

TRAINING AND ADVANCEMENT

The training involved in becoming an Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician is not for the faint of heart. While the rigorous 51 weeks of training are both physically and mentally grueling, you will be rewarded with wisdom, strength, unrivaled leadership opportunities, first-rate compensation and respect. Although the training can resemble a metaphorical gauntlet at times, the individual that emerges at the end will be a stronger, wiser version of his or her self. They will have gained not only classroom knowledge but also a confidence and understanding of their strengths and weaknesses. Once those have been revealed, they are left with two choices: push their limits and see how far they can grow mentally and physically, or give up and reject the opportunity to grow.

After two months of recruit training in Great Lakes, Illinois, your Explosive Ordnance Disposal training will begin. The typical training schedule for new recruits is divided into six distinct phases:

PHASE 1: EOD PREP COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

The EOD training pipeline starts with three weeks of preparatory training in Great Lakes, Illinois. The candidate will be evaluated on Physical strength, endurance, and Aquatic Adaptability which include but are not limited to:

(NOTE: Please refer to the “Prospective Students” section for more detailed explanations of the skills listed below.)

- Treading Water With Fins and Weight
- Porpoising With Fins and Snorkel Only
- Mask and Snorkel Retrieval and Clearing
- Underwater Knot Tying (Square Knot and Bowline)
- Dead-Man Floats
- Various Rigorous Strength Training and Conditioning

Candidates must pass all Physical and Aquatic Skills Tests in order to advance in training.

PHASE 2: EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL DIVER TRAINING

EOD candidates will attend nine weeks of dive school held at the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center (NDSTC) in Panama City, Florida. The Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Diver Course is designed to provide qualified non-diving personnel with the basic training necessary to safely and effectively perform as a dive team member/diver in SCUBA and MK-16 UBA in accordance with the U.S. Navy Diving Manual. This course provides instruction in diving physics and charting, medicine, SCUBA operations, and MK-16 operations and maintenance.

PHASE 3: EOD SCHOOL

At 42 weeks, EOD School is the longest phase of the training process. After successful completion of dive school, candidates transfer to Naval School Explosive Ordnance Disposal (NAVSCOLEOD) at Eglin Air Force Base in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. The DoD Joint Explosive Ordnance Disposal course provides training to officer and enlisted personnel of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, and U.S.

Marine Corps in the best methods and procedures for performing render safe, recovery, evaluation, and disposal of explosive ordnance, improvised explosive devices, and nuclear weapons. The job will be performed in varied environments including battlefield operations, peacekeeping operations, and in homeland defense.

- Instruction includes: Use of publications; Applied use of mathematics, physics, and electricity as they relate to EOD operations; Explosives and explosive effects; Safety precautions, Storage handling, and transportation of explosives; EOD tools and equipment maintenance; Basics of demolition; Placed/projected/dropped munitions and associated fuzes; Aircraft explosive hazards and guided missiles; Improvised Explosive Devices; Chemical agents and personnel protection; Radiation detection equipment; and control Identification procedures for surface and underwater ordnance.
- Underwater Ordnance Division is a Navy only portion of EOD School. This division of training emphasizes torpedoes and other underwater explosives as well as underwater search techniques.

PHASE 4: BASIC PARACHUTE TRAINING (STATIC LINE “JUMP SCHOOL”)

Upon completion of basic EOD school, graduates will attend three weeks of Basic Airborne Training at Fort Benning, Georgia, where candidates qualify as a basic parachutist. At “Jump” School, EOD technicians learn the concepts of basic static line parachuting.

PHASE 5: EXPEDITIONARY COMBAT SKILLS (ECS)

Following Jump School, students will attend a 4 week Expeditionary Combat Skills (ECS) Course at Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) in Gulfport, Mississippi. This course will provide personnel with the necessary individual knowledge, skills and abilities to perform Basic Expeditionary First Aid; don and wear Individual Combat Equipment (ICE) and Chemical/Biological/Radiation (CBR) gear; function safely in a field and CBRNE environment; learn basic Land Navigation; understand basic radio communications procedures and reports; understand Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) operations; and conduct range live fire, missions and ammunition handling safely with minimum risk.

