

MILPERSMAN 1306-980

Navy Interactive ON-NET (ION) Operator Certification Program

Responsible Office	BUPERS-327	Phone: COM	(901) 874-2967
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MyNavy Career Center	Phone: Toll Free E-mail: MyNavy Portal:	1-833-330-MNCC (6622) askmncc@navy.mil https://my.navy.mil/
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1. Background

a. Navy interactive ON-NET (ION) operators develop, refine, and utilize world-class tactics, techniques, and procedures to conduct computer network operations in support of national and tactical security objectives. Bridging the tactical-technical span, ION operators use advanced software applications to change or collect information residing on or transiting computer networks.

b. The purpose of the Navy ION Operator Certification Program is to select and develop Navy cyber warfare technicians (CWT) who will achieve basic certification with an end goal of being exploiter-qualified at the end of their first tour as an operator.

2. Requirements and Qualifications

a. Applicants must have a service record that clearly demonstrates sustained superior performance and meet the following criteria. Specifically, they must:

- (1) Be a rated CWT;
- (2) Be in the pay grades of E-4 to E-8;
- (3) Be within 18 months of projected rotation date (PRD);
- (4) Have passed latest physical fitness assessment cycle;

(5) Be Career Waypoint reenlistment-approved (if required);

(6) Have no more than 16 years of military service;

(7) Have no nonjudicial punishment within 2 years of application date;

(8) Have a final Top Secret clearance with access to sensitive compartmented information and complete a counter-intelligence polygraph prior to execution of permanent change of station orders; and

(9) Incur obligated service (OBLISERV) that will consist of up to 24 months of training with a follow-on tour of up to 48 months using the Navy enlisted classification (NEC) earned. OBLISERV or OBLISERV-to-train (if selective reenlistment bonus eligible) must be completed prior to execution of orders per [MILPERSMAN 1306-604](#).

b. Waivers for specific eligibility requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis and approved or disapproved by Bureau of Navy Personnel (BUPERS) Information Warfare Community Branch (BUPERS-327)

3. **Application Procedures.** Commands are encouraged to nominate only the best qualified personnel. All candidates must complete and submit the following documents:

a. [NAVPERS 1306/7](#) Enlisted Personnel Action Request to Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) Information Warfare Distribution Branch CWT Detailer (PERS-408CJ) a minimum of 13 months prior to PRD;

b. Last 3 performance evaluations:

(1) [NAVPERS 1616/26](#) Evaluation Report and Counseling Record (E-1 - E-6) or

(2) [NAVPERS 1616/27](#) Evaluation and Counseling Record (E-7 - E-9);

c. Physical Readiness Information Management System (PRIMS) data for previous 3 years; and

d. A temporary [NAVPERS 1070/613](#) Administrative Remarks is required to be signed by the member and submitted with the application. A copy will be forwarded to the servicing personnel office for entry in the electronic service record (ESR). The following is a sample entry:

(Date): I understand I am required to incur 60 months of obligated service (OBLISERV) per [MILPERSMAN 1306-604](#) if selected for the Navy Interactive ON-NET (ION) Operator Certification Program to account for up to 24 months of training with a follow-on tour of 36 months using the Navy enlisted classification earned.

(Date): I understand that in case of disenrollment prior to completion of that program, the extension may be cancelled and a new extension executed per the service requirements of [MILPERSMAN 1306-604](#).

(Date): I understand that OBLISERV or OBLISERV-to-train must be completed prior to executing orders to attend training required for that program.

4. Screening Process

a. Upon approval of [NAVPERS 1306/7](#), member will forward complete package to the ION program manager for final technical screening and approval or disapproval.

b. The ION program manager will notify BUPERS-327, NAVPERSCOM (PERS-408CJ), and applicant of selection determination.

c. The ION program manager will provide class convening and availability to NAVPERSCOM (PERS-408CJ).

d. Once selected for the ION Operator Certification Program, candidates may only be removed per paragraph 7 of this article.

e. The names and intended class dates of all new accession and cross-rating Sailors who plan to screen for ION while attending the Joint Cyber Awareness Course must be submitted to the CWT and new accession detailers. Updates on their screening status are to be provided on a bi-monthly basis to ensure proper tracking and coordination.

5. Training

a. Program candidates will complete the below training courses:

Course Title	Course Identification Number	Expected Length	NEC
Marine Corps Cyber Operations Readiness Curriculum (MCCORC)	A-531-1304	6 Weeks	N/A
Basic Offensive Cyberspace Operator	A-531-2451	6 Months	H41A
Foundational Operator Readiness Growth and Enrichment	A-531-2452	11 Months	H13A

NOTE: Candidates will take the Computer Networking Assessment Battery (CNAB) while attending MCCORC. Candidates may be waived from attending MCCORC based on course availability or as determined by the ION program manager. If waived, the CNAB must be taken prior to enrollment into the program.

6. Training Equivalency. Commands may request NEC H41A and or H13A for equivalent training provided by other agencies using procedures per [MILPERSMAN 1221-021](#). Commands may contact the ION program manager to determine if a Sailor has completed an equivalent training pipeline.

7. Program Disenrollment

a. Following enrollment into the ION Operator Certification Program, commands may request disenrollment if it is determined the Sailor cannot complete the ION training pipeline by reason of incapability, lack of reasonable effort, disciplinary infractions, inability to adapt, or due to personal issues outside the student's control (e.g., family emergencies, emergency leave situations, etc.).

b. If it is determined that Service members cannot complete the ION training pipeline due to injury, illness, or disease they must contact the ION program manager and CWT senior detailer (PERS-408CJ).

c. Removal requests will be submitted to BUPERS-327 via [NAVPERS 1306/7](#) and will contain the following documents and information:

(1) A detailed statement of the circumstances leading to the request, including a specific description of incident(s) and a chronology of events;

(2) In the case of unsatisfactory behavior or performance over a period of time, a copy of the member's administrative counseling or warning and or letter of instruction;

(3) Enlisted performance evaluation documenting the member's unsatisfactory behavior or performance (if applicable);

(4) A statement of disciplinary action taken or contemplated (if any);

(5) Whether or not administrative separation processing has or will be commenced; and

(6) Any other supporting documentation relevant to the case.

8. **NEC Removal**. Commands may request removal of NEC H41A or H13A if Sailors fail to meet follow-on operational qualification requirements using procedures per [MILPERSMAN 1221-021](#).