



ND CAREER PATH

Navy Diver (ND). NDs perform underwater salvage, recovery, repair, and maintenance on ships and submarines; search for and recover downed aircraft; conduct harbor clearance operations; provide assistance to military, federal, state, and local civilian law enforcement agencies in diving operations and procedures; maintain and repair diving equipment and systems; research and develop new diving techniques and procedures; conduct submarine rescue operations; maintain forms, records, correspondence, and files; and perform and supervise recompression chamber operations, hyperbaric treatment for diving and non-diving illnesses, open and closed-circuit Underwater Breathing Apparatus (UBA) diving, saturation diving, surface-supplied air and mixed-gas diving operations, demolition operations, and small arms proficiency.

YEARS OF SERVICE	RANK/RATE	AVERAGE TIME TO ADVANCE	COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS	PRIMARY DUTY	TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT
27-30	NDCM	21.3 Yrs	CMDCM, MDV	FORCM, ISIC CMDCM, Major Staff, SEAT Chair	10 th Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: FORCM, ISIC CMDCM, CMDCM, TY/SYSCOM MDV, Command MDV, SEL, SAT MDV.
24-27	NDCM NDCS	21.3 Yrs 17.3	CMDCM, MDV	ISIC CMDCM, CMDCM, Command MDV, Major Staff, SEAT member	9th Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: ISIC CMDCM, CMDCM, TY/SYSCOM MDV, Command MDV, SEL, LCPO, SAT MDV. Qualification: CMDCM
21-24	NDCM NDCS	21.3 Yrs 17.3	CMDCM, MDV	CMDCM, SEL, Command MDV, MMDV, SEAT member, LCPO	8th Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: CMDCM, TY/SYSCOM MDV, Command MDV, SEL, LCPO, SAT MDV. Qualification: CMDCM
18-21	NDCS NDC	17.3 Yrs 13.6	MDV, CWO, SEL	Command MDV, MMDV, LCPO (M1DV)	7th Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: Command MDV, SEL, LCPO, LPO, Diving Supervisor, High Risk Instructor, SAT Diver. Qualification: DWS/EXW and 2-3 advanced qualifications. MDV Evaluations
15-18	NDCS NDC	17.3 Yrs 13.6	MDV, CWO, LDO	MMDV, LCPO (M1DV)	6th Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: Company MDV, LCPO, LPO, Diving Supervisor, High Risk Instructor, SAT Diver. Qualification: DWS/EXW and 2-3 advanced qualifications. MDV Evaluations



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12-15	NDC ND1	13.6 Yrs 7.5	MDV, CWO, LDO	MDV, 1 st Class Diver (M1DV)	5th Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: LCPO, LPO, Diving Supervisor, High Risk Instructor, SAT Diver. Qualification: DWS/EXW and 2-3 advanced qualifications. MDV Evaluations
9-12	ND1 ND2	7.5 Yrs 3.4	STA-21, OCS, MECP, LDO	1 st Class Diver (M1DV)	4th Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: LPO, Diving Supervisor, High Risk Instructor, SAT Diver. Qualification: DWS/EXW and 2-3 advanced qualifications
6-9	ND1 ND2	7.5 Yrs 3.4	STA-21, OCS, MECP	1 st Class Diver (M1DV)	3rd Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: WCS, LPO, Diving Supervisor Qualification: DWS/EXW and 2-3 advanced qualification
3-6	ND2 ND3	3.4 Yrs 1.2	Naval Academy, NROTC	2 nd Class Diver (M2DV)	2nd Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: WCS, Training PO. Qualification: DWS/EXW
1-3	ND2 ND3	3.4 Yrs 1.2	Naval Academy, NROTC	2 nd Class Diver (M2DV)	1 st Tour: UWSH, Expeditionary or Training/Special Mission command. Billet: WCS, Training PO. Qualification: DWS
1.2	RTC (3 months) ND "A" school (6 months)	ND3 Advanced to E4 upon completion of ND "A" School & 6 months TIR as an E3.			Recruit Training and all schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command



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ND Pillars:

Note 1: The ND rating maintains a balanced sea/shore rotation. NDs are expected to maintain regular sea/shore flow and demonstrate leadership in all assigned billets. Due to the demanding nature of most shore billets, sea/shore rotation should not be the primary factor for tour selection.

