



PSU · MAP #21

AAI Junior Executive (Air Traffic Control) — ₹1 lakh in hand from day one, paid in a currency most jobs don't charge



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Clear the CBT and the voice test, train for 34 weeks, then hold aircraft apart for a living — for entry pay few public-sector jobs match, and a roster that never sleeps.

Last reviewed 25 July 2026

THE 30-YEAR JOURNEY

The early climb is generous and time-bound: E1 to E2 to E3 comes largely with service, not with a fight for a vacancy. Most controllers reach Senior Manager or Assistant General Manager simply by serving well. The fork is at the top. Beyond AGM the management pyramid narrows sharply and promotions turn selection-based, Joint GM, General Manager, Executive Director and the board are reached by a few. Many controllers also choose to stay operational — running live traffic — rather than move into pure management. These are the two ends of the same ladder.

SALARY PROJECTION

If you joined today

Figures as of June 2026

AAI 3rd-PRC IDA pay scales, current Industrial DA, ATC operational allowance, cafeteria perks and metro-class HRA; time-bound progression through the early grades, selection at the top. Both columns are identical for the first decade-plus — the early ladder is time-bound, so every steady performer climbs E1>E2>E3>E4 the same way. The split comes at the top: most settle around DGM (E6) on largely time-scale progression; a selection-grade few reach GM, ED and the board. IDA basics also grow ~3% a year within each band, so mid-career in-hand runs above a naive entry-cell estimate. We update this every year.

YEAR	MILESTONE	TIME-SCALE LADDER where most controllers settle	MANAGEMENT PYRAMID GM and above, if you break in
0	Joining (E1)	E1 · ₹90k Both paths identical so far · Junior Executive	
10	Manager (E3)	E3 · ₹1.58L Both paths identical so far · Manager	
20	Paths split	E5 · ₹2.1L Assistant General Manager	E7 · ₹2.58L Joint General Manager
30	Retirement range	E6 · ₹2.45L Deputy General Manager	E8 · ₹3.1L General Manager

In-hand figures, metro-class posting with ATC allowance. Both paths are identical until ~year 18, then split between the time-scale ceiling and the management pyramid. Snapshot dated June 2026.

Sarkari Job Guide does not claim this salary structure. The figures come from the verified sources listed on the career page.

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Visual career maps for government jobs in India. Each map shows the full 30-year path: pay at every stage, promotion timelines, and the costs nobody mentions.

Salaries and rules change. Read the latest version:

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