



**MA CAREER PATH
(SW)**



Master at Arms (MA) will individually, or as part of a force, be able to conduct security operations in order to defeat Level I and II Threats in near-coast, shore and harbor/port environments. Specifically, the MA will: conduct scalable force protection and security for designated assets and critical infrastructure; provide layered defense in an integrated coastal and landward security environment; provide integrated security capabilities, including mobile and fixed defensive operations in support of Commanders performing Homeland Defense and Expeditionary/Combat Operations, law enforcement, corrections, force protection, special events and operations with other services, host nation partners and civil authorities.

YEARS OF SERVICE	CAREER MILESTONES	AVERAGE TIME TO PROMOTE	COMMISSIONING / OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	SEA/ShORE FLOW	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
26-30	MACM	21.7 Yrs	CMC	36	4 th Shore Tour CONUS Billet: CNIC Installations /Staff/NCIS STAAT/ NECC/ECM/Detailer
23-26	MACM MACS	21.7 Yrs 18.8	CMC, CSC	36	4 th Sea Tour CONUS or OCONUS Billet: Dept/Div CMAA/LCPO/Ops LCPO/Training/Instructor/ MESF Leader. Duty: Ship or Sea going Unit/ CNIC Installations /Staff/CVN/LHA/CMAA LHD/CORIVGRU/SWF. Qualification: ESWS/EAWS/ EXW/NWS/SCI.
20-23	MACM MACS MAC	21.7 Yrs 18.8 14.9	CWO, CMC, CSC,	36	3 rd Shore Tour CONUS or OCONUS Billet: SEA/LCPO/ MWD Program Manager/ Fleet Kennel Master/ MWD Regional Kennel Master/MWD STAAT. Duty: CNIC Installations /Staff/ NCIS STAAT(MTS) /NECC/Detailer/ATG. Qualification: SCI
16-20	MACS MAC MA1	18.8 Yrs 14.9 9.8	CWO, CSC	36	3 rd Sea Tour CONUS or OCONUS Billet: Dept/Div CMAA/Ops LCPO/Training/Instr.(MTS)/ MESF Leader/ MWD Fleet or Regional Kennel Master or Trainer/ MWD STAAT Assessor (E7)/Detailer Duty: Ship or Sea going Unit/ CNIC Installations /Staff/CVN/LHA/LHD /CG/ DDG/CORIVGRU/SWF/ SPECWAR Qualification: ESWS/EAWS/ EXW/NWS/SCI.



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12-16	MACS MAC MA1	18.8 Yrs 14.9 9.8	LDO, CWO, OCS, MECP, CSC, RDC, Recruiting, MEPS SAPR, EOA, Brig TPU	36	2 nd Shore Tour CONUS Billet: SEA/Dept/Div/Ops/ Training/Instructor/CMAA MESF Leader/MWD Kennel Master/Trainer/HSB TRASUP/HPU SUP. Duty: CNIC Installations /Staff/NCIS/NECC/CENSECF OR/ Detailer /ATG.
8-12	MAC MA1 MA2	14.9 Yrs 9.8 4.4	LDO, OCS, MECP,	36	2 nd Sea Tour CONUS or OCONUS Billet: Dept/Div LCPO/Ops LCPO/Training Instructor/Kennel Master. Duty: Ship or Sea Going Unit/ CNIC Installation /Staff/CVN/LHA/LHD/CG/D DG/ CORIVGRU /SWF/SPECWAR/Squadron. Qualification: ESWS/EAWS/ EXW/ NWS/SCI/MTS.
4-8	MA2 MA3	4.4 Yrs 2.2	STA-21, OCS, MECP, Recruiting, MEPS SAPR, EOA, Brig, TPU	36	1 st Shore Tour CONUS Billet: Instructor/Training/ Squad or TL/MESF member/MWD Handler/ HPU Coxswain. Duty: CNIC Installations /CENSECFOR. Qualification: MTS/SCI(HPU)
1-4	MA3 MASN	2.2 Yrs 1.3	Naval Academy, NROTC,	36	1 st Sea Tour CONUS or OCONUS Billet: Patrolman/Sentry/ Squad/Team Member/MWD Handler. Duty: Ship or Sea going Unit/ CVN/LHA/LHD/CORIVGRU /SWF/Squadron. Qualification: ESWS/EAWS EXW/NWS.
1 +/-	MASN MASA Accession Training	9 Months			Recruit Training and all schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command.



