

# ROYAL NAVY

## MEDICAL BRANCH

Your career guide



YOUR ROLE | THE PEOPLE YOU'LL MEET | THE PLACES YOU'LL GO



# WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE MEDICAL BRANCH?

The Royal Navy Medical branch is made up of highly trained healthcare professionals who can carry out their skills and expertise anywhere around the world. We have a duty of care to all our personnel to ensure they have access to the best medical and dental care whenever it is needed. Our Role 1 teams are made up of GPs, Primary Care Nurses, Medical Assistants, Dental teams and Mental Health services. They ensure day-to-day routine healthcare is delivered both ashore and while deployed at sea on our Ships and Submarines. Our capabilities extend beyond that to Role 2 (Damage Control, Resuscitation and Surgery) and Maritime Role 3 on board RFA Argus. Here, we can provide secondary care capabilities including an emergency department, operating theatre, critical care, wards, laboratory services, radiology and physiotherapy.



## HOW LONG IS TRAINING?

Training and development is continuous throughout your career within the Royal Navy. In addition to your military training, professional and clinical development is critical to ensure we have the most highly skilled healthcare professionals caring for our patients.

## Medical Branch Ratings

On joining, you'll complete 10 weeks of Initial Naval Training (Phase 1) at HMS Raleigh, where you'll gain skills that will stay with you throughout your career. After that, our student ODPs, Adult Nurses, Mental Health Nurses and Radiographers will all start their professional courses at Birmingham City University. Our Student Biomedical Scientists will go to Aston University. If you're already qualified, after Initial Naval Training (INT), you'll go straight to either Joint Hospital Group (South) in Portsmouth, Joint Hospital Group (South West) in Plymouth or the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine in Birmingham.

## Commissioned Officers

Nursing Officers and Environmental Health Officers will complete 30 weeks INT at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC) Dartmouth. Medical and Dental Officers will complete 15 weeks INT at BRNC Dartmouth.

## Who we're looking for

- Quick thinkers who are calm under pressure
- Compassion and dedication to care for others
- Aspiration to work in challenging environments
- A desire for a career with a difference
- Team players
- An adventurous spirit



## Joining

As a minimum you will need to complete a:

- Naval Service Recruit Test (NSRT) and interview at your local Armed Forces Careers Office (AFCO)
- Telephone call with a triage nurse to prepare you for medical
- Medical and eye test
- Pre-joining fitness test
- Ratings: Attend a Specialist Medical Technician/ Naval Nurse Assessment board. If successful at the final selection board you'll then attend the Royal Navy Acquaint Course before joining HMS Raleigh
- Officers: SIFT interview with your Area Careers Liaison Officer before being forwarded to the Admiralty Interview board. If successful at the Final Selection board, you'll then enter BRNC Dartmouth

## Benefits

- Excellent salary and competitive non-contributory pension scheme
- Six weeks' paid holiday, plus public holidays
- Access to superb sports facilities and adventurous training opportunities
- Continuous Professional Development for clinical progression
- Free medical and dental care
- Additional pay for time at sea
- Travel around the world
- Subsidised Food and Accommodation
- Forces Help To Buy house purchase scheme

# GET PAID TO TRAIN



The Royal Navy offers exciting opportunities to get paid to train. Whether this is as a cadetship for your medical or dental school training or funding for your complete training pathway as an Adult or Mental Health Nurse, Medical Technician or Dental Nurse. It's a chance to gain vocational qualifications that will give you a career for life. Once you've completed your studies, you'll be supported as a newly qualified healthcare professional and have an exciting career ahead of you filled with adventure, variety and challenges beyond any mainstream healthcare career.

## Cadetships

Cadetships are available for eligible candidates studying at a UK based medical or dental school. The cadetship is available for the final 3 years of study and comprises of an impressive annual salary plus your medical or dental school fees paid for by us. Medical Officer Cadets will complete their 5 years at medical school (or 4 years if doing an accelerated course) before completing their foundation years 1 & 2 under the Defence Deanery who will facilitate placements in various locations within our Joint Hospital Group Units. On completion of FY2 they will join BRNC Dartmouth to commence Officer training. After this, you'll spend 3 years as a General Duties Medical Officer.

