The Information Systems Technician of the 21st century perform core and specialty functions of network administration; install applications and peripherals, troubleshoot user problems, and provide assistance with the use of computer hardware and software including printers, word-processors, electronic mail systems, and operating systems; conduct system backups and restores; utilize knowledge of database management systems to maintain, administer, test, and implement computer databases; and work with General Service (GENSER), unclassified, and Special Intelligence (SI) systems including Global Command and Control System-Maritime (GCCS-M), Navy Tactical Command Support Systems (NTCSS), Tactical Support Center (TSC) data processing systems, Integrated Bridge Systems (IBS), Integrated Communications and Advanced Networks (ICAN), Shipboard Wide-Area-Networks (SWAN), and ship’s control or engineering systems.

What They Do

The duties performed by ITs include:
- designing, installing, operating and maintaining state-of-the-art information systems technology including local and wide area networks, mainframe, mini and microcomputer systems and associated peripheral devices;
- writing programs to handle the collection, manipulation and distribution of data for a wide variety of applications and requirements;
- performing the functions of a computer system analyst;
- operating and coordinating telecommunications systems including automated networks and the full spectrum of data links and circuits;
- transmitting, receiving, operating, monitoring, controlling and processing all forms of telecommunications through various transmission media including global networks;
- applying diagnostic, corrective and recovery techniques to all facets of the integrated information systems;
- maintaining all necessary logs, files and publications at the communications center;
- providing telecommunications and computer-related training and assistance to a wide variety of personnel.

Qualifications

Information Systems Technicians must be applicants must be U.S. citizens and meet eligibility requirements for access to sensitive compartmented information (SCI). Eligibility for a Top Secret clearance is determined by the results of a Single Scope Background Investigation followed by a reinvestigation every five years. IT’s immediate family members must be U.S. citizens. Other helpful characteristics are a good working knowledge of arithmetic, the capability for understanding modern computing devices, the ability to speak and write well and function as a member of an integrated team, do detailed work and keep accurate records, some physical strength and good manual dexterity are important qualifications.

Advancement

Enlisted enter the Navy as E-1s (seaman recruits). Advancement to E-2 (seaman apprentice) may be achieved after nine months of successful naval service, with advancement to E-3 (seaman) after an additional nine months.

Credit Recommendations

American Council on Education recommends 16 semester hours credit in the lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category: 3 semester hours in Introduction to Data Processing, 3 semester hours in Computer Operations, 3 semester hours in Computer Design, 3 semester hours in Computer Program Concepts, 2 semester hours in Electronic Communication Systems and 2 semester hours in Record Keeping.

Opportunities

Because of the skills and expertise needed by the Information Systems Technician, acceptance is limited to highly motivated and qualified applicants. About 10,000 men and women work in the IT rating. Graduates of IT "A" School may be assigned to ships or shore stations in the United States or overseas.

Working Environment

Information Systems Technicians usually work in a clean, air-conditioned electronic equipment space or computer room, and frequently perform their work as part of a team, but may work on individual projects. Their work is mostly mental analysis and problem solving. USN ITs are stationed primarily aboard USN deploying ships, FTS ITs are stationed aboard Naval Reserve Force (NRF) ships that deploy or conduct local operations.

Civilian, Federal, and Military Sealift Command Related Occupations

To see Related Civilian, Federal, and Military Sealift Command Occupations for this rating:

IT [https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/LaDR/it_e1_e9.pdf]

Credit for this Rating

To see the college credits available via a Joint Service Transcript for this rating:

IT [https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/LaDR/it_e1_e9.pdf]
Additional Information

For more information on opportunities available for this rating, please visit Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL)
IT
https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/enlisted/it.htm

Since Navy programs and courses are revised at times, the information contained on this rating card is subject to change.

(Revised 02/16)