



ENGINEERING

MARINE ENGINEER OFFICER (SUBMARINER)

As a Marine Engineer Officer (Submariner), you'll lead a team of highly-skilled technicians, with responsibility for maintaining the hull, engines, power, water, air and water purification and hydraulics systems – plus, of course, the nuclear reactor. In an emergency, you'll also lead a damage-control and firefighting team, reporting directly to the Captain. On shore you will have a wide range of career-development opportunities such as leading and managing technical projects, working with industry partners to develop new equipment, roles in human resources and providing home support to front-line operations. You may even serve on an operational tour in Afghanistan, supporting reconstruction and stabilisation efforts. A Royal Navy submarine combines the engineering challenges of a warship and a nuclear power station and, given the hostile, alien environment it inhabits, a spacecraft. It's a career offering challenges and rewards you literally won't find anywhere else in engineering.

What we're looking for

For this job you obviously have to be technically minded, but you'll also need to be resourceful and inventive, with the ability to solve problems in demanding conditions. Above all, you need to work well as part of a team and take responsibility for the welfare, morale and training and development of the technicians in your department. 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

You'll begin your career at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) in Dartmouth. You'll spend 30 training weeks here, with the course split into three 10-week phases. These are: Military Skills, Maritime Skills and Initial Fleet Time. The military skills phase includes learning leadership and teamwork skills and the principles of command and management. You will put these into practice during several exercises, on Dartmoor. During the maritime skills phase you'll be taught to handle small ships on the River Dart and there will be exercises to test you. In the third phase, Initial Fleet Time, you'll spend 10 weeks at sea, working in every department on board, learning how the ship operates and gaining first-hand experience of life in a warship. Finally, you'll return to BRNC for your passing out parade where your family and friends will have the opportunity to witness your joining the Royal Navy as an officer.

Professional training

Joining the Submarine Service involves some of the toughest technical training in the Royal Navy. It begins with the 10-month systems engineering and management course at HMS Sultan in Gosport. Here you'll learn about general marine engineering systems, including diesel generators, hydraulics and air systems, as well as domestic systems such as water production and waste disposal, then go to sea as an Assistant Marine Engineer Officer. You'll also be trained to operate and maintain a nuclear reactor, gaining a postgraduate Diploma in Nuclear Reactor Technology in the process. At sea, you'll learn about all aspects of operating a submarine, including warfare, weapons, propulsion and escape training. On passing your final skills and knowledge test, you'll be awarded your 'Dolphins' – the coveted badge of a qualified Submariner. Our training is recognised by the IMechE and IMarEST and forms part of the Royal Navy's streamlined route to professional registration.

Skills for life

You will have opportunities to carry out an MSc or MA at a later stage in your career and your professional training forms part of the streamlined route to becoming a Chartered Engineer with the IMechE or IMarEST. All qualifications are recognised internationally and will be highly valued by civilian employers. This will greatly improve your prospects of a second career if you decide to leave the Royal Navy.

Promotion

For all officers the opportunities for promotion are excellent. To help you with your career, we'll offer you plenty of feedback, encouragement and training. You'll be promoted to Lieutenant automatically as long as you pass your professional training and perform to the level needed. After that, you'll be chosen on merit for promotion to Lieutenant Commander and beyond.

Pay and conditions

Royal Navy pay compares well with similar civilian jobs. As well as basic pay, you'll get extra money for both your submarine and nuclear-specialist 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 an initial commission, which is for 12 years. 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?

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Age:	17 to 29.
Nationality:	Full British citizenship.
Qualifications:	A degree in an engineering or physics-based subject, 180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or equivalent, which must include English and maths.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.
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 the medical, eye and pre-joining fitness tests.
7. Attend a formal interview at the Careers Office.
8. Pass the Admiralty Interview Board.
9. Join the Royal Navy.