

Aeronautical meteorological observer

An aeronautical meteorological observer produces dependable observations of present weather for the aviation information chain. The role requires disciplined observation, instrument awareness and accurate records; it is not automatically a forecasting qualification. Employers may use different entry grades, and some posts combine observation with supervision or other meteorological duties.

Other titles to compare: Aviation weather observer, Aerodrome meteorological observer. Titles alone do not establish equivalent duties.

What the role does

- Observe and record weather using the organisation's approved arrangements.
- Check observation data quality and communicate information through authorised channels.
- Keep orderly records and identify issues requiring escalation.
- In experienced posts, help supervise or train other observers.

Where the work happens

Aerodrome observation sites, meteorological offices and shift teams; Examples include an airport-authority senior post in Turks and Caicos and an entry-grade post assigned to PAGASA's Aeronautical Meteorological Services Section.

Employer example 1

Turks and Caicos Islands Airports Authority • Turks and Caicos Islands • Senior Meteorological Observer

Closed vacancy historical example • Checked 2026-10-27 [EMP1]

Category	What this employer states
Essential in this source	Four CXC/GCE Ordinary Level subjects including English and mathematics, plus meteorological-technician training or related certified BIP-MT-standard training. At least five years aeronautical meteorology/observation experience; technical knowledge, supervision and communication capability. Advert restricted applications to Turks and Caicos Islanders.
Other stated conditions	Rotating shifts and outdoor work; the advert also lists physical/sensory requirements. These are this employer's conditions, not personal medical advice.

This specific employer example is not a worldwide entry rule. A closed or undated example is not an invitation to apply. Desirable requirements are not separately classified here; do not infer that none apply.

Employer example 2

PAGASA - Department of Science and Technology • Philippines • Weather Observer I, PAGASAB-WOB1-145-1998

Closed vacancy historical example • Checked 2026-10-27 [EMP2]

Category	What this employer states
Essential in this source	Two years of college study, specified as 72 units in a single course. Meteorological Technicians Training Course or equivalent; the listing states a training exception for engineering/natural-science bachelor-degree holders.
Other stated conditions	Assigned to Aeronautical Meteorological Services Section. Eligibility wording requires checking in the complete official recruitment documentation; it is not simplified here into an unrestricted eligibility claim.

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PREPARE AND VERIFY

Separate requirements from preparation

International WMO framework: WMO's 2026 FAQ says observer prerequisite qualifications remain nationally determined; it does not prescribe one worldwide AMO entry award. Competence and qualification are distinct. [REG1]

United Kingdom - separate jurisdiction example: CAA CAP 746 provides UK-specific observing training and competence requirements. It must not be imported as the law governing either employer example above. [REG2]

Still to verify: PAGASA's listing does not provide detailed duties or fully explained eligibility wording. Local regulatory mapping for both employer examples remains limited; neither example establishes worldwide requirements.

Explore a realistic entry route

- Compare entry-grade and senior observer vacancies separately. The TCIAA five-year condition belongs to a supervisory post; it is not a universal starting requirement. PAGASA's entry-grade example illustrates a different national recruitment structure.
- Check the authority and employer applicable to the place you want to work. Ask which academic background, local observer training and competence assessment are recognised before purchasing an observing course.
- Learn basic weather concepts, careful data recording and the difference between observing current conditions and forecasting future conditions. Studying these topics does not authorise you to issue operational aviation weather reports.

Build evidence of your skills

- Maintain a simple personal weather diary from a safe public or home location. Record the date, source and uncertainty; label it educational, not a METAR or official aerodrome observation. Never enter restricted airport areas or work in unsafe weather.
- Use an invented data table to practise finding inconsistent units, missing values or transcription errors. Write a short correction note that preserves what changed and why, without pretending you calibrated or certified an instrument.

Prepare for an interview

Reflection prompts only, not questions claimed to be used by an employer.

- Prepare a genuine example of accurate repetitive work and noticing a discrepancy. Explain how you verified the issue and notified the right person rather than silently altering a record.
- Ask how initial assessment, local authorisation, refresher training, shift handover and supervision are organised. If a vacancy lists sensory or physical conditions, obtain the employer's current assessment process; this guide cannot determine personal fitness.

Investigate possible next roles

Experienced observers may investigate supervisory or training roles. A move into forecasting requires the separate education, training and competence route accepted by that organisation; observer service alone does not confer forecaster qualification.

Sources and scope

[EMP1] [Turks and Caicos Islands Airports Authority Senior Meteorological Observer](#)

Closed vacancy historical example. Turks and Caicos Islands. Checked 2026-10-27.

[EMP2] [PAGASA - Department of Science and Technology Weather Observer I, PAGASAB-WOB1-145-1998](#)

Closed vacancy historical example. Philippines. Checked 2026-10-27.

[REG1] [World Meteorological Organization FAQs on the 2026 Amendment to WMO qualification and competency requirements for aeronautical meteorological personnel](#)

Qualification/competency changes applicable from 1 January 2026; FAQs 4, 5, 10, 11 and 13. WMO framework is not an individual worldwide employment licence. Member and provider implementation must be checked for the intended job. Checked 2026-10-27.

[REG2] [UK Civil Aviation Authority CAP 746 - Requirements for meteorological observations at aerodromes](#)

Current-status publication page, version 6 dated 4 August 2023; observer training and competence context. UK-specific guidance; it does not establish requirements for the Turks and Caicos Islands or the Philippines. Operational observing instructions are not reproduced. Checked 2026-10-27.

Educational requirements guide, not operational instructions, professional approval or an employment guarantee. Verify current requirements with the relevant authority and employer. Examples are selective, dated and job-specific. Check the complete current vacancy and relevant authority before choosing paid training or assessing eligibility. No personal medical, nationality or immigration assessment is made here. No job guarantee.