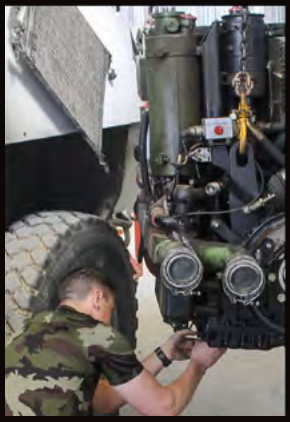
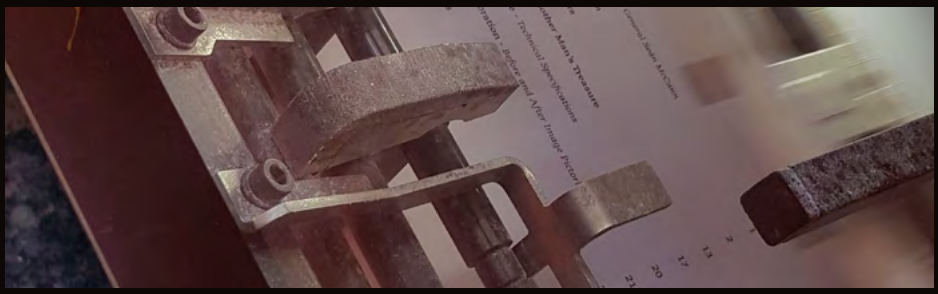
Óglaigh
na hÉireann
IRISH DEFENCE FORCES





DEFENCE FORCES TRAINEE TECHNICIAN SCHEME 2025

INFORMATION BOOKLET

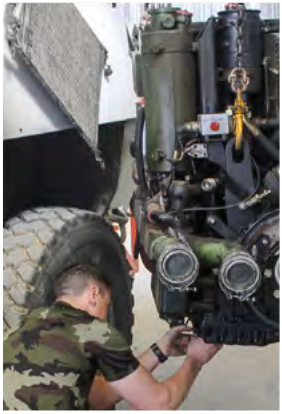
www.military.ie

STRENGTHEN THE NATION

NOTE

A Trainee Technician will be required to have a service commitment to meet the duration of any undertaking signed in accordance with instructions issued by DDFT.

Óglaigh
na hÉireann
IRISH DEFENCE FORCES



DEFENCE FORCES
TRAINEE TECHNICIAN SCHEME 2025

INFORMATION BOOKLET

www.military.ie

STRENGTHEN
THE NATION

NOTE

Should a Corporal (or Naval Service equivalent) who reverted in rank to Private Line in order to undertake training for an appointment as a Private Technician fail to successfully complete training they:

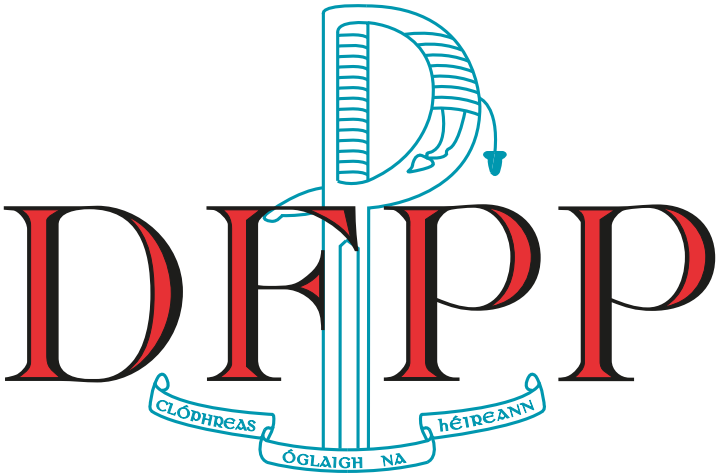
1. Will NOT automatically be reinstated to the rank of Cpl.
2. May apply for a line position in his/her designated Corps, or apply to return to Parent unit.

Should a Trainee Technician fail examinations he/she may repeat examinations in their own time in order to reapply for readmission to the scheme.

All applicants should read and be familiar with the following documents prior to applying for the Trainee Technician Scheme:

1. Administrative Instruction 03/2002 - Army Trainee Technician Scheme
2. Training Instruction Tl 04/02 - Army Trainee Technician Scheme.
3. Applicants should familiarise themselves with DFR A 10, Para 61 - Discharge by Purchase, Scale of Payments for.