Dental Officer Cadets will complete their 5 years at dental school (or 4 years if doing an accelerated course) before completing foundation year 1 within one of our own Dental Centres. On completion of FY1 they will join BRNC Dartmouth to commence Officer training. After this, you'll go straight to one of our dental centres to continue your career in Dentistry.

## Nursing

The Royal Navy offers the opportunity to train as an Adult or Mental Health Nurse. If you have 120 UCAS points (including a science-based subject) at A-level or equivalent, you could be eligible to apply. You would study at Birmingham City university alongside other tri-service student healthcare professionals to complete your BSc in Adult or Mental Health Nursing.

## Student Medical Technicians

You can be paid to train as a Radiographer, Operating Department Practitioner (ODP) or Biomedical Scientist. You'll need A-level qualifications, including a science-based subject. As a Radiographer or ODP, you'd study at Birmingham City University to complete your professional training.

If you want to be a Biomedical Scientist, you specifically need Biology or Human Biology at A-level. You would study at Aston University to complete a 3-year BSc in Biomedical Science, followed by a 4th training year in a clinical setting before being fully qualified.

If successful in your application as a Student Nurse or Medical Technician, you would complete 10 weeks Initial Naval Training at HMS Raleigh before starting university. You'll be paid a salary, your university fees are paid for and you'll be accommodated on a university campus at a heavily subsidised rate. Once you've qualified, you'll join one of our Joint Hospital Group Units and consolidate your training whilst continuing your professional development. You'll then go on to deploy on operations around the world, taking your excellent clinical skills with you.

| Annual Salary | Training Year                                 |
|---------------|---|
| £17,133       | 3 <sup>rd</sup> year at Medical/Dental School |
| £19,202       | 4 <sup>th</sup> year at Medical/Dental School |
| £21,281       | 5 <sup>th</sup> year at Medical/Dental School |
| £45,801       | FY1   |
| £60,505       | FY2   |

# MEDICAL JOBS

## MEDICAL OFFICER

**ACTIVE ON:**



Medical Officers in the Royal Navy use their skills in some of the most challenging environments in the world. After your Initial Officer Training, you'll serve as a General Duties Medical Officer (GDMO). You'll be part of the Role 1 medical team ashore or on Ships and Submarines where you could find yourself deployed to a conflict zone or providing medical support during humanitarian aid operations, working in a land or maritime environment. After serving as a GDMO, you'll commence your core and speciality years of training in acute/trauma based areas including emergency medicine, intensive care, anaesthetics, surgery, general practice, psychiatry and many more.

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Age:</b>            | Up to 39. As a consultant, aged 54.  |
| <b>Nationality:</b>    | British or British dual national.  |
| <b>Qualifications:</b> | MBCbB and GMC registration.  |
| <b>Salary:</b>         | On completion of FY2 starting at £60,505. Starting salary and rank may also be tailored to level of experience on entry. |

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

**ACTIVE ON:**



In protecting our nation's interests all over the world, Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel are exposed to some of the most extreme conditions imaginable. As an Environmental Health Officer, you'll lead the team that helps to keep our people safe and healthy wherever they are in the world. The vital environmental assessments provided by your team will ensure our most vital operations remain on track, with safe water supplies and adequate sanitation for everyone, wherever they are in the world.

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Age:</b>            | Up to 39.   |
| <b>Nationality:</b>    | British or British dual national.   |
| <b>Qualifications:</b> | BSc/MSc in Environmental Health. Desirable Chartered status and EHRB registration.  |
| <b>Salary:</b>         | £27,818 if non-chartered with no EHRB registration. If chartered status and EHRB registered, £42,850 and a Golden Hello of £27,000. |



## NURSING OFFICER

**ACTIVE ON:**



As an Adult Nurse, you'll begin your career working within a Joint Hospital Group Unit, alongside other military and NHS colleagues, to develop your clinical skills as well as your leadership and management skills. During operations around the world, you'll take those skills and lead a team in challenging environments where you'll need to remain adaptable and flexible. This could be during a humanitarian aid deployment to the Caribbean, providing enhanced medical capabilities on board our aircraft carriers or in an area of conflict. We also have Mental Health Nursing Officers who fulfil management and leadership roles within our Department of Community Mental Health centres, coordinating the mental health service provision to our personnel.