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1. Special requirements for the rating:

- a. Maintain SECRET security clearance eligibility as adjudicated by DONCAF.
- b. Qualify and maintain unit specific weapons proficiency.

2. Sea-Shore Flow model. Standard Sea-Shore Flow model is not applicable to the MA rating. Rating operates as a CONUS-OCONUS (or INUS/OUTUS) rotation.

3. Career Enhancing MA Billets.

- a. SWFPAC, SWFLANT, TACAMO (VQ Det) assignments. These assignments should be considered career enhancing due to the nature of assets protected and the qualifications required. These tours are counted as a Sea Tour for rotational purposes.
- b. Isolated tours in Souda Bay Crete, Diego Garcia, and Bahrain.
- c. Independent Duty Ship tours.
- d. Type 4 forward deployed forces (overseas sea duty)

4. Duty Types

- a. Installation Security. MAs provide security and law enforcement support for the Installation Commanding Officer with the mission of protecting installation. MAs assigned to installations do not have the opportunity to obtain a warfare qualification. NECs 0812, 0814, 2001 and 9501 are associated with installation security tours.
- b. Harbor Patrol Unit (HPU). MAs assigned to the HPU operate small craft providing point and area security for waterside assets and ports. Additionally, HPUs may conduct High Value Unit (HVV) escorts. MAs assigned to HPUs do not have the opportunity to obtain a warfare qualification. Although not inclusive in all units, MAs assigned to an HPU may be eligible to qualify for the Small Craft Insignia. NEC 0190, 2003, 2004 are associated with HPU tours.
- c. Expeditionary Forces. MAs assigned to the Expeditionary Forces will be assigned to the Coastal Riverine Force (CRF). The CRF absorbed the Maritime Expeditionary Security Force (MESF). CRF is SEA duty. MAs assigned to the CRF may be performing duties in boat operations, Riverine Security Team Operations, aircraft security (RAVEN), embarked security (EST), Joint Terminal Air Controller (JTAC), Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) operations. All MAs assigned to Expeditionary Units must obtain Expeditionary Warfare Specialist (EXWS) within 12 months of assignment. NECs 0812, 0814, 9501 and 0190 are associated with Expeditionary tours.



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- d. Strategic Systems Programs (SSP). MAs assigned to this duty type conduct security operations for strategic assets at either Strategic Weapons Facility (SWF) Atlantic or Pacific. MAs assigned to a SWF are regulated by the Personnel Reliability Program (PRP). MAs assigned to this duty type conduct security operations, HPU, or Military Working Dog (MWD) duties. MAs assigned to SWF do not have the opportunity to obtain a warfare qualification. MAs assigned to SWF are authorized to wear Enlisted Nuclear Weapons Security (NWS) Breast Insignia after maintaining PRP certification for 12 months and after qualification in the highest watch station commensurate with their pay grade. NECs 0812, 0814, 9501 and 0190 are associated with SSP tours.
- e. TACAMO (VQ Squadrons). MAs assigned to this duty type conduct security operations for strategic aircraft. MAs assigned to TACAMO are regulated by the PRP. This type of duty is considered SEA DUTY. MAs assigned to VQ may have the opportunity to qualify Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist (EAWS).
- f. Afloat Security. MAs in this duty type conduct in port and underway security and law enforcement operations onboard LHA, LHD and CVNs. MAs may be used for security operations, ATFP, investigations, brig operations and training for the Ship's Self Defense Force. All MAs assigned to this duty type have the opportunity to qualify as Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS). All Sailors must qualify ESWS within a predetermined timeframe established by the member's command not to exceed 30 months from receipt at the command. MAs assigned to this type of duty may also have the opportunity to qualify as EAWS. NECs 2001, 2002, 2008, and 9501 are associated with afloat security tours.
- g. Chief Master-at-Arms (CMAA). MACSs are normally assigned to LPDs. MACs are normally assigned to CGs. MA1s are normally assigned to DDGs and FFGs. These MAs manage the ATFP program, train and qualify the Ship's Self-Defense Force, conduct investigations and perform legal officer functions and assist the Commanding Officer in maintaining good order and discipline. All MAs assigned to this duty type must qualify ESWS within a predetermined timeframe established by the member's command not to exceed 30 months from receipt at the command. NECs 2001 and 9501 are associated with Afloat Independent Duty CMAA tours.
- h. Military Working Dog (MWD). MWDs are assigned to Installation Security, DevGrp and SWFs. MAs may be assigned as MWD Handler, MWD Trainer or Kennel Master. MA1s should be assigned as Kennel Master of facilities with less than 8 MWDs or as a MWD Trainer. MACs are assigned as Kennel Master of facilities with 8+ MWDs, Regional Kennel Master, or MWD STAAT Assessor. MACSs fill the three Fleet Kennel Master assignments. MACM's will normally fill the MWD Program Manager assignment. MWD Teams routinely deploy in support of overseas



