OPERATIONAL IN THE NAVY

Operating in extreme conditions can expose members of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines to all kinds of environmental health threats. As an Environmental Health Officer, you'll be responsible for developing and maintaining environmental health standards throughout the Naval Service. As part of a team, you'll be doing everything from inspecting Royal Navy ships and submarines to advising on safe water supplies and sanitation for personnel on exercise or operations in the field. This could mean working in remote, demanding and potentially hostile places. As part of the Medical branch, you'll work closely with the Royal Navy's team of Medical and Nursing Officers and other health professionals. You will be helping to keep our people safe and healthy, wherever we are and whatever our mission.

What we're looking for
As a member of a team, and part of the Medical branch, you'll need excellent technical, management, teamwork and communication skills. You'll be working in a wide range of environments, including confined conditions on board ships and submarines, so you'll need to be adaptable, resourceful, focused and positive. With responsibility for setting and maintaining standards related to environmental health on military and humanitarian operations, you should be able to work well with civilians as well as Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel.

Basic training
You'll begin your career at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) in Dartmouth. You'll spend approximately eight months here, learning leadership and teamwork skills and the principles of command and management. You will then put these into practice during several exercises on Dartmoor and the River Dart. Alongside your academic studies, you'll be taught to handle small ships and you will spend 10 weeks at sea, working in every department on board, learning how they operate and gaining first-hand experience of life in a warship.

Professional training
During your first appointment with us, you'll carry out specialist competency training reflecting your particular professional needs and demands of the Naval Service. You'll receive all the support you need to achieve Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner status and meet your continual professional development requirement each year – all paid for by us. As your career progresses, you may have opportunities to carry out further academic studies, such as a masters degree, which again we will pay for.

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 deployed. 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 you serve will depend on the branch you join. You will need to give 12 months' notice.

Promotion
For all officers, the opportunities for promotion are excellent. To help you progress 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 necessary level. After that, you'll be selected on merit for promotion to Lieutenant Commander and beyond.

Sport and recreation
We can offer you a fantastic range of sports and other activities. All our ships and shore bases have superb sports and fitness facilities and we play a huge number of team and individual games. 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.