CONTENTS



DEFENCE FORCES PRINTING PRESS

Introduction

There are rewarding opportunities for a challenging career in the Defence Forces' Printing Press (DFPP) for highly motivated individuals who are capable of working on their own initiative in a dynamic environment. The DFPP 'in-house' print facility provides a wide variety of print and digital media for the Defence Forces at home and abroad. The staff comprises a team of technicians with a range of skills in Pre Press, Printing and Print Finishing.

What We Do

Working in the DFPP involves close teamwork and co-operation to achieve professionally made end products. Each operator contributes to the planning and execution of a project. Staff involvement and co-operation are key to the success of the printing press in providing a modern, efficient and high quality service to the Irish Defence Forces.

The DFPP operates a variety of modern equipment which includes hi-spec computers running Adobe Creative Cloud applications; Lithographic Printing Press; Digital Production Printers; Wide Format Printers, CTP plate maker, Perfect Binder, Guillotines and a variety of Finishing machinery.

Training

The technician training is conducted by Belfast Metropolitan College and the DFPP on a phased basis over a three-year period. All training is conducted in the DFPP. Students who successfully complete the course will be awarded a GQA Level 2 Certificate and a Level 3 NVQ Diploma in either Pre Press, Printing or Print Finishing.

The training is interesting and beneficial, culminating in a worthwhile and recognised skill. The initial phase consists of a probationary period of introductory training in the DFPP where students are exposed to the three streams of training. During this time personnel are assessed for suitability and aptitude. On completion the student will specialise in one of the streams. Subsequent phases are conducted by Belfast Metropolitan College and involve on-the-job training in DFPP. Training is assessed via a work based learning portfolio and on site assessments.

Training with Belfast Metropolitan is broken into two phases. The first phase will comprise of undertaking a level 2 GQA qualification in either Pre Press, Print or Print Finishing. The student will then undertake a period of work experience in a Dublin based print company. On successful completion the student will proceed onto the Level 3 of their stream. The

Level 3 will take approx. 1.5 years. On Completion of training students will qualify as a specialist in Pre Press, Printing or Print Finishing.

Personnel who enter this scheme will be required to sign an undertaking. This undertaking requires that should an individual leave the Defence Forces during this period, this individual repays all monies expended on his/her training.

All graduates of the scheme qualify for additional technical pay (Group 4).

Personnel who join this scheme will be attached to the Defence Forces Printing Press for the duration of training. On completion of training, providing vacancies exist, trainees will be posted to Defence Forces Printing Press.

Summary

PHASE	DURATION	LOCATION	REMARKS
Phase 1	6 Month Probationary Period	DFPP	An Introduction to training. Determination of specialisation
Phase 2	1 Years GQA Level 2 plus 4-6 week work experience	DFPP	Belfast Metropolitan University
Dublin based print company			
Phase 3	1.5 Years GQA Level 3	DFPP	Belfast Metropolitan University

Technician Training Profiles

Pre Press

- Health and Safety
- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe Creative Cloud Applications
- Electronic document assembly
- Scanning & image manipulation
- Graphic illustration
- Design appreciation
- Keyboard skills
- Image setting
- Colour management
- Copy handling

Printing

- Press operation
- Health and Safety
- Plate technology
- Lithographic principles
- Digital printing
- Ink chemistry and formulations
- Substrate properties
- Spot-colour, full-colour and wide-format printing
- In-line perfecting
- Press maintenance

Print Finishing

- Collation methods
- Health and Safety
- Adhesive binding
- Insetting, stitching and trimming
- Guillotine programming and operating
- Automated booklet making
- Case binding
- Foil blocking
- Scoring, numbering, perforating
- Mechanised folding

Entry Rank

Applicants to the scheme may be of Corporal or Private rank. Successful applicants of Corporal rank must revert to Private rank before commencing the scheme.

Technical Pay

On qualification and posting to a technical appointment in the DFPP, personnel will qualify for Group 4 technical pay.

Educational Requirements

The minimum educational requirements are a Grade D in five subjects in the Department of Education & Skills Junior Certificate Examination or an approved equivalent.

Aptitude

Candidates for Printing and Print Finishing should possess technical aptitude combined with mechanical ability.

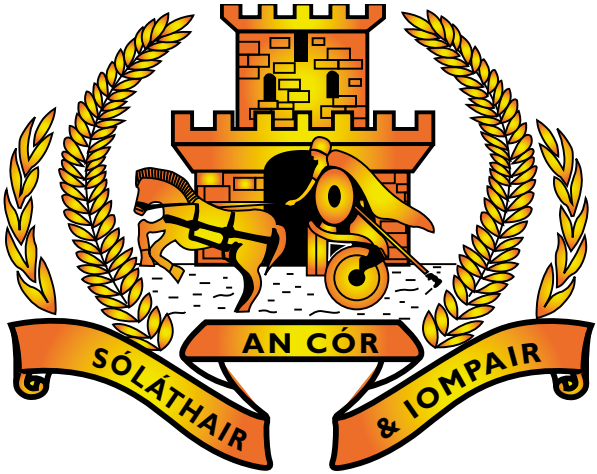
Candidates interested in Pre Press should be articulate and have good communication skills combined with a high level of literacy. The successful candidate should have a proven interest in art, design or photography and should also have experience of working with computers.

