



HM – Hospital Corpsman

Hospital Corpsman perform duties as assistants in the prevention and treatment of disease and injury and assist health care professionals in providing medical care to Naval personnel and their families. They may function as clinical or specialty technicians, medical administrative personnel and health care providers at medical treatment facilities. They also serve as battlefield corpsmen with the Marine Corps, rendering emergency medical treatment to include initial treatment in a combat environment.

Qualified Hospital Corpsmen may be assigned the responsibility of independent duty aboard ships and submarines; Fleet Marine Force, Special Forces and Seabee units, and at isolated duty stations where no medical officer is available. Additionally, they perform duties as a general dental assistant to include dental infection control, dental treatment room management, preventive dentistry, comprehensive dental assisting, and intraoral radiography. **This is a five-year program.**

What They Do

- assisting in prevention and treatment of disease and injuries; caring for sick and injured ;administering immunization programs;
- rendering emergency medical treatment; instructing sailors and marines in first aid, self aid and personal hygiene procedures;
- transporting the sick and injured;
- conducting preliminary physical examinations;
- performing medical administrative, supply and accounting procedures;
- maintaining treatment records and reports;
- supervising shipboard and field environmental sanitation and preventive medicine programs;
- supervising air, water, food and habitability standards.

Working Environment

Hospital Corpsmen work in a variety of environments. Most HMs work indoors at hospitals or clinics. Others work aboard ships and submarines; with air squadrons, special operational environments (i.e., SEAL, Recon Forces, Seabee units and Deep-sea Diving).

Opportunities

Current Opportunities for placement in the HM rating are good for qualified applicants. About 24,500 men and women serve as hospital corpsmen and 45% of them have received further training in one of 35 sub-specialties leading to specialization in numerous health care technologies.

Qualifications and Interests

A sincere interest in providing general health care is extremely important for this rating. People in the HM rating must relate well to other people and work well as a part of a team. It is important that candidates have good communication skills, writing and arithmetic ability, manual dexterity, dependability, trustworthiness, a good memory, resourcefulness and backgrounds or interests in the sciences. Other important qualifications are competence with tools, equipment/machines, physical stamina and the ability to do repetitive tasks without losing interest. Any illegal involvement with drugs may be disqualifying.

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
Hospital Corps Class "A" School,	Fort Sam Houston, TX	19 Weeks	Basic principles and techniques of patient care and first aid procedures	Group and modular instruction

After completion of "A" school, Hospital Corpsmen are assigned to Navy medical treatment facilities or operational Navy or Fleet Marine Force units. Follow on assignment varies, based on initial tour, but may include Dental strand or other Advanced Technical training "C" school, overseas assignment or a normal sea or shore tour. Women are assigned to most ships and field medical support units of the FMF. Women are not assigned to submarines, with the SEALs, or some units of the FMF. En route to their first permanent duty stations, most male HMs will be assigned to either Field Medical Service School, Camp Lejeune NC, or Camp Pendleton CA, for specialized training in the knowledge and skills required to perform medical services in the field with the Marine Corps and/or the "Seabees." During a 20-year career in the Navy, HMs spend about 40 percent of their time assigned to fleet or FMF units and 60 percent to other types of duty.



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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:

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

Earn Department of Labor (DOL) Nationally Recognized Apprenticeships



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.

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<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.

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

Download the Navy COOL App:

Navy COOL App (iOS):

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/navy-cool/id1053982994?ls=1&mt=8>

Navy COOL App (Android):

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.tracen.navycool>

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



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

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https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/LaDR/hm_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.

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

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