



Establishment of Robotics Warfare Specialist Rating Fact Sheet

POC: RWCM Christopher Rambert/RWCOMMGR.FCT@Navy.mil

March 2024

BLUF

NAVADMIN 036/24 announces the establishment of the Robotics Warfare Specialist Rating (RW). RW Sailors will serve as operators, maintainers, and managers who plan and control operations of robotic systems.

Who needs to know?

- Active Duty and Selected Reserves (SELRES) Sailors
- Command Career Counselors
- Triads

What you need to know – key points

- The establishment of RW is a significant milestone in the future of warfighting and maintaining the tactical edge.
- Robotic systems provide additional warfighting capability and capacity to support our traditional combatant force, allowing the option to take on greater operational risk while maintaining a tactical and strategic advantage.
- RW will be operators, maintainers, and managers who plan and control the operations of robotics systems.
- The RW rating will apply to active duty only at this time.
- The primary source ratings for RW conversions will be for those currently or previously assigned to billets in unmanned vehicle divisions and who hold an RW-identified NEC.
- RW-identified NECs include 757B, 789A, 799B, 803A, 825G, 826G, and 838A.
- Sailors not currently holding an RW-identified NECs will be screened for selection and may incur additional obligated service, if selected.
- Applications will be processed as they are received. Interested Sailors should submit their application as soon as possible.

Sample POD/POW Notes

- Are you interested in being part of the future of warfighting? The Navy announced the establishment of the Robotics Warfare Specialist Rating (RW). Sailors interested in submitting a cross-rating application should review NAVADMIN 036/24 and contact the RW ECM.

FAQ

Q. Why establish Robotics Warfare (RW)?

A. The Navy needs a dedicated workforce with the right skills and experience to support current and future autonomous, unmanned systems (robotics) employment.

Q. How many RW will the Navy have?

A. Community requirements and employment will determine the manning numbers.

Q. Will Sailors outside the current Robotics workforce be considered for the initial selection process?

A. The primary source ratings are Sailors with a robotics NEC. RW-identified NECs include 757B, 789A, 799B, 803A, 825G, 826G, and 838A. Sailors must also have a qualifying ASVAB score ($AR+MK+EI+GS \geq 222$ or $AR+MK+VE+ME \geq 222$ or $AR+MK+VE+AO \geq 222$). Priority will be given to Sailors who currently, or have previously, worked in a converted RW billet. You must have one of the NECs listed on the Robotics Community Management page to be eligible for conversion. To apply, submit an EPAR 1306 to BUPERS-328 routed via MNCC.



Q. What does a conversion application look like?

A. Sailors can submit a request to convert through the C-Way application process outlined in MILPERSMAN 1440-010.

Q. Will Sailors be brought in as RW through recruiting?

A. Yes, the RW Sailor will start the accession pipeline through the ET “A” school, followed by the requisite “C” school to obtain a rating as a RW. NETC is actively developing the RW-specific training pipeline, and expects to be prepared to launch the RW “A” school by fiscal year 2026.

Q. When will Sailors begin taking RW Navy Wide Advancement Exams?

A. The first active duty RW Navy-wide advancement exams will begin in the fall of 2024. The active E-5 and E-6 exams will be given in September 2024. The active E-7 exam will be offered in January 2025.

Q. Will there be any commissioning opportunities for RW Sailors?

A. There will be no officer designator within robotics. RW Sailors interested in commissioning opportunities have the same options as other Sailors (ex. STA-21, OCS.)

Q. When will Sailors be released to the RW community?

A. Sailors will be released to the RW community upon completing their current assignment if they are not already serving in a converted billet.

Q. What is the sea/shore flow?

A. The projected sea/shore flow will have RW Sailors having an initial sea tour of 48 months, an initial shore tour of 36 months, and a second sea tour of 54 months. Sailors will then have a second shore tour of 36 months. Any following sea/shore tours will be 36 months.

Q. Is there a Selective Reenlistment Bonus (SRB)?

A. Currently, there is no SRB for RW. Sailors who were authorized a SRB and have started to receive it in their parent rating will continue to receive their SRB payouts.

Q. Is there any special pay, such as sub or flight pay?

A. Currently, there is no special pay for RW Sailors. RW Sailors may qualify for sub or sea pay when supporting specific missions.

