



ENGINEERING

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST (CIS)

Being a Communications and Information Systems (CIS) Specialist means you are at the heart of every mission and always in the thick of the action. Using global radio and satellite communications alongside the latest military IT systems, it's your responsibility to guarantee the secure exchange of mission critical, and often top-secret information.

Your ICT and leadership skills will be developed through high quality training. Armed with these skills you and your team will provide the networks and communication systems necessary to conduct everything from high-tech warfare, to restoring critical communications lines in a humanitarian crisis, to providing your crew mates with the means to keep in touch with their friends and families back home.

You keep the ship connected.

01

Who we're looking for

In a nutshell

- Quick thinkers
- Those with an affinity for technology and computers
- Problem-solvers
- Team players
- People who are physically and mentally fit

This role is for committed, enthusiastic people who are interested in strategic communications, computers, and networks, and have lots of common sense. Some of the information you'll be handling is top secret, so discretion is paramount.

Why Communications Specialist (CIS)?

- Work with state of the art communication and network equipment
- Starting salary after training of £20,000, rising to over £51,000 as your career progresses
- Gain recognised qualifications, an Apprenticeship and considerable financial support to pursue personal or educational development
- Six weeks of paid holiday every year plus bank holidays
- Worldwide Travel

02

Qualifications

- You need to be aged between 16 - 39
- No qualifications are required for this role
- You must be a British or Dual National
- A Body Mass Index (BMI) between 18 and 28 (between 17 and 27 if under 18)
- You must pass the [Naval Swimming Test](#)

03

Training

Training and development continues throughout your career with the Royal Navy. It takes place at onshore training facilities and on board operational ships. On joining, you complete 10 weeks basic naval training, followed by five - six months of specialist communication and IT systems training focussing on:

- Network engineering
- Specialist communication and IT equipment
- Conducting routine checks on communications equipment
- Sending and receiving information
- Essential tools and techniques
- Safety procedures

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.

04

Skills for life

- Study for GCSEs, A-Levels, NVQs or a degree
- Gain specialist vocational qualifications as your career progresses

Training will be a constant feature of your time with us where you will become an expert in managing and maintaining networks and other state of the art communication equipment. We'll help you gain academic qualifications like GCSEs, A-levels, even a degree should you wish. You will be enrolled on an Apprenticeship scheme and gain vocational qualifications as you progress. As well as helping you develop your Royal Navy career, everything you achieve will be recognised and valued by a future civilian employer.



I've travelled all over the world, doing what I love. My role is vital to keeping the ship communicating with our colleagues ashore and afloat, whilst also making sure that my shipmates can keep in touch with their families back home.

Lucy, Communications Specialist



05

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.

06

Pay & Benefits?

- Earn £20,000 after Basic Training, rising to over £51,000 as your career progresses
- Adventurous training – from skiing to diving
- Wide range of benefits including a House Purchase Scheme
- Six weeks of paid holiday every year plus bank holidays
- Free medical and dental care
- Access to superb sport and fitness facilities
- Subsidised travel and accommodation
- Excellent pension scheme

Not just a job. A way of life.

Being in the Royal Navy is a job like no other, with a life – and lifestyle – to match. You'll make friends for life, go to places you've never been and do things that civilian dreams are made of. From the moment you join, you'll be part of a close-knit team that lives, works and relaxes together. On top of on-ship and onshore sports facilities, you'll also have the opportunity to go on adventurous training, which means anything from mountaineering, caving and parachuting, to jungle expeditions.

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