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contingency operations, Presidential/ Head of State missions and other VIP/ special event missions. Duty type for MWD Handlers is commensurate with the unit to which they are assigned. Since this is a closed loop program, MWD Handlers do not have the opportunity for a warfare qualification. NEC 2005 or 2006 is required for MWD tours. Warfare qualifications are available only at shipboard/sea-going commands (ESWS and EAWS) and Type 2 or 4 designated NECC (EXWS) commands.

- i. Protective Service Detail (PSD). MAs within a PSD are assigned to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). MAs conducting PSD missions provide protection for designated High Risk Personnel (HRP). These duties include site surveys, planning, and pedestrian/vehicle security. MAs assigned to PSD missions do not have the opportunity for a warfare qualification. NEC 2009 is required for PSD tours.
- j. Other Tours. In addition to the main duty types, MAs conduct duties that support the NSF, the fleet and other commands. These tours are diverse in nature and are considered SHORE DUTY.
 - 1) Instructor Duty. MAs are assigned to CENSECFOR and other training centers as instructors. This duty is considered vital to the sustained health of the Naval Security Force (NSF). MAs assigned to Instructor Duty have the opportunity to qualify as a Master Training Specialist.
 - 2) Staff Duty. MAs are assigned to various TYCOM, FLEET, COCOM and other staffs. These MAs primarily conduct antiterrorism (AT) planning and assessments of subordinate units.
 - 3) Security Training and Assessment Teams (STAAT). STAAT is a subordinate unit within the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). MAs assigned to STAAT conduct port, installation and airfield vulnerability assessments, provide Mobile Training Teams to provide security related training, and conduct Chief of Naval Operations Integrated Vulnerability Assessments (CNOIVA). Personnel assigned to STAAT do not have the opportunity for a warfare qualification. MAs assigned to STAAT may be eligible for Master Training Specialist (MTS) and the 9501 NEC.



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5. Additional certifications available to MAs:

a) Small Arms Instructor	NEC 0812
b) Crew Served Weapons Instructor	NEC 0814
c) Chief Master-at-Arms	NEC 2001
d) Command Investigator	NEC 2002
e) Harbor Security Patrol Supervisor **	NEC 2003
f) Harbor Security Boat Training Supervisor **	NEC 2004
g) Military Working Dog Handler	NEC 2005
h) Military Working Dog Kennel Master	NEC 2006
i) Corrections Specialist (Brig Afloat)	NEC 2008
j) Protective Service Specialist	NEC 2009
k) Anti-terrorism Training Supervisor	NEC 9501
l) Force Protection Boat Coxswain	NEC 0190
m) Master Training Specialist	No awarded NEC
n) Military Customs Inspector	No awarded NEC
o) RAVEN	No awarded NEC
p) VBSS	No awarded NEC
q) ATO Level 2	No awarded NEC
r) SPeD (Security Professional Education Development program is the Department of Defense initiative to professionalize the security workforce).	

** New developments; NEC 2003 was established in order to identify Master-at-Arms who possess Harbor Patrol Unit (HPU) experience, and training required for assignment to a HPU. Personnel possessing the 2003 NEC are responsible for the tactical operation and training conducted within the HPU. NEC 2004 HSB TRASUP is responsible for the planning, oversight, accessing and training of Force Protection Boat Coxswains at HPUs.

6. In-rate Qualifications: MAs should possess required TYCOM qualification commensurate with duty title and rank.