**Age:** Up to 39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** BSc in Adult or Mental Health Nursing plus NMC registration.

**Salary:** Starting at £34,620 on completion of BRNC Dartmouth. Rank and pay on entry will be based on previous nursing experience since qualifying.

## NAVAL NURSE RATING (STUDENT OR QUALIFIED)

**ACTIVE ON:**



Once qualified, our Adult and Mental Health nurses will focus on developing and maintaining their clinical skills and expertise in order to deploy around the world, caring for our injured personnel wherever we are operating. Adult nurses will begin their careers working in Joint Hospital Group units in Plymouth, Portsmouth or Birmingham and can deploy with Maritime Role 3 in a variety of specialisms or Role 2 Afloat as an ED or ITU Specialist Nurse later in their careers. Mental Health Nurses work within Department of Community Mental Health centres and the Waterfront Logistics Support Group to look after the mental wellbeing of our personnel.

**Age:** Up to 39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** As a student, 120 UCAS points including a science-based subject. Qualified nurses need a BSc in Adult or Mental Health Nursing plus registration with the NMC.

**Salary:** As a student, you'd start on £15,985, increasing to £20,400 after 6 months. Qualified Nurses, on completion of Initial Naval training, your starting salary will be £34,340.

Please scan the QR below for more information on rates of pay for each job.



# MEDICAL JOBS

## MEDICAL TECHNICIAN – OPERATING DEPARTMENT PRACTITIONER (STUDENT OR QUALIFIED)

**ACTIVE ON:**



Our Operating Department Practitioners (ODPs) are vital to the smooth running of our surgical capabilities wherever we are deployed. At home in the UK, you'll work within one of our Joint Hospital Group Units to develop and maintain your clinical skills as well as having opportunities to gain qualifications as a Surgical First Assistant or Sterile Services Manager.

**Age:** Up to 39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** Student: 88 UCAS points including a science-based subject. Qualified ODPs need at least a Dip HE in Operating Department Practice and HCPC registration.

**Salary\***

## MEDICAL TECHNICIAN – BIOMEDICAL SCIENTIST (STUDENT OR QUALIFIED)

**ACTIVE ON:**



We rely on our Biomedical Scientists to provide microbiology, biochemistry and haematology capability wherever we are operating around the world. Day-to-day you'll work in an NHS laboratory within one of our Joint Hospital Group Units in Plymouth or Birmingham and when needed, you'll deploy on Role 2, CFSG or Maritime Role 3 to continue delivering that capability. In addition, you'll manage our blood stocks and potentially be in charge of coordinating an Emergency Donor panel – our way of generating blood supplies whilst deployed.

**Age:** Up to 39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** Student: 120 UCAS points including either Biology or Human Biology. Qualified Biomedical Scientists need an IBMS Accredited BSc in Biomedical Science and HCPC registration.

**Salary\***

## MEDICAL TECHNICIAN – RADIOGRAPHER (STUDENT OR QUALIFIED)

**ACTIVE ON:**



Our Radiographers are critical to supporting the accurate diagnosis and treatment of our casualties wherever we are operating. On a Role 2 Afloat team or with the Commando Forward Surgical Group (CFSG), you'll be the sole radiographer in the team utilising ultrasound and x-ray capability. On RFA Argus, our maritime Role 3 Capability, you'll have access to a 64 slice Philips CT scanner to provide enhanced diagnostic capabilities for our clinicians and patients.

**Age:** Up to 39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** Student: 120 UCAS points including a science-based subject. Qualified Radiographers need a BSc in Diagnostic Radiography and HCPC registration.

