

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 sick quarters 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.

Basic training

Your Royal Navy career begins with nine 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

Your training will take place at the Defence Medical Services Training Group where you will spend 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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

DO I QUALIFY?

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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. Have an informal discussion with a Careers Adviser.
4. Take the recruit test.
5. Discuss your job options with a Careers Adviser.
6. Pass the medical, eye and pre-joining fitness tests.
7. Join the Royal Navy.