

# INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN

Providing advanced computer systems and network solutions



AMERICA'S  
**NAVY**  
FORGED BY THE SEA

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## INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN



Network administration. Database management. Computer hardware and software implementation. Whether maintaining the integrity of everyday communications or safeguarding top secret data flow, the highly sophisticated networks and systems at use in today's Navy call for individuals capable of serving at the forefront of the information technology field.



### JOB DESCRIPTION

**In the Navy, information technology (IT) plays an important role in everything from electronic mail systems to shipboard control systems to Special Intelligence (SI) systems. With a broad range of responsibilities, Navy Information System Technicians (IT specialists) operate and maintain Navy global satellite telecommunications systems, mainframe computers, local and wide area networks, and micro-computer systems throughout the Fleet.**

**Serving as Enlisted Sailors (high school diploma or equivalent required), Navy IT specialists are part of the Information Warfare Community – a group of highly specialized information experts fully integrated across surface, subsurface, air, space and cyberspace domains. With shared functions, capabilities and resources, IW members leverage their skills to optimize decision making and to maximize the use of sensors, weapons, network communications and control systems for purposes of national security and warfighting.**



### SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

**Information Technology professionals help ensure the viability of essential communications links. They provide administrative support for the equipment that keeps records on everything from personnel training to health care to promotions. And they offer technical support and training to fellow personnel. As an IT specialist, your role may also include:**

- Writing programs to handle data for a wide variety of applications
- Operating and coordinating automated networks, datalinks and circuits
- Applying diagnostic, corrective and recovery techniques to information systems
- Analyzing communication signals
- Providing telecommunications and computer-related training and assistance
- Performing preventive and corrective maintenance on state-of-the-art equipment
- Operating and maintaining global satellite telecommunications systems
- Working under the oversight of Information Professionals – Officers (four-year degree required) who serve as managers of information networks

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

**Information Systems Technicians serve in versatile roles both afloat and ashore – on ships or at communications stations in the United States or overseas. Typical work involves mental analysis and problem solving and takes place in clean, air-conditioned electronic equipment space or computer rooms. Duties may be performed individually or as part of a team.**

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### MAINTAINING SUPERIORITY IN THE INFORMATION AGE

#### Information & Technology

In a highly networked world, information is everywhere – easier to access and increasingly exploitable. Today's technological advancements make information both a formidable weapon and a constant threat – to the point that it has evolved into a type of warfare all its own. With this in mind, America's Navy has the **Information Warfare Community** – a community charged with mastering the capabilities, tools and techniques required to effectively collect, process, analyze and apply information.

Gathering data through sources ranging from advanced cyberspace operations to unmanned surveillance systems. Converting data into effective and actionable intelligence. Maintaining cutting-edge communications networks that effectively share and safeguard information. It's all part of the mission for those who serve in the professional areas of information and technology in America's Navy – for those warriors who do battle within the cyberspace domain and the electromagnetic spectrum.

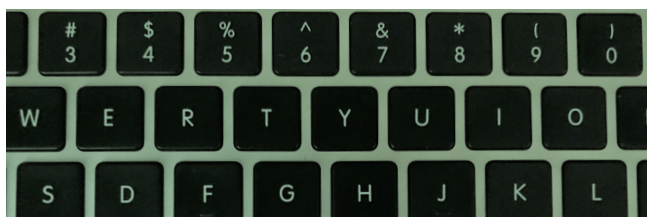
Made up of both Enlisted Sailors and Officers, IW members specialize in information-intensive fields that include **Information Management, Information Technology, Information Warfare, Cyber Warfare, Cryptology, Intelligence, and Meteorology & Oceanography**. Collaboratively, they develop and defend vital intelligence, networks and systems. Managing the critical information that supports U.S. Navy, Joint and national warfighting requirements. Maintaining the Navy's essential technological edge.



#### TRAINING AND ADVANCEMENT

Upon completion of initial 7–9 week Recruit Training (known as Boot Camp), those pursuing an Information Systems Technician position receive formal Navy schooling at "A" School in Pensacola, Fla. For approximately 24 weeks, they develop the working knowledge it takes to be Navy IT specialists in preparation for their first assignment on a ship or at a shore station.

Starting with extensive technical preparation in everything from database design to computer networking to communications systems, skills continue to be enhanced through on-the-job training and experience. Advanced technical and operational training go along with career progression. In the course of service, specialized training received could lead to credentialing, certification, licensure and/or apprenticeship opportunities from a number of national boards and organizations. Promotion opportunities are regularly available but are competitive and based on performance.



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### EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Beyond offering access to professional credentials and certifications, Navy technical and operational training in the field of intelligence can translate to credit hours toward a bachelor's or associate degree through the American Council on Education. You may also continue your education through opportunities such as the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges Navy (SOCNAV) Degree Program, Navy College Program and Tuition Assistance, and the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

### PAY RANGE

Information Systems Technicians are rewarded with excellent benefits – including competitive pay that's dependent upon rank or rate and years in service. Like most positions, your increase in rate and rank is earned. Promotions depend upon your performance and time in service.