**Salary\***

## MEDICAL ASSISTANT

**ACTIVE ON:**



Working on ships, submarines, shore establishments and hospitals, they can work independently or alongside a Medical Officer to triage, assess and treat casualties. They complete a wide variety of trauma-based clinical courses which enables them to carry out their unique medical role in any environment and in any situation. of tasks, from complex combat operations to being called upon at short notice to defend the Ship operating the formidable array of Weapons onboard.

**Age:** 16-39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** There are no minimum qualification requirements.

**Salary:** Starting salary of £15,985 for the first 6 months, rising to £20,400 after that.

**\*Salary:** Starting Salary for students of £15,985 for the first 6 months and then £20,400. Qualified ODP/RAD/BMS, on completion of Initial Training will be on a salary of £33,699.

# DENTAL BRANCH JOBS

## DENTAL OFFICER

**ACTIVE ON:**



Keeping our personnel fit to fight is critical for operational capability and that includes Dental care. As a Dentist in the Royal Navy, you'll be responsible for carrying out routine dental check ups and treatment for our personnel in one of our own dental centres. You can also take your expertise in a deployed environment, working in the dental centre on board our Queen Elizabeth Aircraft Carriers or as a mobile dental team alongside a Dental Hygienist and Nurse to carry out dental care to deployed units overseas.

**Age:** Up to 54.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** There are no minimum qualification requirements.

**Salary:** On completion of FY1 and GDC registration, your starting salary would be £74,648. Rank and pay on entry may be higher, subject to assessment of your existing experience.

## DENTAL HYGIENIST

**ACTIVE ON:**



Our Dental Hygienists are an integral part of our professional dental centres, ensuring our personnel get gold-standard dental care wherever they are in the world. This could be working from a shore-side establishment in the UK or deploying, when needed overseas, with a portable dental unit to carry out treatment anywhere. As well as treating patients, you'll be vital in providing education and oral health promotion in order to give preventative care and advice to patients.

**Age:** Up to 39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** Diploma or BSc in Dental Hygiene and GDC registration.

**Salary:** On completion of Initial Naval Training £32,797.

## DENTAL NURSE

**ACTIVE ON:**



You can join the Royal Navy as a qualified Dental Nurse or as a student and complete your training in-service. Once you're registered with the General Dental Council, you'll work in one of our shore based Dental Centres, led by one of our Dental Officers. You'll prepare the dental surgery for assessments and treatments and assist in the administration of running a busy dental centre. You can also deploy overseas on board one of our Queen Elizabeth class Aircraft Carriers or as a small dental team with a portable dental unit to provide routine and emergency dental treatment to units deployed for long periods.

**Age:** 16-39.

**Nationality:** British or British dual national.

**Qualifications:** Maths and English GCSE grade A-C (desirable) or Diploma in Dental Nursing and GDC registration if already qualified.

**Salary:** Starting at £15,985 during Initial Naval training, rising to £20,400 after 6 months.

Please scan the QR below for more information on rates of pay for each job.



# WHAT NEXT?

**We hope this publication has given you an insight into the life and career opportunities open to you in the Medical branch.**

Joining the Royal Navy and the Medical Branch makes you part of something special. Part of a team protecting our nation's interests, all over the world. It's the kind of career you can be proud of and make your family proud of you. Being a part of the Medical Branch is a way to use your natural skills and develop new ones that stay with you for life.

It's not for everyone, but it could be for you.

**Could you be made in the Royal Navy?**

## VISIT

[royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/roles-and-specialisations/branches/medical](https://royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/roles-and-specialisations/branches/medical)

## STUDENT MEDICAL TECHNICIANS AND NURSES

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/joining/funding-and-scholarships/student-medical-technicians-and-nurses>

## MEDICAL AND DENTAL CADETSHIPS

<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/joining/funding-and-scholarships/medical-and-dental-cadetships>

Check your eligibility and find out more about the joining process, preparation, training and choosing the right role for you.

## CALL

**0239 272 3475**

We want you to succeed and will do all we can to help. If you have any questions, or would like any further information or advice, please get in touch today.



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