0618) J01A
- Qualified as a Master Forecaster (NAVEDTRA 43203-H CH-1 thru watchstation 303)
- CPOA Involvement
- CPO Initiation Involvement
- Sailor 360 Involvement
- AGs are assigned to LCSs for the MIW mission module; LCS is a modularized ship; all Sailors assigned, including AGs, are expected to fulfill varying roles based on ship's mission with documented mission impact in assigned role

– Best Qualified for E7 to E8 (Sea)

- Meet all FULLY qualified requirements AND qualified and/or performed above paygrade or position equivalent AND have documented success in a deployed or operational environment AND has documented impact to command and mission success with performance supporting their command's mission
- Strong professional rating knowledge with documented rating impact through participation in important rating modernization functions, including Occupational Standards Review, PQS Development, Navy Tactical Techniques and Procedures (NTTP) revisions, Naval Warfare Publication (NWP) revisions, Joint Publication revisions, Advancement Examination Readiness Review (AERR), Course Curriculum Development and Training Readiness Reviews (TRR)
- Section Leader, Watchbill Coordinator, and/or other leadership positions outside the normal scope with documented impact
- At sea Training Team member, Repair locker leader or other Damage Control organization involvement and documented impact
- Managed major command collateral duty (: e.g. CFL, DAPA, CMEO, UPC) with documented leadership and impact
- CPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- CPO Initiation Season Chairperson or committee lead with documented impact
- Sailor 360 involvement preferably leading with documented impact
- Master Training Specialist and/or other Enlisted Warfare qualifications when available at commands
- AGs assigned as CCCs are considered experts in their rate and are selected for this additional command responsibility

– Fully Qualified for E7 to E8 (Shore)

- FULLY qualified if they have documented and measurable success serving as an LCPO or in a key leadership position that supports their command's mission and have documented success
- Demonstrated and documented technical knowledge in assigned paygrade and billet
- Completed Advanced Forecasting Techniques (CIN: S-420-0618) J01A
- Qualified as a Master Forecaster (NAVEDTRA 43203-H CH-1 thru watchstation 303)
- CPOA Involvement



AG CAREER PATH (IW)



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- CPO Initiation Involvement
 - Sailor 360 Involvement

– Best Qualified for E7 to E8 (Shore)

- Meet all FULLY qualified requirements AND qualified and/or performed above paygrade or position equivalent AND has documented impact to command and mission success with performance supporting their command's mission
- Strong professional rating knowledge with documented rating impact through participation in important rating modernization functions, including Occupational Standards Review, PQS Development, Navy Tactical Techniques and Procedures (NTTP) revisions, Naval Warfare Publication (NWP) revisions, Joint Publication revisions, Advancement Examination Readiness Review (AERR), Course Curriculum Development and Training Readiness Reviews (TRR)
- Managed major command collateral duty (: e.g. CFL, DAPA, CMEO, UPC) with documented leadership and impact
- CPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- CPO Initiation committee lead with documented impact
- Sailor 360 involvement preferably leading with documented impact
- Master Training Specialist and/or other special qualifications when available at commands
- AGs assigned as CCCs are considered experts in their rate and are selected for this additional command responsibility

Considerations for advancement from E8 to E9

NOTE: Senior Enlisted Academy is required as this course is available to all E8s and E9s.

– Fully Qualified for E8 to E9 (Sea)

- FULLY qualified if they have served as a Department LCPO or in other key command leadership positions with documented and measurable impact that supports their command's mission
- Management of Meteorological/Oceanographic command programs with documented impact
- Completed Advanced Forecasting Techniques (CIN: S-420-0618) J01A NEC
- Qualified as a Master Forecaster (NAVEDTRA 43203-H CH-1 thru watchstation 303)
- Managed a major command collateral duty (e.g. CFL, DAPA, CMEO, UPC) with documented leadership and impact
- CPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- CPO Initiation committee lead with documented impact
- Sailor 360 program active participant with documented contribution

– Best Qualified for E8 to E9 (Sea)

- Meet all FULLY qualified requirements AND qualified and/or performed above paygrade or position equivalent AND has documented impact to command and mission success with performance supporting their command's mission
- Served as a CSEL or DLCPO at a major Navy Command or Numbered Fleet Staff (MAJCOM DLCPOs typically lead same number of Sailors as CTG 80.7 designated CSELs)
- Strong professional rating knowledge with documented rating impact through participation in important rating modernization functions, including Occupational Standards Review, PQS Development, Navy Tactical Techniques and Procedures (NTTP) revisions, Naval Warfare Publication (NWP) revisions, Joint Publication revisions, Advancement Examination Readiness Review (AERR), Course Curriculum Development and Training Readiness Reviews (TRR)



AG CAREER PATH (IW)



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- Section Leader, Watchbill Coordinator, and/or other leadership positions outside the normal scope with documented impact
- At sea Training Team member, Repair locker leader and/or other Damage Control organization involvement and documented impact
- CPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- CPO Initiation Season Lead or major committee (training, final night) lead with documented impact.
- Management of and/or leading Sailor 360 program with documented impact
- Management of Enlisted Warfare qualification program when available at commands with documented impact.

– Fully Qualified for E8 to E9 (Shore)

- FULLY qualified if they have served as a Department LCPO or in other key command leadership positions with documented and measurable success that supports their command's mission
- Management of Meteorological/Oceanographic command programs with documented impact
- Completed Advanced Forecasting Techniques (CIN: S-420-0618) J01A NEC
- Qualified as a Master Forecaster (NAVEDTRA 43203-H CH-1 thru watchstation 303)
- Managed a major command collateral duty (e.g. CFL, DAPA, CMEO, UPC) with documented leadership and impact
- CPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- CPO Initiation committee lead with documented impact
- Sailor 360 program active participant with documented contribution

– Best Qualified for E8 to E9 (Shore)

- Meet all FULLY qualified requirements AND qualified and/or performed above paygrade or position equivalent AND has documented impact to command and mission success with performance supporting their command's mission
- Served as a CSEL or DLCPO at a major Navy Command or Numbered Fleet Staff (MAJCOM DLCPOs typically lead same number of Sailors as CTG 80.7 designated CSELs)
- Strong professional rating knowledge with documented rating impact through participation in important rating modernization functions, including Occupational Standards Review, PQS Development, Navy Tactical Techniques and Procedures (NTTP) revisions, Naval Warfare Publication (NWP) revisions, Joint Publication revisions, Advancement Examination Readiness Review (AERR), Course Curriculum Development and Training Readiness Reviews (TRR)
- CPOA leadership in an elected position with documented impact
- CPO Initiation Season Lead or major committee (training, final night) lead with documented impact
- Management of and/or leading Sailor 360 program with documented impact
- Management of Master Training Specialist or Enlisted Warfare qualification program when available at commands with documented impact