



Aerographer's mates are the Navy's meteorological and oceanographic experts, trained in the science of meteorology and physical oceanography. They also learn to use instruments that monitor weather characteristics such as air pressure, temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction. They then distribute this data to aircraft, ships and shore activities.

**What They Do**

The duties performed by AGs include:

- collecting, recording and analyzing weather and oceanographic information;
- preparing up-to-date weather maps and oceanographic data;
- issuing weather forecasts and warnings;
- conducting weather/oceanographic briefings;
- using, testing, calibrating and performing minor and preventive maintenance on meteorological instruments including satellite receivers;
- preparing balloon-carried instruments for flight, evaluating and analyzing data received;
- operating, programming and maintaining computers and related equipment.

**Credit Recommendations**

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the lower-division bachelor's/associate's degree category for courses taken on meteorology in this rating.

**Qualifications and Interests**

Applicants must be U.S. citizens eligible for security clearance and have normal color perception.

Applicants should have an interest in aviation and working with or around aircraft. They should be interested in weather systems and have basic skills in arithmetic, speaking, writing, and record keeping. Applicants should expect detailed work and repetitive tasks as part of their normal functions. Also important are a good memory and the ability to get along well with people.

Helpful attributes are an interest in ideas and information, resourcefulness, curiosity, competence with tools, equipment and machines, manual dexterity and teamwork.

**Working Environment**

Men and women in the AG rating perform their duties in clean, comfortable office-like environments. Their work is usually mental, is done closely with others and requires little supervision.

**Career Path After Recruit Training**

Enlistees are taught the fundamentals of this rating through formal Navy schooling. Advanced technical and operational training is available in this rating during later stages of career development.

School	Present Location	Approximate Training Time	Subjects	Training Methods
Class "A" Technical School	Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.	19 weeks	Observing, recording and plotting meteorological information and operating meteorological equipment and computers.	Group instruction

Upon graduating from "A" school, AGs work toward qualification as environmental observers through completion of Personnel Qualification Standards (PQS). They also prepare for advanced training at "C" school by the four- to six-year career stage. Aerographer's mates are assigned to larger ships such as aircraft carriers, amphibious ships and cruisers, to naval air stations, weather centers, and other shore facilities in the United States or overseas. During a 20-year period in the Navy, AGs spend about 60 percent of their time assigned to fleet units and 40 percent to shore stations.

**Opportunities**

The opportunities to enter the AG rating are excellent for qualified candidates. Currently, about 1,300 men and women work in the AG rating.

**Civilian Occupational Equivalents**

**To see Related Civilian Occupations for this rating:**

**AG-** <https://www.cool.navy.mil/enlisted/ag.htm>

For more information on opportunities available for this rating, please visit Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL) at <https://www.cool.navy.mil/index.htm>

Since Navy programs and courses are revised at times, the information contained on this rating card is subject to change.

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