

Aviation meteorologist

An aviation meteorologist interprets weather evidence and communicates its significance for aviation users. Forecasting, observation and network weather coordination are related but different functions. A forecast does not itself authorise a flight or an air traffic clearance. These examples show experienced forecasting and aviation decision-support work, not a universal graduate entry threshold.

Other titles to compare: Aviation forecaster, Aeronautical meteorological forecaster. Titles alone do not establish equivalent duties.

What the role does

- Interpret observations, forecasts and models in an aviation context.
- Communicate expected impacts and uncertainty to operational stakeholders.
- Coordinate consistent weather information across teams and organisations.
- Review service performance and contribute to improvements.

Where the work happens

Forecasting or operations centres, sometimes embedded with a customer; The examples cover UK airport/ANSP customer teams and the European network-management environment; shift and deployment arrangements are job-specific.

Employer example 1

Met Office • United Kingdom • Senior Operational Meteorologist - NATS / Heathrow

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

Category	What this employer states
Essential in this source	Qualified operational meteorologist with foundation forecaster training or equivalent meeting BIP-M, plus continued development. Demonstrated aviation forecasting, customer communication and independent/team decisions; willingness to deploy. Heathrow assignment requires AMO accreditation or willingness to complete it.
Other stated conditions	UK work eligibility and security-clearance conditions apply; 24/7 roster. No separately labelled desirable criteria were found.

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

EUROCONTROL • Belgium • Network Specialist (Weather Operations)

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

Category	What this employer states
Essential in this source	Relevant scientific studies, accredited aviation-forecaster training and at least five years relevant aviation experience. Operational forecasting, meteorological analysis/tools and stakeholder briefings; English C1 and French A1 by probation end.
Desirable in this source	Aeronautical MET product experience, ATM/regulatory knowledge and training ability.
Other stated conditions	Member State nationality, shift work and internal vocational certification apply. This combines meteorology with network operations.

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PREPARE AND VERIFY

Separate requirements from preparation

International WMO framework from 1 January 2026: WMO allows operational forecaster qualifications consistent with BIP-M knowledge and skills, with national/provider definition and evidence. Do not convert a 2025 employer requirement into a rigid worldwide 2026 course rule. [REG1]

Named UK and EUROCONTROL vacancies: Employer training, accreditation and internal validation conditions are role-specific. Neither example establishes a globally portable personal aviation-meteorologist licence. [EMP1, EMP2]

Still to verify: The two examples are closed experienced-hire posts. A current graduate-entry employer example and a GCC aviation-weather employer example remain to be researched.

Explore a realistic entry route

- Build foundations in mathematics, physical science, data analysis and clear written explanation. Compare a prospective course with the intended national meteorological service or employer route, rather than relying on a generic promise of aviation accreditation.
- Distinguish university education, forecaster training, local aviation competence and ongoing assessment. The examples are experienced roles; a beginner should research graduate or trainee meteorology schemes separately.
- Create a source comparison showing the employer, country, actual role, mandatory wording and any training offered after selection. Recheck dates: both examples here are closed and illustrate requirements, not current openings.
- Before committing to specialist study, confirm how its learning outcomes align with the current national interpretation of the WMO framework. This guide does not endorse a provider or assess anyone's eligibility.

Build evidence of your skills

- Use a public historical weather dataset to create a non-operational chart with a caption explaining uncertainty and missing data. State that it is a learning exercise and must not be used for flight planning or live weather decisions.
- Write two versions of a fictional weather-impact explanation: one for a technical colleague and one for a non-specialist manager. Keep observations, predictions and possible impacts separate; avoid making a go/no-go recommendation.
- Keep an honest learning log of what your analysis could not establish. Record source dates and any revisions instead of presenting hindsight as a successful real-time forecast.

Prepare for an interview

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

- Prepare a genuine example of communicating uncertain scientific information without overstating confidence. Explain how you checked understanding and when you would seek a colleague's review.
- Ask which forecasting and observing competencies the particular post needs, how assessment works, whether customer-site deployment is expected and what continuing learning is supported. These are preparation prompts, not actual selection questions.

Investigate possible next roles

Directions to explore include specialist forecasting, aviation customer services, verification/data science, training or weather-impact coordination. Movement between observation, forecasting and network roles may need substantial additional training.

Sources and scope

[EMP1] [Met Office Senior Operational Meteorologist - NATS / Heathrow](#)

Closed vacancy historical example. United Kingdom. Checked 2026-10-27.

[EMP2] [EUROCONTROL Network Specialist \(Weather Operations\)](#)

Closed vacancy historical example. Belgium. 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.

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.