Meticulous attention to detail and a methodical approach to problem solving are important requirements in all areas.

Further Information

If you wish to find out more please contact a member of staff and we would be more than happy to brief you on the opportunities available and what we do.

printing.press@defencefores.ie
01 804 2658/2659



TRANSPORT CORPS

Introduction

The Transport Corps is offering a Trainee Technician Scheme leading to qualification as a Heavy Vehicle Mechanic (HVM).

The Defence Forces currently operate a modern transport fleet of more that sixteen hundred vehicles both at home and on overseas missions. These vehicles are used for operational, training and administrative functions where the highest level of road worthiness, serviceability and reliability are essential to meet all requirements. All these vehicles are highly sophisticated and have the very latest technology in computerised motor management systems. The Defence Forces needs highly trained Heavy Vehicle Mechanics to service and maintain this fleet.

The Transport Corps has units in the following locations: Collins Bks in Cork, McKee Bks and Cathal Brugha Bks in Dublin and the Curragh Camp in Kildare. In addition to these locations there are vehicle workshops in the following locations: Dundalk, Finner Camp in Donegal, Athlone, Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick, Casement Aerodrome in Baldonnel, Naval Base Haulbowline and overseas in United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

The Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Trainee Technician Scheme

The purpose of the Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Trainee Technician Scheme is to provide military trades persons for the Transport Corps. The scheme offers successful candidates the opportunity of becoming an efficient and disciplined member of the Transport or Cavalry Corps. As part of their training, successful candidates will learn about servicing, engines, fuel systems, transmissions, suspensions, bodywork electrics and wheels.

The Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Trainee Technician Scheme is ran in conjunction with the SOLAS Apprenticeship Scheme. SOLAS has statutory responsibility for the administration and management of apprenticeship programmes in Ireland. The scheme consists of seven (7) phases, which is based on the SOLAS apprenticeship programme and is conducted over a minimum of four (4) years. The trainee technician must achieve the required standard to pass each phase. Phase one (1), Induction, will be conducted by the Transport School, DFTC. Phases two (2), four (4) and six (6) consist of off-the-job training and are conducted in selected SOLAS Educational training Board (ETB) facilities and Institutes of Technologies (ITs). Phases three (3), five (5) and seven (7) consist of on-the-job training in a Defence Forces workshop and put into practice the theory and skills learned in phases two (2), four (4) and six (6). This training will also give the trainee an insight into Transport Corps operations in the Defence Forces.

On completion of their training, the newly qualified Heavy Vehicle Mechanic will be required to fill technical vacancies in the Transport and Cavalry Corps to maintain service and repair the full range of military vehicles at home and overseas. Heavy Vehicle Mechanics will also be required to drive the full range of vehicles at home and overseas, necessitating subsequent qualification on the range of armoured and soft skin vehicles currently in service in the Defence Forces.

Persons, who volunteer to undertake the Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Trainee Technician Scheme, do so in the full knowledge that they may be posted to their new Corps, Unit and trade on successfully completing technician training.

In general, Trainee Technicians will remain on the strength of their parent units until they complete their training and qualify. Thereafter, they may be posted to a technical appointment only if vacancy exists, in accordance with the decisions of the Corps Assignment Board.

Potential candidates are advised to also read the following documents regarding the administration of these schemes:

1. Administration Instruction 03/2002
2. Army Trainee Technician Scheme Training Instruction T1 04/02
3. Application Process

- All applications for this scheme will be completed through the Candidate Manager System on the Defence Forces website www.military.ie.
- Personnel who enter this scheme will be required to sign an undertaking. The period of time of this undertaking is defined by J1 Branch. This undertaking requires that should an individual leave the Defence Forces during this period, this individual will be required to repay all monies expended on his / her training.
- All graduates of these schemes qualify for additional pay, the level of pay dependent on the qualification. This additional pay is based on vacancies being available.

Discharge and Re-enlistment for the Purpose of Training as a Technician

Personnel selected to undergo technician training will be discharged from the Defence Forces in accordance with Para 58 Column (1) (u) of DFR Al0 'For the purpose of re-enlistment.'

