ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – MARINE ENGINEERING (SUBMARINER)

A crucial member of a close-knit and professional crew, you'll be responsible for maintenance on your submarine's vital systems, from air and water purification to engines and power-generation equipment and even the nuclear reactor itself. When the submarine goes into action, you'll be part of a damage-control and firefighting team. When you're not at sea, you could be working hands-on at a fleet maintenance unit, or helping to plan maintenance schedules. Wherever you're serving, you'll be part of an elite fighting force, respected throughout the Royal Navy and beyond.

What we're looking for

You'll need commitment, enthusiasm, common sense and an interest in mechanics and electrics. Above all, you need to work well as part of a team. Serving on board a submarine takes a special type of person. You need to be able to live and work in a confined space, where the conditions can quickly change from relatively calm to extremely active and exciting.

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 right through 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

After basic training, you'll move to HMS Sultan in Gosport for another four months, where you'll learn how the machinery on board our submarines works, and how to repair and even make components. Following on from this course, you'll then receive further specialist training on submarine equipment at either Devonport or Faslane naval bases before going to sea in a submarine for the first time. At the end of your training, there'll be an exam to test your knowledge. When you pass, you'll win your 'dolphins' – the coveted badge of a qualified Submariner – and join one of the world's elite fighting forces.

Skills for life

As an Engineering Technician you will be embarking on one of the country's top Modern Apprenticeship Schemes, voted as such in the 2011 City and Guilds Apprenticeship Awards. Training will be a constant feature of your time with us. You will gain National Vocational Qualifications as you progress through each stage of your early career and will have the opportunity to gain a Foundation Degree. We can also help you gain academic qualifications such as GCSEs and A levels. As well as helping you develop your Royal Navy career, everything you achieve will be valued by a future civilian employer and our training has been recognised by the IMarEST and IMechE so that it can streamline your route to registering as an EngTech and then an IEng.

Promotion

Engineering Technician – Marine Engineering (Submariners) are amongst the most highly-trained in the armed forces and the opportunities for rapid promotion are excellent. You'll start your career as an Able Rate. With some experience and further training, you should 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 for special skills, when you're promoted and when you're away at sea. As a Submariner, you'll qualify for a bonus of £5000 when you're awarded your 'dolphins'. 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?

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN – MARINE ENGINEERING (SUBMARINER)

Age: 16 to 29.

Nationality: Full British citizenship.

Qualifications: No specific qualifications are needed for this job. However, fast-track opportunities may be available if you have GCSEs or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent or A-levels or Higher grades or equivalent.

This job is open to men and women.

Starting salary: For current information, visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

HOW TO APPLY

GET IN TOUCH

 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 the 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.