### BENEFITS

When it comes to financial advantages, the Navy amounts to much more than a competitive paycheck. As a Sailor in the Navy, you can look forward to:\*

- Supplemental/bonus pay
- Scheduled pay raises and regular promotions
- Post-9/11 GI Bill – funding for you or your family to use for school
- 30 days' vacation with pay earned every year
- Outstanding retirement benefits, plus a 401(k)-like thrift savings plan
- Comprehensive medical and dental coverage
- Tax-free allowances for housing and meals
- Tax-free shopping privileges at military stores
- Free or low-cost travel opportunities
- Access to military bases, clubs and recreational facilities all over the world
- 100% tuition assistance while serving
- Credentials/Certifications through Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (Navy COOL)

\* **Benefits and training vary for Navy Reserve service. Contact a Navy Reserve Recruiter for details.**



### READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEPS?

Once you're inspired, better informed and seriously interested, here's how to proceed:

#### 1. TALK TO YOUR RECRUITER

- Find a local recruiter at [navy.com/locator](http://navy.com/locator)
- Ask questions
- Discuss your long-term goals
- Review your qualifications
- Go over relevant financial incentives and bonuses

#### 2. APPLY FOR THE POSITION

- Go to [navy.com/apply](http://navy.com/apply), follow the link at the bottom and complete the online application
- Provide personal information that includes your birth certificate, social security card and professional details (if applicable)
- Take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) to help assess your skills and interests
- Pass a full medical examination
- Participate in a precommitment interview
- Take the Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB) test

#### 3. BEGIN YOUR TRAINING

- Attend Boot Camp in Great Lakes, Illinois (7 to 9 weeks)
- Get advanced skills training at a Navy "A" School (time varies depending on specialty)
- From there, you're ready to start serving as a Sailor and respected professional

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### SERVICE OPTIONS

#### Active Duty Sailors serve full-time.

This allows you to take full advantage of the available career and leadership opportunities. Enjoy the broad range of benefits. And experience incredible possibilities for travel and adventure.

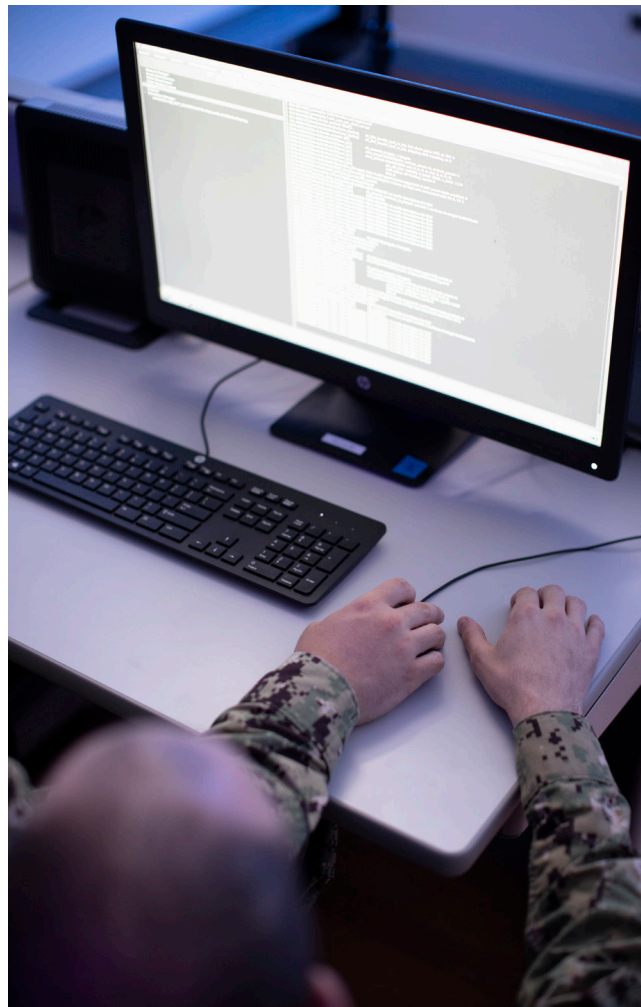
#### Reserve Sailors serve part-time.

This way you can maintain a civilian career while serving as few as two days a month and two weeks a year. With opportunities for additional service and pay. Additionally, you'll have the possibility of flexible drilling options to better meet service requirements. While enjoying many of the same advantages and benefits of full-time service.



### QUALIFICATIONS

A high school diploma or equivalent is required to become an Enlisted Sailor in the IT field in the Navy. Those seeking an Information Systems Technician position must be U.S. citizens who can meet eligibility requirements for a Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information security clearance. They should have a good working aptitude of math, an understanding of modern computing devices and the capability to do highly detail-oriented work.



### AFTER THE NAVY

The specialized training and expertise you gain as an Information Systems Technician, coupled with your security clearance, may prepare you for a wide range of job opportunities available within the federal government, including future employment in areas such as Intelligence and Information Technology Management; or performing technical and clerical work involving computers, electronics and communications. Other career opportunities in the civilian sector include work as Computer and Information Systems Managers; Computer Systems Analysts; Database Administrators; Network and Computer Systems Administrators; and Radio, Cellular, and Tower Equipment Installers and Repairers.