ND Tours or Pillars: (listed in no particular order)		
Expeditionary	Underwater Ship's Husbandry (UWSH)	Training / Special Mission
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Expeditionary Support Units (EODESU)	Mid-Atlantic Regional Maintenance Center (MARMC)	Bureau of Naval Personnel and Naval Recruiting Command/Districts (NRD)
Naval Special Warfare Groups (NSWG)	Norfolk Ship Support Activity (NSSA)	Center for EOD and Diving (CEODD)
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Groups (EODGRU)	TRIDENT Refit Facility (TRF)	EOD Training and Evaluation Units (EODTEU)
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technology Division (EODTECHDIV)	Naval Submarine Support Facility (NSSF)	Naval Special Warfare Basic Training Command (NSW BTC)
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Units (EODMU)	Naval Intermediate Maintenance Facility (NIMF)	Military Sealift Command (MSC) Commander US Pacific Fleet (PACFLT)
Mobile Diving and Salvage Units (MDSU)	Ship Repair Facilities (SRF)	Naval Academy (USNA)
Naval Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC)	Southeast Regional Maintenance Center (SERMC)	Naval Base Guam (NBG) Naval Station Guantanamo Bay (NSGB)
Naval Special Warfare Command (WARCOM)	Southwest Regional Maintenance Center (SWRMC)	Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center (NDSTC)
USMC Marine Divisions (MDIV)	Submarine Tenders (AS)	Naval Experimental Diving Unit (NEDU)
Naval Special Warfare Development Group (DEVGRU)	Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (NSY or IMF)	Navy Medicine Operational Training Center (NMOTC) Aviation Survival Training Center (ASTC)
Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit Detachment Mobile Diving Salvage (EODMU Det MDS)	Forward Deployed Regional Maintenance Center (FDRMC)	Naval Personnel Command (NPC) and Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS)
Naval Special Warfare Group Logistics Support Units (LOGSU)		Naval Submarine Medical Research Laboratory (NSMRL)
Naval Special Warfare Units (NSWU)		Naval Recruit Training Command (RTC)
SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team (SDVT)		Naval Safety Center (NAVSAFCE)
USMC Marine Raider RGMT/BN		Naval School EOD (NSCOLEOD)
		Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA)
		Personnel Exchange Program (PEP)
		Naval Special Warfare Center
		Naval Submarine School (NAVSUBSCOL)
		Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC)
		Naval information Warfare Center (NIWC) (SPAWARSYSCEN)
		Submarine Development Squadron (SDR)
		Submarine Squadrons (COMSUBRON)
		Undersea Rescue Command (URC)
		Naval Special Warfare Advanced Training Command (NSW/ATC)
		NSW Training Detachment (TRADET's)
		COMSUBDEVRONFIVE Specialized Research Diving Detachment (CSDS-5 SRDD)
		Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division (NSWC-PCD)
		Naval Research Laboratory Site Det Port Hueneme (NRLSD)
		Commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific (CTF 73/CLWP)



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Notes:

1. The ND rating is comprised of three tiered NECs. Each NEC represents increasing levels of knowledge and responsibility. “A” or “C-school” is required for attainment of each NEC.
 - a. M2DV - Second Class Diver (Apprentice Skill set)
 - b. M1DV - First Class Diver (Journeyman Skill set)
 - c. MMDV - Master Diver (Master Skill set)
2. Diving Warfare Specialist (DWS) Qualification:
 - a. NEC M2DV- IAW COMNECCINST 1414.3F, ND personnel with NEC M2DV will have 24 months to complete initial DWS qualification upon reporting to their first command after graduation of Second Class Dive School.
 - b. NEC M1DV- IAW COMNECCINST 1414.3F, ND personnel with NEC M1DV must renew DWS qualifications within 18 months of reporting on board.
 - c. NEC MMDV - IAW COMNECCINST 1414.3F, ND personnel with NEC MMDV are considered permanently DWS qualified.

Considerations for advancement from E6 to E7 (by order of precedence):

- Must have NEC M1DV (First Class Diver).
- Must have completed tours at both an Expeditionary and an Underwater Ship Husbandry (UWSH) command.
- Must successfully complete a minimum of 12 months in a LPO leadership position. The time between the evaluation end date and the date of the promotion board should be added to the calculation for time successfully served in the milestone position.
- Must have the core and 2 advanced qualifications IAW Qualifications (pg. 6).
- Should have the core qualification and 3 advanced qualifications IAW Qualifications (pg. 6). At least one advanced qualification must be a diving supervisor qualification.
- Should demonstrate excellence across all assigned diving commands, reflecting a varied background aligned with career path guidelines for PCS assignments within the Expeditionary, UWSH, and Training/Special Mission pillars.
- Many duty types offer the potential to attain qualifications, NEC’s and warfare designations outside of DWS. ND’s should take advantage of these opportunities to stay competitive for advancement (EXW, AW, SW, DOS, RSO, MTS, etc).
- Should have a minimum of three years of diving experience in NEC M1DV.
- Should have continued professional development, i.e. attending military schools, college courses, completing correspondence courses, PME/SEJPME, certifications, etc. Sailors earning their qualifications and academic achievements.
- Overseas (including Hawaii) and tours in varied geographic locations ARE considered career enhancing.
- Should demonstrate command-level involvement through collateral duties (e.g., DAPA, Command Fitness Leader (CFL), Assistant Command Fitness Leader (ACFL), CMEO, 3MC/3MA, Command Financial Specialist (CFS), Career Counselor), First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA), Sailor 360, and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) participation.