Personnel will concurrently be re-enlisted in accordance with Para 8 (10) (e) (ii) of DFR A 10 'For training as Technicians' for a length of time commensurate with the requirements of the undertaking but for not more than 12 years.

Where a trainee technician enlisted prior to Jan 1994 and needs to be re-engaged or continued in service this will be completed by the individual's parent unit prior to the technician training course. They will be re-engaged/continued in service, in order to cover the duration of the undertaking.

Entry Rank

Applicants to the scheme may be of Corporal or Private 3 Star or equivalent rank. Successful applicants of Corporal rank must revert to Private rank before commencing the scheme.

Educational Requirements

The minimum educational requirements are a Grade D in five subjects in the Department of Education & Skills Junior Certificate Examination or an approved equivalent,

It should be noted that these are the current approved minimum educational requirements for apprenticeship programmes. However, previous experience of the following subjects would be an advantage but not essential: Mathematics, Technology, Technical Drawing/ Graphics, Physics and Construction Studies.

Personnel who have previously completed a Trainee Technician Scheme and are subject to an undertaking will not be considered for this scheme.

Personnel selected to undergo a Heavy Vehicle Mechanics Trainee Technician must have completed the DF Annual Fitness Test (TI 05/07), Annual Medical and APWT and within twelve months of the closing date for applications.

Training

The Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Trainee Technician Scheme is approximately four (4) years in duration and is broken into seven (7) phases. The Trainee Technician must successfully achieve the required standard in each phase in order to progress to the next phase.

PHASE 1	On-The-Job Transport School	Min 3 months	Induction Training Introduction to Health & Safety Training Introduction to Tools & Equipment Introduction to Basic Skills
PHASE 2	Off-The-Job Educational Training Board (ETB	Up to 20 Weeks	Induction Bench Fitting/Welding Basic Electricity/ Batteries Engine Transmission Braking Systems Diesel Fuel Systems Basic Vehicle Wiring Electric Motors & Computers Steering & Suspension System Customer Service Related Theory
PHASE 3	On-The-Job Defence Forces Workshops	Min 6 months	Practical application of theory learned in Phase 2 Work Based Assessment
PHASE 4	Off-The-Job Institute of technology (IT)	10-11 Weeks	Engine Transmission Fuel System Electrical Steering System Related Theory
PHASE 5	On-The-Job Defence Forces Workshops	Min 6 months	Practical application of theory learned in Phase 4 Work Based Assessment

PHASE 6	Off-The-Job Institute of technology (IT)	10-11 Weeks	Transmission Compressed Air Braking System Suspension System Hydraulics Steering System Diagnostics System Related Theory
PHASE 7	On-The-Job Transport School	Min 3 months	Practical application of theory learned in Phase 6 Work Based Assessment (Pass is required to successfully qualify as a Heavy Vehicle Mechanic)

Trainee Technicians will be required to exercise technical expertise in combination with military skills. Trainee Technicians will be required to carry out standard annual military training in order to maintain their operational readiness and will be required to successfully complete Defence Forces Annual Fitness Test (TI 05/07), Annual Medical and Annual Personal Weapons Tests annually, for the duration of the Trainee Technician Scheme.

The training scheme is regarded as a probationary period. Assessment during this period is based on a combination of examination results and general observation of the behaviour, responsiveness and proficiency in skill development of the Trainee

Technician. A Trainee Technician will be required to successfully complete each phase of training in order to successfully complete the Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Trainee Technician Scheme. In order to progress through each phase.

Trainee Technician's must be deemed:

1. **Technically Proficient** -
   A Trainee Technician must meet the minimum standards laid out in the Heavy Vehicle Mechanic SOLAS Curriculum, T1 07/2011 "The Administration of Courses in the Defence Forces." and Transport Group Standing Orders.
2. **Suitable in terms of Military Discipline and Conduct** -
   Students must meet the minimum standards laid out in the Transport Group Standing Orders and TI 07/2014 "Military Codes of Practice for Instructors and Students in the Training Environment."

3. A Trainee Technician must meet Attendance Requirements in line with SOLUS Apprenticeship Code of Practice for Employers & Apprentices, should this not be met the Trainee Technician will be removed from the scheme

The School Commandant of the Transport School and Officer Commanding Transport Group will assess the performance and suitability of each Trainee Technician prior to the conclusion of each phase of training. Failure of students to meet the standards laid out will preclude them from progression to the next phase.

