

MEDICAL

MEDICAL ASSISTANT (GENERAL SERVICE)



As a Medical Assistant (General Service), your patients will be the people you live and work alongside every day and their lives may literally depend on your skills. At sea, alongside providing day-to-day healthcare for your crewmates, you'll be a vital part of the ship's company, trained in advanced first aid and life-saving. On larger ships, you'll be part of a medical team, while on smaller ships you may be the only medic on board, providing health education and first-aid training as well as medical care. You may also work in the medical centre of a Royal Navy shore base, or train for the coveted green beret and provide medical support for the Royal Marines.

What we're looking for

You'll need commitment, enthusiasm and common sense. You should also be interested in people and have a desire to care for the sick and injured. It's crucial that you can stay calm, but react quickly in an emergency. Above all, you need to work well as part of a team.

Initial training

Your Royal Navy career begins with 10 weeks' basic training at HMS Raleigh. It sounds like a ship, but in fact it's a shore base near Plymouth. The discipline, teamwork, organisational, firefighting and weapon-handling skills you'll learn here will stay with you throughout your Royal Navy career. Aim to get yourself as fit as you can before you arrive. You'll be doing a lot of physical exercise, and you'll find it much easier if you're already in good shape. There's also a swimming test, so if you can't swim, make sure you've learned by the time you join us. You can find out more about HMS Raleigh at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Professional training

Your training will take place at the Defence Medical Services Training Group, Aldershot, where you will spend an initial 20 weeks studying first aid, environmental and preventative medicine, anatomy and physiology, administration and pharmacy. When you finish, you'll be awarded the distinctive red Geneva Cross. After a further 19 weeks' training, including gaining practical experience in a hospital, where you'll work on various wards and departments with ill and traumatised patients, you'll sit your final exam to become a Medical Assistant. You'll then be posted to a ship or naval medical centre in the UK to strengthen your knowledge.

Skills for life

Training will be a constant feature of your time with us. We'll help you gain academic qualifications like GCSEs and A-levels, and even a degree. You can also work towards NVQs and other vocational awards. As well as helping you develop your Royal Navy career, everything you achieve will be recognised and valued by a future civilian employer.

Promotion

You'll start your career as an Able Rate. With some experience and further training, you could be promoted to Leading Hand. After that, you may go on to become a Petty Officer, Chief Petty Officer then a Warrant Officer. If you show the right commitment, skills and academic ability, you may also have the chance to become a Commissioned Officer. You'll be chosen for promotion on merit, so if you work hard, you can quickly rise through the ranks.

Pay and conditions

Royal Navy pay compares well with similar civilian jobs. As well as basic pay, you'll get extra money when you're promoted and when you're away at sea. We also offer an excellent pension scheme, six weeks' paid holiday a year and free medical and dental care.

You'll generally join us on a full career, which is 18 years or to age 40, whichever is later. You may have the opportunity to serve beyond this, depending on what you want and the needs of the Royal Navy. If you want to leave, you can send us your request one year before completing your specified return of service. How long this return of service is, will depend on the branch you join. You will need to give 12 months' notice.

Not just a job, a way of life

There is a lot more to joining the Royal Navy than doing a job. For a start, all our ships and shore bases have superb sports and fitness facilities. We can offer a fantastic range of sports and other activities. You'll also have the chance to go on adventurous training, which could be anything from a jungle expedition to mountaineering and caving to parachuting. From the moment you join, you'll be part of a team that lives, works and relaxes together, forming friendships and experiences that can last a lifetime. It's a unique way of life, and the opportunities we offer will allow you to reach your career potential and enjoy the time you spend with us to the full.

DO I QUALIFY?

MEDICAL ASSISTANT (GENERAL SERVICE)

Age:	17 to 36.
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	For current information, visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

HOW TO APPLY

GET IN TOUCH

1. Go to royalnavy.mod.uk/careers or call **08456 07 55 55**.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

2. Go to an initial careers presentation.
3. Fill in a short application form.
4. Take our recruit test.
5. Discuss your job options with a Careers Adviser.
6. Pass our medical, eye and pre-joining fitness tests.
7. Attend a formal interview at the Careers Office.
8. Pass our Pre-Royal Navy Course.
9. Join the Royal Navy.