Kingswood Secondary Academy

JOB of the Week

A&C

Job name: Air Traffic Controller

Job description: Air traffic controllers prepare flight plans, authorise flight departures and arrivals and maintain radio, radar and/or visual contact with aircraft to ensure the safe movement of air traffic.

Tasks you will undertake in the job:

Your tasks will vary depending on which type of controller you become. There are 3 types: area controllers / approach controllers / aerodrome controllers

- Maintains radio and/or radar or visual contact with aircraft and liaises with other air traffic controllers and control centres to direct aircraft in and out of controlled airspace and into holding areas ready for landing;
- Directs the movement of aircraft en route to its destination and ensures minimum distances are maintained between planes;
- Gives landing instructions to pilot and monitors descent of aircraft;
- Directs movement of aircraft and motor vehicles on runways, taxiways and in parking bays;
- Obtains information regarding weather conditions, navigational hazards, landing conditions, seating arrangements, loading of cargo, fuel and catering supplies; calculates fuel consumption and optimum flying height, plans route and prepares flight plan for aircraft pilots;
- Discusses operational requirements with pilot, issues duty schedules for flight deck and cabin crews, maintains records of flight progress and authorises flight departure; handles emergencies and unscheduled traffic incidents.

Qualifications you will need for this job:

You could do an air traffic controller higher apprenticeship. Entry requirements: 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship

You can apply for a place as a trainee with National Air Traffic Services. You'll need a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) or equivalent qualifications, including English and maths. You'll be expected to relocate to Fareham in Hampshire while training. Once you qualify, you could work anywhere in the UK.

Initial training (full training usually takes 3 years) takes up to 1 year and further training may continue while working. You may also be considered for training if you have relevant aviation experience as a military air traffic controller, or military or commercial pilot. With experience, you could move into training and assessing new controllers, or become a supervisor or unit manager. You could also move into operations management.

Skills required for this job (core competencies):

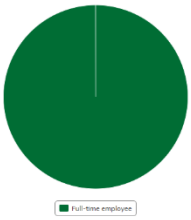
Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

Sectors in which Air Traffic Controllers would normally work:

As an air traffic controller, you'll use highly sophisticated radar and radio communication equipment to communicate advice, information and instructions to pilots. You'll guide the aircraft as it travels, using radar to track its exact position, keep it safe in the airspace and provide the most efficient route.

The majority of air traffic controllers work within area control centres, with just some working from control towers at airports.

Type of work (full time / part time):



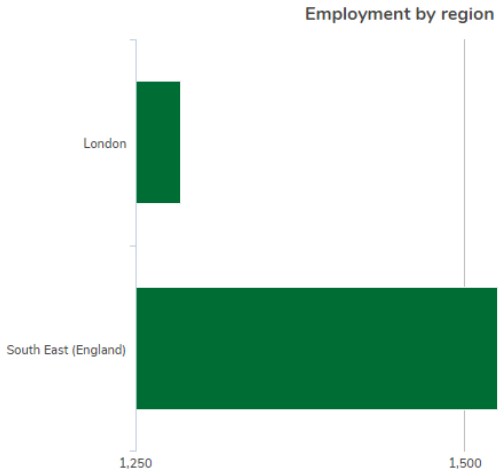
Salary: £17,000 average salary (starter) to over £100,000 (substantial experience) - The UK average salary is £28,758

LMI For All

Working hours: 37 - 40 average working hours in the week (37.5 working hours in the average working week) – evenings and weekends on shift pattern is likely

Workforce in the UK: 86% male / 14% female workforce

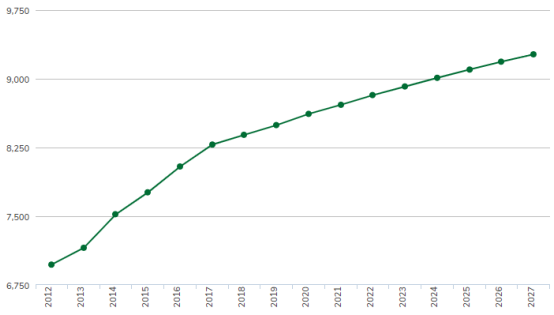
Employment by region in the UK:



This job in the future:

The workforce is projected to grow by 7.5% over the period to 2027, creating another 700 jobs.

In the same period, 51% of the workforce is likely to retire, creating 4,400 job opportunities.



Helpful sites for careers information

www.icould.com
www.successatschool.org
www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk
www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors
www.ucas.com/careers-advice
www.kudos/cascaid.co.uk/#/ (you all have a log on for this service)
www.careersbox.co.uk (careers videos)

GAT careers links
http://airhead.io/public/launchpads/XqbuOMJgb0OfqvMPCykcZA

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