Air Traffic Controller

Description:
Air traffic controllers tell airplanes when to land and take off.

Duties:
Giving instructions on landing and take off to pilots.
- Watch where planes are in the air using radar, or on the ground.
- Give flight path changes to pilots for emergency landings.
- Alert airport emergency services.

Where and When:
- Work in air traffic control towers at airports.
- Work all hours, nights, and weekends.

What or Who They Work With:
- Computers
- Radar Systems
- Radios or Phones
- Pilots
- Airfield Personnel
- Binoculars
- Cameras
- Flight Simulation Programs

Education and Training:
- Most have a high school diploma.
- Many have some college classes.
- Some have a 2 year or 4 year degree from a college.
- Most have on the job training and work experience.
- A person must complete a FAA program, and between 18-30 years old.
- Have 3 years of full time work experience, or 4 years of college or both.
- Must pass a health exam once each year.
- Must pass a job exam two times each year.
- All must pass a test and on the job training.

Similar Jobs:
- Locomotive Engineer
- Transportation Technician
- Airfield Operations Specialist

Related School Subjects:
- English
- Reading
- Writing
- Geography
• Computers

Sources:
• VA VIEW Career Search
• ONET Online
• BLS Online

Print:
• Dot to Dot Go
• Air, Water, or Land?

Read:
• Airport by Byron Barton
• National Geographic Readers: Planes (National Geographic Kids: Science Reader Level 1 by Amy Shields
• Richard Scarry's A Day at the Airport by Richard Scarry
• The Noisy Airplane Ride by Mike Downs
• A Day at an Airport (Time Goes By) by: Sarah Harrison
• The Great Airport Mystery (Hardy Boys, Book 9) by Franklin W. Dixon
• Gila Monsters Meet You At the Airport (Reading Rainbow Book) by: Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
• Airport (Usborne Sticker Books) by Dan Crisp
• Planes at the Airport by Peter Mandel and Ed Miller
• Airport (with magnets) Usborne Magnet Books by Felicity Brooks, Matt Durber, and Gustavo Mazali
• 50 Things to Spot at the Airport (Activity Cards) by Struan Reid and katrina Fearn
• Busy Airport: A lift the flap learning book by Gaby Goldsack and Jan Smith

Explore:
• Career Town Ticket Typing
• Career Town Career Day Which Way?
• Cyberchase Airlines Builder