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Considerations for advancement from E7 to E8 (by order of precedence):

- NEC MMDV (Master Diver) has the highest priority above all others for selection to E8.
- Must have 8LDC to be eligible for advancement to E8.
- Must have documentation successfully passing the written Master Diver Course pre-test administered by the NAVDIVSALVTRACEN per MPM 1220-100.
- Must have completed at least 12 months as a Leading Chief Petty Officer (LCPO).
- Should have the core qualification and 4 advanced qualifications IAW Qualifications (pg 6). At least one advanced qualification must be a diving supervisor qualification. More advanced qualifications are considered career enhancing when having an impact on command mission.
- Should make significant contributions to ND rating NEC manning, and professional development. Ex: Selection board participation, Advancement Examination Readiness Review (AERR), ND PQS review board participation, Training Requirements Review (TRR), etc.
- Should have continued professional development, i.e. attending military schools, college courses, completing correspondence courses, certifications, SEJPME I & II and if available the Senior Enlisted Academy (Any Service). If college degree is completed, continuing to work toward next degree or some form of professional self-improvement.
- Should have Command level involvement, i.e. Command collateral duties (DAPA, CLF, ACFL, CMEO, 3MC/3MA, CFS, Career Counselor, etc.), CPOA, CPO Initiation, Sailor 360 and MWR involvement.
- Should have a minimum of 5 years of diving experience in NEC M1DV.
- Overseas (including Hawaii) and tours in varied geographic locations ARE considered career enhancing
- NOTE: Diver First Class (NEC M1DV) personnel SEM screened for SCPO must be awarded NEC MMDV (Master Diver) before promotion to SCPO.

Considerations for advancement from E8 to E9 (by order of precedence):

- Must have NEC MMDV (Master Diver) and 8SEA (or equivalent) to be eligible for advancement to E9.
- Should have completed a minimum 36 months of service as a Master Diver.
- Should make significant contributions to ND rating, NEC manning, and professional development. Ex: Selection board participation, Advancement Examination Readiness Review (AERR), ND PQS review board participation, Training Requirements Review (TRR), etc.
- Should be excelling in primary duties. Achieve mastery level, Sailors excelling under their lead (SOY/JSOY/BJOY/MAPs, advancements, qualifications, education, self-improvement etc.), documented success as DLCPO, LCPO, and in mentorship.
- Should make significant contributions to Master Diver development: Pre-screener coordinator, Master Diver MDV Evaluator, Pre-screener participant.
- Tours in varied geographic locations ARE considered career enhancing.



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Qualifications: A diverse background across all commands will ensure that a Navy Diver has had the opportunity to obtain a wide variety of qualifications to attain ND's core qualification and advanced qualifications.

Note 1: Qualifications are not in order of precedence or priority.

Note 2: The qualification/term "Unlimited Diving Supervisor" is not a valid qualification. Each specific diving system or diving apparatus is a separate qualification and should be spelled out that way in designation letters and evaluations.

Note 3: The long and abbreviated title was change implemented in 2023. Legacy titles/ abbreviations prior to 2023 are still valid qualifications.

Note 4: * Qualifications: For "Electronically Controlled Close-Circuit Underwater Breathing Apparatus (EC-UBA) Supervisor" and "**Closed Circuit Oxygen UBA (CC-UBA) Supervisor" a-c listed qualification listed below count as one advanced qualification.

Core Qualifications:	
Long Title	Abbreviated Title
Diving Warfare Specialist	DWS

Advanced Qualifications	
Long Title	Abbreviated Title
Air Diving Supervisor	AIRSUP
Dry Deck Shelter (DDS) Diving Supervisor	DDSDS
SSN Lockout Trunk Supervisor	LOTS
SSGN Lockout Chamber Supervisor	LOCS
DP Diving Supervisor	DPDS
Mixed Gas Diving Supervisor	MGDS
ROV Intervention Officer	ROVIO
PSET Control Officer	PSETCO
SATFADS Life Support Technician	LST
OSF Chamber Support Operator/Life Support Operator	CSO/LSO
SATFADS Saturation Supervisor	SDS
OSF Dive Watch Supervisor	OSFDWS
SCUBA Diving Supervisor	SCDS
Special Operations Diving Supervisor	SODS
Submarine Rescue Chamber Supervisor	SRCS
Transfer Under Pressure Supervisor	TUPS
USMC Combat Dive Supervisor Course Instructor	USMCDS
*Electronically Controlled Close-Circuit Underwater Breathing Apparatus (EC-UBA) Supervisor	
a. MK-16 Diving Supervisor	M16DS
b. MK-28 Diving Supervisor	M28DS
c. EX-28 Diving Supervisor	E28DS
*Closed Circuit Oxygen UBA (CC-UBA) Supervisor	
a. MODE Diving Supervisor	MDDS
b. MK 25 Diving Supervisor	M25DS
c. VIPER Diving Supervisor	VDS