

INTELLIGENCE, IT & COMMS

The Army's intelligence and communications experts use cutting-edge technology to gather information about the enemy and pass it on securely to make sure the Army is always one step ahead.



INTELLIGENCE, IT & COMMS > INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN

INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN ROYAL SIGNALS

SIG410/419 Updated December 2008

Responsible for the installation, maintenance and repair of the Army's telephone systems and fibre-optic networks

AT A GLANCE

ROLE Regular Soldier
TERRITORIAL ARMY OPTION Yes
SEX Male/Female
AGE RANGE 17–33 yrs
MIN SERVICE 4 yrs
QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED GCSEs or Level 2 equivalent
MIN GRADE C in English Language, Mathematics or Science/ICT

The job

Installation Technicians work at the forefront of military communications technology. Your role will make you an expert in installing, maintaining and repairing telephone systems and fibre-optic networks. Your trade will train you to install and maintain everything from cable infrastructures and local area networks (LANs) to closed-circuit television (CCTV) and video conferencing systems.

The right job for me?

As well as an interest in working with your hands, you should have technical aptitude and a head for heights. A knowledge of mathematics, as well as a real interest in electronics and learning about the maintenance/repair of electronic systems, will help. You should be

comfortable working either alone or as part of a small team.

What skills will I learn?

- Installing, repairing and maintaining telephone systems and fibre optic networks.
- CCTV and video conferencing operation.
- Learn how to drive Category B+E vehicles (car/trailer).
- Computer skills and knowledge of IT systems.
- Ascending to overhead lines and working safely while elevated above the ground.

What training will I do?

■ Initial training

Every Royal Signals recruit is firstly trained to become a soldier and then a tradesman. Recruits will begin their military career at ATR Pirbright,

INTELLIGENCE, IT & COMMS

INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN ROYAL SIGNALS

in Surrey. They will complete a 14-week training course, which teaches key military skills such as foot drill, how to handle and fire a weapon, how to live and work in the open and how to tackle an assault course, as well as developing stamina and fitness. When you have completed the course, you will take your place in the Passing Out parade in front of an invited audience of parents, relatives and friends.

■ Further training

On completion of basic training you will move to Blandford Forum in Dorset to start trade training (Phase 2) at the Royal School of Signals. Over the next 40 weeks you will be taught how to repair, install and maintain telephone networks and gain the skills to work with copper and fibre cabling. There will also be instruction to give you the confidence to work at heights. You will complete elements of the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) and learn how to drive cars with and without trailers.

What qualifications can I get?

You will earn your Category B+E (car/trailer) driving licence. During trade training, you can gain elements of European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) at Level 1 Units 1, 2, 3 and 7 plus Key Skills in Application of Number, Information and Communication Technology at Level 2. You may also get a Technical Certificate in Telecommunications (AES), City & Guilds in Basic Engineering Competencies (Electrical Engineering) and a City & Guilds Diploma in Designing and Planning Communications Networks at Level 3. Later in your service you may gain City & Guilds Level 2 in Communications Cabling, which comprises: Basic Principles of Communicating Systems, Fibre Optic Cabling and Copper Cabling. You may also gain the Advanced Apprenticeship in Communication Technologies Professional (ICTP). (All qualifications are subject to successful passes in exams and the level of practical experience required.)

What future prospects and transferable skills will I have?

After finishing trade training you will be posted as a Class 3 trained soldier and after a year's experience you become eligible for upgrading to Class 2 and a pay rise. You can work up through the ranks according to merit, and each upgrading and promotion is accompanied by a pay rise, up to Warrant Officer Class 1. You can then apply to be a Royal Signals Officer with a Late Entry Commission as a Captain. Throughout your career you'll be picking up world-class leadership skills and excellent communications and IT skills, which will translate directly into civilian industry should you decide to leave the Army. You can also volunteer to serve as a Parachutist or Royal Marine Commando, or with the Special Forces. It's also possible to join the famous Royal Signals White Helmets Motorcycle Display Team. Throughout your career you will enhance and develop many skills and gain qualifications which are accredited and recognised outside of the Army.

Find out more

armyjobs.mod.uk

08457 300 111