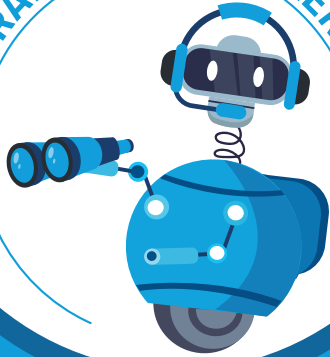


AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER



JOB DESCRIPTION

ATCOs control and monitor aircraft in the air and on the ground, ensuring traffic safety. Tower controllers oversee airports with direct sight of aircraft, while area/approach controllers manage airspace using surveillance technology. It's a fascinating and highly responsible job.

SALARY

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DAILY ROUTINE

ATCOs start shifts with briefings on weather, traffic, and operational updates. They work in 1.5-2 hour shifts with mandatory breaks to maintain focus. Tasks include ground, tower, approach, and en route control. At shift end, they hand over duties and update records before leaving.

IMPACT ON PRIVATE LIFE

Shift work, including nights and holidays, can disrupt family life and sleep patterns. Controllers may miss key events and face stress-related health challenges. Light exercise during breaks is advised to maintain well-being. Many retire earlier due to job intensity.

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

ATCOs must stay calm under stress, maintain focus and provide clear guidance to pilots. Strong communication, organization, decision-making and problem-solving skills are essential.

SELECTION CRITERIA

To enroll in an ATCO program, candidates must pass English proficiency, psychometric and situational tests. Medical and physical fitness are required. Many programs also mandate military service completion and impose age limits (24-27 years) for applicants.

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EDUCATION

ATCO training includes theory and practical phases, with simulator and on-the-job training.

YEARS OF TRAINING REQUIRED

Training to become an air traffic controller takes about 3 to 3.5 years.