



Ship's servicemen are responsible for managing and operating all shipboard retail and service activities. These include the ship's store, vending machines, video games, barber shops, laundry and tailor shops. They play a large role in the morale of the ship.

### What They Do

The duties performed by SHs include:

- managing and operating retail and service activities afloat;
- procuring and receiving ship's store stock;
- maintaining financial records and accounting systems;
- maintaining inventory and procurement databases;
- managing and operating ship's barber shops;
- serving as cash collections agents;
- operating and maintaining vending and cash collection machines;
- managing and operating ship's laundry and tailor shops

### Credit Recommendations

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the vocational certificate or lower-division bachelor/associate degree categories for courses taken in this rating on record keeping, small business management and inventory control.

### Qualifications and Interests

Ship's servicemen must be personable and enjoy working with people in a customer service environment. Good arithmetic and verbal skills, the ability to handle money and to perform detailed work are also requirements for this rating.

### 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
Class "A" Technical School	Meridian, MS	5 weeks	Cash Handling, Retail Operations, Laundry Operations	Group instruction and practical applications

After "A" school, Ship's Servicemen are assigned to ships or shore stations in the United States or overseas. During a 20-year career in the Navy, SHs spend approximately 60 percent of their time assigned to fleet units and 40 percent to shore stations.

### Working Environment

SHs work in diverse environments including offices, ship's stores, barber shops, and laundry plants. The work is physical, but the wide range of jobs allows people to learn valuable retailing, marketing and shop management skills.

### Opportunities

Over 2,400 men and women work in the SH rating. Placement and advancement opportunities are good for qualified applicants.

### Civilian Occupational Equivalents

**To see Related Civilian Occupations for this rating:**

**SH -** <https://www.cool.navy.mil/enlisted/sh.htm>

For more information on opportunities available for this rating, please visit Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL) at: <https://www.cool.navy.mil/index.htm>

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

**(Revised 10/12)**