

So Others May Live
AVIATION RESCUE SWIMMER (AIRR)



AMERICA'S
NAVY

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When lives are on the line, Navy Aviation Rescue Swimmers (AIRRs) are exceptionally adept at answering the call. These brave men and women embody the courage of America's Navy – readily going into harm's way to complete their rescue missions in some of the most extreme environments imaginable.

Navy AIRRs are members of the Naval Special Operations (NSO) community, comprising men and women who take on the most impossible missions and the most elusive objectives.

JOB DESCRIPTION

As an Aviation Rescue Swimmer, you will be part of a tightly knit group, dedicated to being the top emergency response unit in the world. In this role, you'll routinely put the lives of others before your own – applying your intense physical and mental training to challenging real-world situations where there's often no margin for error.

Rescue missions. Recovery missions. Humanitarian assistance. Operational support. You may be called upon to contribute to any of these efforts. Thinking, acting and succeeding in the definitive task at hand: survival.

Without hesitation, you must be prepared to enter the most treacherous conditions to provide recovery and relief to those in need. That could involve jumping or rappelling out of a helicopter into the ocean. Utilizing your search and rescue swimming skills to ensure safety. Or using evasion, resistance and escape techniques to save those in need.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

Some of the many duties you may have as an AIRR include:

- Saving pilots of downed aircraft, people aboard stranded or capsized vessels at sea, or even hikers and mountain climbers in danger on land
- Rescuing civilians during natural disasters and collaborating with other forces, such as the Coast Guard – like the joint rescue missions that saved thousands of lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Rita and the tsunami in Indonesia
- Working as a Crew Chief on an H-60 helo, where the primary duties are to make sure the rescue swimmer and the pilot are in sync and to operate the hoist in rescues
- Delivering aid and supplies to other countries in humanitarian operations
- Providing support to Naval Special Warfare Operations
- Conducting surveillance in antisubmarine warfare and drug interdiction operations
- Transporting troops and cargo to and from ships

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Your work setting is unique in that it could be just about anywhere, helping just about anyone. A family on the other side of the globe, desperately trying to survive a destructive storm. The crew of a sinking ship off the Pacific coast. Even a wounded mountain climber hanging from a nearly inaccessible cliff. Whatever the nature of the situation, you will be prepared to take action. What's more, you will regularly provide support in relief missions around the world, responding to everything from the need for humanitarian outreach to natural disasters.

QUALIFICATIONS

Both males and females are eligible to become Aviation Rescue Swimmers. To qualify for Rescue Swimmer training, you must:

- Meet specific eyesight requirements: 20/100 correctable to 20/20 in both eyes with no color blindness
- Meet the minimum Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) score: VE+AR+MK+MC=210 or VE+AR+MK+AS=210
- Be age 30 or younger
- Be a U.S. citizen

PHYSICAL SCREENING TEST REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for the Navy AIRR program, you must complete the following minimum Physical Screening Test Requirements:

- Swim 500 yards in 12 minutes
- Rest 10 minutes
- Perform 42 push-ups in 2 minutes
- Rest 2 minutes
- Perform 50 sit-ups in 2 minutes
- Rest 2 minutes
- Perform 4 pull-ups in 2 minutes
- Rest 10 minutes
- Run 1.5 miles in 12 minutes or less

Note: If you're pursuing an AIRR position, much better PST scoring is expected.

MORE INFORMATION

Visit navy.com/AIRR for more details. Or find a local recruiter by calling 1-800-USA-NAVY.

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TRAINING AND ADVANCEMENT

AIRR candidates undergo almost two years of training in advanced swimming and lifesaving techniques before reporting to their first squadron. Throughout training, candidates will be continually tested, mentally and physically, as they advance to more rigorous and challenging scenarios.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

As a member of the Naval Special Warfare/Naval Special Operations (NSW/NSO) community, you will have any number of unique opportunities to advance your knowledge. The courses in this field are demanding, but those who accept these challenges will be rewarded not only with extra pay, but extraordinary duty assignments anywhere in the world.

PAY RANGE

In addition to normal military pay and allowances, the Navy offers an enlistment bonus for certain NSW/NSO communities. You may also earn additional pay that includes special duty assignment pay, parachute jump pay, dive pay or demolition pay. Together, these incentives make these individuals among the highest-paid Enlisted operators in the U.S. military.

For complete details on available specialty pay and enlistment bonuses, contact a recruiter.

BENEFITS

When it comes to financial advantages, the Navy amounts to much more than a competitive paycheck. As a Sailor in the Navy, you can look forward to:

- Supplemental/bonus pay
- Scheduled pay raises and potential promotions
- Post-9/11 GI Bill – funding for you or your family to use for school
- 30 days' vacation with pay earned every year
- Outstanding retirement benefits, plus a 401(k)-like thrift savings plan
- Comprehensive medical and dental coverage
- Tax-free allowances for housing and meals
- Tax-free shopping privileges at military stores
- Free or low-cost travel opportunities
- Access to military bases, clubs and recreational facilities all over the world
- Credentials/Certifications through Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (Navy COOL)

AFTER THE NAVY

The Naval Special Warfare/Naval Special Operations (NSW/NSO) communities value leadership, self-determination and organization. Employers in the military and civilian communities alike will value you as you mature in your field. Completing some of the most demanding training our country has to offer says that you have what it takes to accomplish any task an employer could throw your way. Careers within the NSW/NSO forces have comparable civilian counterparts that include anything from high-level security assessment to emergency medicine to Chemical-Biological-Radiological (CBR) protection and response. The opportunities are as numerous as they are rewarding.

READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEPS?

Once you're inspired, better informed and seriously interested, here's how to proceed:

1. TALK TO YOUR RECRUITER

- Find a local recruiter at navy.com/locator
- Ask questions
- Discuss your long-term goals
- Review your qualifications
- Go over relevant financial incentives and bonuses

2. APPLY FOR THE POSITION

- Go to navy.com/apply, follow the link at the bottom and complete the online application
- Provide personal information that includes your birth certificate, social security card and professional details (if applicable)
- Take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) to help assess your skills and interests
- Pass a full medical examination
- Participate in a precommitment interview

3. BEGIN YOUR TRAINING

- Attend Boot Camp in Great Lakes, Illinois (7 to 9 weeks)
- Get advanced skills training at a Navy "A" School (time varies depending on specialty)
- From there, you're ready to start serving among the most accomplished and respected professionals in the world

MORE INFORMATION

Visit [facebook.com/NavyAirRescue](https://www.facebook.com/NavyAirRescue) to ask questions. Get answers. And connect with others just like you.

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