

Key Skills

- customer service skills
- knowledge of public safety and security
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- sensitivity and understanding
- the ability to work well with others
- physical fitness and endurance

Salary

£20,000 - £30,000

Working hours

41 – 43
per week
Evenings / weekends /
bank holidays
on shifts

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Coastguard

Volunteering

You could start by becoming a coastguard rescue officer volunteer, then apply for a paid position when vacancies are advertised.

Work

You may be able to work your way into this role by starting as a watch assistant and applying for promotion when you've got more experience.

You'll need literacy, numeracy and IT skills, as well as seagoing experience

Direct Application

You can apply directly for jobs if you have some of the relevant skills and knowledge needed for this role.

You'll need a good standard of literacy and numeracy, good hearing and eyesight to become a watch officer.

Employers will often ask for seagoing experience, for example from:

- the Royal Navy, the Royal Air Force or the Merchant Navy
- activities involving boat work and navigation
- experience as a coastguard rescue officer volunteer.

Restrictions and Requirements

You'll need to:

- meet the Civil Service nationality requirements
- be over 18 years of age
- pass a medical check
- pass a fitness test
- have a full driving licence
- pass background checks
- pass security checks

You'll need to live within 30 minutes of the coastguard rescue location you wish to work for.

You must be prepared to work anywhere in the UK.



Career path and progression

With experience, you could be promoted from coastguard watch assistant to watch officer, then to watch manager or section manager. You could also work in other parts of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

Day to Day tasks:

- co-ordinate training
- monitor vessels' radio and satellite communications
- give information and advice about coastal and sea safety
- offer navigational advice along particular stretches of water
- send out weather and tidal reports
- respond to emergency distress calls
- supervise and assist search and rescue operations
- handle reports of wreckage, pollution or debris along the coast or at sea



Working conditions

You could work in an office or at sea.
Your working environment may be outdoors in all weathers.
You may need to wear a uniform.

Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.
Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Protective service associate professionals n.e.c.	
Weekly Pay £900	Annual Pay £46,800
Hours/Week 34h	Hourly Pay £26
Workforce Change (projected)	
Contraction -0.2%	Replacement 38.3%
The workforce is projected to contract by -0.2% over the period to 2027, losing 100 jobs. In the same period, 38.3% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 18,600 job openings.	
You might find this job in Retail trade Auxiliary services Employment activities Sport & recreation Public admin. & defence	
More info	Clear card

Ship and hovercraft officers	
Weekly Pay £1,180	Annual Pay £61,360
Hours/Week 40h	Hourly Pay £30
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 3.9%	Replacement 49.2%
The workforce is projected to grow by 3.9% over the period to 2027, creating 700 jobs. In the same period, 49.2% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 8,900 job openings.	
You might find this job in Warehousing, etc Water transport Public admin. & defence	
More info	Clear card

Paramedics	
Weekly Pay £920	Annual Pay £47,840
Hours/Week 38h	Hourly Pay £24
Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 5.5%	Replacement 48.7%
The workforce is projected to grow by 5.5% over the period to 2027, creating 1,800 jobs. In the same period, 48.7% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 16,000 job openings.	
You might find this job in Health	
More info	Clear card

Labour Market Information



Protective service associate professionals n.e.c.

Workers in this unit group inspect goods to ensure compliance with regulations concerning payment of duty, establish that persons entering and leaving the UK have necessary authorisation for crossing national borders, monitor maritime conditions, undertake search and rescue operations, plan and coordinate services of private detection agencies and security measures for individuals, establishments or organisations, and perform other security and protective service occupations not elsewhere classified in MINOR GROUP 331: Protective Service Occupations.

Common tasks in this job:

- examines, weighs and counts goods imported by ship or aircraft, ensures that the declared value of goods is satisfactory and that duties and taxes have been paid;
- examines passports, visas, work permits and other immigration documents, and allows or refuses entry into the UK;
- maintains revenue control at breweries, tobacco factories and other premises where dutiable goods are manufactured, processed or stored;
- visits racecourses, greyhound stadiums and betting shops to ensure compliance with legal

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Clear card

Ship and hovercraft officers

Ship and hovercraft officers command and navigate ships and other craft, co-ordinate the activities of officers and deck and engine room ratings, operate and maintain communications equipment on board ship and undertake minor repairs to engines, boilers and other mechanical and electrical equipment.

Common tasks in this job:

- allocates duties to ship's officers and co-ordinates and directs the activities of deck and engine room ratings;
- directs or undertakes the operation of controls to inflate air cushions, run engines and propel and steer ships, hovercraft and other vessels;
- locates the position of vessel using electronic and other navigational aids such as charts and compasses and advises on navigation where appropriate;
- monitors the operation of engines, generators and other mechanical and electrical equipment and undertakes any necessary minor repairs;

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Paramedics

Paramedics provide first aid and life support treatment in emergency situations and transport sick and injured people who require skilled treatment.

Common tasks in this job:

- drives ambulance or accompanies driver to respond to calls for assistance at accidents, emergencies and other incidents;
- assesses the nature of injuries, provides first aid treatment and ascertains appropriate method of conveying patient;
- resuscitates and/or stabilises patient using relevant techniques, equipment and drugs;
- transports and accompanies patients who either require or potentially require skilled treatment whilst travelling;

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Useful Websites

[Careers with HM Coastguard | HM Coastguard UK](#)

[RNLI - Royal National Lifeboat Institution - Saving Lives at Sea](#)

[What does a coastguard do? | First Careers](#)

[Home | HM Coastguard UK](#)

[Working for the Maritime and Coastguard Agency | Civil Service Careers \(civil-service-careers.gov.uk\)](#)

[Made in the Royal Navy | Royal Navy \(mod.uk\)](#)

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

Behind the scenes



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjXxJ2w1wMc&pp=ygUgYmVoaW5kiHRoZSBzY2VuZXMgY29hc3QgZ3Vhc mQgVUs%3D>

A Day in the Life of Aeronautical Team Leader



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GR2yfKWGF60>

Water safety



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LkpG11DIPg&pp=ygUcd2FOZX1gc2FmZXR5IGZvcjB0ZWVuYWdlcyB1aw%3D%3D>

A look inside Dublin's Rescue 116 helicopter



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VNV40fDOYDY&pp=ygUaY29hc3RndWFyZCB3YXRlciBzYWZ0ZXkgdWw%3D>

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