During the ECS course personnel will perform basic movement drills while engaging targets; transition from primary to secondary weapon; execute vehicle emergency egress procedures; and conduct live-fire exercises in a controlled environment. In so doing, the ECS course will allow personnel to demonstrate, qualify and become comfortable with both primary and secondary weapons. Additionally, students will become familiar with the psycho/physiological effects induced during deadly force or life threatening confrontations and measures to effectively minimize their impact on engagement decision making during Judgment-Based Engagement Training (JET).

PHASE 6: EOD TACTICAL TRAINING COURSE (TTC)

The final phase of EOD training is three weeks of EOD Tactical Training in San Diego, California. The Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Tactical Training Course (TTC) provides individual ancillary and mobility skills training to basic naval graduates of NAVSCOLEOD in combat shooting (CAT III level),

field communications, and air mobility with emphasis on critical required skill sets prior to their arrival at fleet units.

This final phase of training will consist of:

- Helicopter Rope Suspension Training (HRST)/CAST Operations: HRST Operations with Labs; Equipment Familiarization and Serviceability; Safety (High-risk, operational hazards, tower, and aircraft) with Labs; Signals and Procedures; Rappel and Fastrope (Static/Dynamic) Procedures with Labs; CAST/Recovery Operations with Labs: Insertion by means of fast-roping, rappelling, low speed low profile water entry (CASTing) and extraction/recovery techniques including Special Purpose Insertion (SPI) rigging.
- Mobility Techniques
- Combat Skills: Fundamentals and Mindset of Shooting Individual Combat Equipment; Optics and Night Vision Equipment; Dry Practice Drills; Pistol and Rifle Fundamentals with Labs; CAT III Dynamic Barricade Labs; CAT III Static Qualification Labs; CAT III Stress Course; Practical Hand and Arm Signals; Patrolling Formations with Labs; Immediate Action Drills (IADs); Land Navigation Plotting with Labs; Compass and Map Fundamentals with Labs; Tactical Vehicle Preparations with Labs; Vehicle Techniques and Procedures; Vehicle IADs; Tactical Vehicle (JERRV/M-ATV) Fundamentals and Labs.
- Communications: Field Communications; Radio Principles and Theory; EMI/Radio Frequency Direction with Labs; ECM / ECCM Radio Voice and COMSEC Procedures with Labs; Various Field Devices and Operations with Labs.

Upon completion of the EOD training, graduates are assigned to EOD Mobile Units where they gain advanced on-the-job training and serve as members of Mobile Response Platoons, Carrier Strike Group Platoons, Underwater Mine Countermeasure Platoons, and Naval Special Warfare Platoons...

ADVANCED TRAINING

EOD technicians are offered a number of advanced training options to hone and specialize their skills. These include:

- Intermediate/Advanced Expeditionary Combat School
- Combat Medicine
- Helicopter Rope Suspension Training (HRST) / CAST Master
- Military Free Fall Jump School; High Altitude Low Opening (HALO); High Altitude High Opening (HAHO) Training
- Parachute Rigging School

- Advanced Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (AIEDD)
- Jumpmaster Training
- Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape (SERE) Survival School
- High Altitude/Cold Weather Training
- Small unit tactics
- Small Arms Instructor
- Language school (Defense Language Institute)

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

As a member of the Navy EOD community, you will have a number of unique opportunities to advance your knowledge. You will learn the fundamentals of explosive ordnance disposal through formal Navy schooling, and you may receive education and training about chemical and biological warfare, military tactics, deep-sea diving or a number of other tactical military procedures. The courses in this field are demanding, but those who accept these challenges will be rewarded not only with extra pay, but extraordinary duty assignments anywhere in the world.

You can put your training and education to use outside your official duties. Through the American Council on Education (ACE), you may receive college credit for what you've learned in your training "pipeline." Check out the [ACE Military Guide Online](#) to find out what training qualifies for college credit. If you have any questions about converting your Navy education into college credit, you can call ACE at 866-205-6267 for answers

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