



FT – Fire Control Technician

Fire Control Technician Submarines

serve on board multiple classes of submarines and specialize in combat systems. They are responsible for maintenance and operation of advanced electronic equipment (in regards to guided-missile systems, and underwater weapons) used in the submarine weapons systems.

What They Do

- maintain, repair, calibrate, tune, and adjust all electronic equipment used for combat systems;
- support operation and basic maintenance of submarine weapon control systems
- perform organizational and intermediate level maintenance on submarine combat control systems, equipment, and associated combat control systems test equipment;
- operate submarine combat control systems;
- test submarine combat control systems;
- operate and maintain combat control systems associated systems;
- participate in weapons handling functions;
- operate and maintain nontactical computer systems and peripherals;
- use and maintain hand tools and portable power tools.

Advancement

Enlistees enlist as E-1s (seaman recruits). Completion of all advancement-in-rate requirements (including minimum time-in-rate) must be completed prior to advancement to E-2, E-3 and E-4. Top graduates of initial "pipeline" training may elect accelerated advancement to E-4 if they execute an agreement to extend their enlistment one additional year (six years total obligation). Advancement in this field to E-4 (Petty Officer Third Class) is excellent.

Opportunities

Placement opportunities are good for qualified applicants. About 1,100 Sailors work in the FT rating. Active duty obligation is five years. Applicants will enlist for four years and concurrently execute an agreement to extend their enlistment for one year.

Qualifications and Interests

Fire Control Technician's (FT's) must be U.S. citizens eligible to meet security clearance requirements. Important qualifications include knowledge of arithmetic, capability to understand modern computing devices, the ability to speak and write well, function as a member of a team, do detailed work and keep accurate records. Additionally they must possess some physical strength and good manual dexterity.

Obligation

Active duty obligation is five years. Applicants will enlist for four years and concurrently execute an agreement to extend their enlistment for one year.

Work Environment

FT's duties are usually performed aboard submarines and usually work indoors in a clean, controlled environment with comfortable temperatures. However, some work is required in a clean or dirty environment of a shop-like nature. Their work may be independent in nature, but they usually work closely with others under direct supervision.

Career Path After Recruit Training

Enlistees are taught the fundamentals of this rating through on-the-job training or formal Navy schooling. Advanced technical and operational training is available in this rating during later stages of career development.

School	Present Location	Approximate Training Time	Subjects	Training Methods
Basic Enlisted Submarine School	Groton, CT	4 Weeks	Indoctrination in basic submarine systems.	Group instruction and practical application
Class "A" Technical School and Specialty Pipeline School	Groton, CT.	27-33 Weeks	Basic electricity, electronics and computer technical knowledge and skills and preparation for communications specialties and assignment on a fast attack or ballistic missile submarine	Group instruction, practical application and equipment labs

After "A" school and Basic Enlisted Submarine School, Fire Control Technicians are assigned to serve on all types of submarines and at shore facilities in the United States and overseas. During a 20 year period in the Navy, FT's spend about 60 percent of their time assigned to fleet units and 40 percent to shore stations. *Note:* All applicants must read and understand the Submarine Volunteer Statement of Understanding.



FT – Fire Control Technician

Earn College Credit



The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the vocational certificate and lower-division bachelor's/associate's degree categories for courses taken in this rating on office machines and general clerical procedures. To see the college credits available via a **Joint Service Transcript** for this rating:

FT

https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/jst/ft_jst.pdf

Earn Department of Labor (DOL) Nationally Recognized Apprenticeships



USMAP

The United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) is a formal military training program that provides active duty and Full Time Support (FTS) Service members the opportunity to improve their job skills and to complete their civilian apprenticeship requirements while they are on active duty. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) provides the nationally recognized "Certificate of Completion" upon program completion. Visit United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) for LS apprenticeships.

FT

<https://usmap.netc.navy.mil/usmapss/static/navyRates.htm>

Earn Industry Recognized Credentials



Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (Navy COOL)

Navy COOL catalogs and defines comprehensive information on occupational credentials - including certifications, licenses, and apprenticeships - correlating with every Navy rating and some collateral duties. It provides "how to" instructions for pursuing these credentials, links to credentialing organizations, and cross-references to programs that help Sailors pay for credentialing fees. Shortly following the initial rating technical training (Class "A" technical school), Sailors may be able to take advantage of earning civilian/industry certifications & licenses (credentials), funded through Navy COOL. Visit the Navy COOL website to view these opportunities. See the link below.

FT

<https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/enlisted/ft.htm>

Manage a Navy Career with Navy LaDR (Learning and Development Roadmap)



To see the Navy LaDR (Learning and Development Roadmap) for this rating:

FT

https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/LaDR/ft_e1_e9.pdf

Earn Skill Sets Towards Civilian Related Occupations



The skill sets for this rating crosswalk to civilian related occupations listed by the U.S. Department of Labor. To see Related Civilian, Federal, and Military Sealift Command Occupations for this rating, see the link below.

FT

<https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/enlisted/ft.htm>

Revised: 1/17