



Air traffic controller

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.

<https://www.nats.aero/careers/early-careers/>

<https://recruitment.raf.mod.uk/roles/roles-finder/air-operations-support/air-operations-control>

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/roles-and-specialisations/services/fleet-air-arm/air-traffic-control-officer>

What do they do?

Depending on the area you specialise in, you could be working at a control tower at an international airport such as Manchester.

Alternatively, you could be based at a regional control centre (approach or area controller). Military controllers will perform a similar function at Ministry of Defence bases.

Summary:

Air traffic controllers are responsible for ensuring the safe transit of all aircraft.



Do I need to go to College?



[Bolton Sixth Form College](#)
[Thornleigh Salesian College](#)
[Turton Sixth Form College](#)
[Runshaw College](#)

College courses:

There is no need to complete a specific college course.

If you however wish to train in the RAF or Fleet Air Arm then A-levels are necessary for a commissioned officer.

Can I get work experience?

<https://www.friendsofbartonaerodrome.org.uk/how-to-contact-us/workexperience@nats.co.uk>

How do I get into College?

To train with NATS a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above (including English and Maths) is required. At least 2 A-levels (at C or above) are necessary for the military route. You also need a good level of fitness to pass the CAA (civil aviation authority) or military selection tests.

University degree? 🙅

No University degree is required.