



Aviation Profile

Employment Nelson-Tasman

Introduction

Nelson Airport is the fourth busiest airport in New Zealand. Both the airline operations and aircraft maintenance of two major regional airlines - Air Nelson and Origin Pacific are based here. Other major employers include New Zealand Helicopters and Nelson Helicopters.

Employment in the Industry

450 people were employed in the Aviation industry in the year 2000.

- ◆ Commercial aviation employs about 1,750 aircraft and helicopter pilots in New Zealand. Most pilots work for commercial airlines, flying schools and aero clubs, or as agricultural or charter pilots.
- ◆ The aviation industry offers a whole range of careers and is looking for skilled people.
- ◆ People employed in this industry are mainly pilots, engineers, air traffic controllers, flight attendants and airport maintenance workers.
- ◆ The Royal New Zealand Air Force is a major employer and training provider for the aviation industry.

What Employers are Looking For

- ◆ A positive attitude is essential.
- ◆ For skilled positions such as pilots and engineers, necessary licences and qualifications are needed.
- ◆ Engineers who understand how aircraft operate plus know about civil aviation laws and regulations.
- ◆ The industry is looking for people who are responsible, honest and communicate well, especially in positions where staff are dealing with the public.
- ◆ Being able to work well as part of a team is important in most aviation careers.

Current Skill Shortages

- ◆ Trainee Apprentices, in Aircraft Engineering
- ◆ Fully licensed Aircraft Engineers

AVIATION Employment Categories

Job Title	No's Employ	Job Description	Training
Flight Instructor \$18- 20,000 up to \$40,000 when qualified	15	Teaches people how to fly aircraft	4 year apprenticeship/training Training is through an aero club or training organisation. To gain commercial pilot licence
Aircraft Pilot Training \$20,000 Cleared to Line* \$34,500– \$80,000	140	Navigating and flying aircraft to carry passengers or goods	A training process that includes theory, exams and flight time needs to be completed to gain a Commercial Pilot Licence
Aircraft Engineer \$25,000- \$45,000 Engineer Supervisor \$45,000- \$80,000	90	Engineers maintain and service aircraft, and make sure they are safe for flight	One year Aircraft Engineering Trainee-ship, or four year Mechanical Engineering Training with an employer
Air Traffic Controller \$45,000-varies greatly due to experience	9	Working in towers and radar centres to make sure planes fly safely	Six months Air Traffic Control training and six to nine months on the job training

Flight Attendant \$24,000pa upwards -varies based on allowances	80	Customer service on passenger aircraft. Flight attendants often work shifts and are away overnight	Diploma in Tourism or specialised cabin crew training
Traffic Clerk \$18,000-\$25,000pa	60	Issuing flight tickets and checking in passengers. Tracing baggage and airport duties	Customer service experience. On the job training although travel industry training is preferred
Aircraft Manufacturing \$20,000-\$35,000pa	23	Building and repairing aircraft and aircraft engines. Specialist repair services	Certificate in Mechanical Engineering or higher engineering qualifications
Airport Maintenance \$20,000-\$35,000pa	20	Ground support and ground maintenance	Industry training or experience
Emergency Response Officers \$32,000-\$56,000pa	3	Take charge at accidents, manage bomb scares and other emergency situations	Specialist emergency training through industry and experience
Aircraft Loader \$23,000 +pa	27	Loading and unloading aircraft. Marshalling aircraft	Current drivers licence and on the job training

**Cleared to Line, is a term used for pilots who have completed up to three months with the airline and shown they are competent to assist the captain.*

Some Training Pathways to Employment

- ◆ **Flight attendants** or traffic clerks need to complete a travel tourism course or have previous industry experience. **NMIT** offers the Certificate in Travel – 34 week course covering skills needed to enter travel industry. Sixth form or equivalent needed as a prerequisite to this course. The **New Zealand School of Tourism**, PO Box 7326, Auckland Ph 0800 843 697.
- ◆ **Aircraft engineering** is available as a Modern Apprenticeship. Aircraft engineers can also become qualified through an RNZAF apprenticeship or trade apprenticeship such as mechanics or fitter and turner. Air New Zealand has one-year engineers training course which is the same as a level three apprenticeship. Seventh Form Bursary (NCEA level 3) in maths, physics and chemistry are preferred when entering this field.
- ◆ **Pilots** need to have a Commercial Pilot Licence before they can start flying aircraft. This means passing exams and spending time learning to fly with an instructor. Pilots need to have flown for a certain number of hours before they become qualified to fly alone or carry passengers. **Nelson Aviation College** – offer a two year Diploma in Aviation and a range of courses for the aviation industry. Further information available from Nelson Aviation College, Queen Victoria Street, Motueka, Ph 03 528 8382. To train as a pilot with the Royal Air New Zealand Air Force sixth form certificate is needed in english, maths, physics and chemistry, or computer studies. 7th form bursary is preferred.
- ◆ **For Air Traffic Control** information visit www.airways.co.nz or phone 0800 879 282 Airways Training Centre, Christchurch.

Some Major Employers

- ◆ Air Nelson (operating as Air New Zealand Link)
- ◆ Origin Pacific Airways
- ◆ Nelson Helicopters Limited