If the School Commandant of the Transport School and Officer Commanding Transport Group finds that a Trainee Technician is unlikely to become proficient or their performance is otherwise unsatisfactory, they may:

1. Apply for a line position in their designated Corps.
2. Apply to return to their Parent Unit.
3. In either case, they may repeat examinations in their own time in order to apply for readmission to the scheme.

Should a Corporal who reverted in rank to Line Private in order to undertake training for appointment as a Private Technician fail to successfully complete training or fail examinations they:

1. Will not automatically be reinstated to the rank of Cpl.
2. May apply for a line position in his/her designated Corps, or apply to return to Parent unit.
3. May repeat examinations in their own time in order to apply for readmission to the scheme.

On successful completion of training, postings will be decided by Corps Assignment Board.

Technical Pay

On qualification, the Heavy Vehicle Mechanic Trainee Technician will be eligible for Group 3 technical pay subject to vacancies and appointment by the Corps Assessment Board.

Role of the Transport Corp Service Technician in the Transport Corp

Defence Force Heavy Vehicle Mechanics can be employed in DFTC, 1 Bde, 2 Bde, Air Corps or the Naval Service and in overseas missions where the Defence Forces have units servicing, in a role commensurate with their trade, experience and rank.

Overseas Missions

The Defence Forces currently operates a fully equipped Vehicle Workshop overseas, located in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The workshop gives the Heavy Vehicle Mechanic the unique opportunity to work on soft skin and armour vehicles on a daily basis. All Technicians will be expected to serve overseas from time to time in a role commensurate with their trade, experience and rank.

For further information, please see the following Defence Forces Documents.

- Admin Instruction 03/2002 Army Trainee Technician Scheme.
- Annex A Admin Instruction 03/2002.
- I Expenses Direction 2009.
- DFR S3 Pay and Allowances.
- TI 04/2002 Army Trainee Technician Scheme.
- Tl 07/2011 Conduct and Administration of Authorised Courses in the Defence Forces.
- TI 09/2013 Administration of DF Service Undertakings.
- TI 07/2014 Military Codes of Practice for Instructors and Students in the Training Environment.

Discharge and Re-enlistment for the Purpose of Training as a Technician

Personnel selected to undergo technician training will be discharged from the Defence Forces in accordance with Para 58 Column (1) (u) of DFR Al0 'For the purpose of re-enlistment.'

Personnel will concurrently be re-enlisted in accordance with Para 8 (10) (e) (ii) of DFR Al0 'For training as Technicians' for a length of time commensurate with the requirements of the undertaking but for not more than 12 years.

Where a trainee technician enlisted prior to Jan 1994 and needs to be re-engaged or continued in service this will be completed by the individual's parent unit prior to the technician training course. They will be re-engaged/continued in service, in order to cover the duration of the undertaking.

ORDNANCE CORPS

Introduction

The Ordnance Corps is a Combat Service Support Corps whose skills knowledge and expertise are essential for the effective and efficient operational function of the Defence Forces, at home and abroad. The Ordnance Corps has both an operational and logistical roles within the Defence Forces.

Logistically the Ordnance Corps provides technical support to the Defence Forces for the

Procurement, Storage, Distribution, Inspection, Maintenance, Repair and Disposal of all items of Ordnance related equipment.

To give an example, consider a rifle. The Ordnance Corps is responsible for the full life cycle of that rifle, from receiving the weapon from the manufacturer, to its storage, maintenance, repair and any modifications or improvements for the duration of its service, and finally its destruction and disposal.

Operationally, the Ordnance Corps has the responsibility of assuring the State's full range of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) capabilities, both at home and while on missions overseas. For a prospective Ordnance technician, the Ordnance Corps offers a continuously challenging and dynamic work environment.

The Ordnance Corps has units in the following locations; Cathal Brugha Barracks Dublin, DFTC Curragh Camp Co Kildare, Custume Barracks Athlone, Collins Barracks Cork, Casement Aerodrome Baldonnel and the Naval Base Haulbowline.

The Ordnance Corp Trainee Technician Scheme

The Ordnance Corps can offer a choice of Trainee Technician (TT) Schemes. Each of these TT Schemes will offer the successful candidate the opportunity to develop a highly specialised skill-set, enabling them to carry out a technical role in the Ordnance Corps as qualified Ordnance Corps Technicians. The Schemes are as follows:

- Armourer–Weapons System Mechanical Technician
- Armament Artificer Instrument (AAI) – Weapons System Electrical Technician

Successful candidates will undertake a 4 year course, comprising of a 3 year (Level 7) Mechanical or Electronic Engineering degree in SETU (or equivalent institute, as decided by the Director of Ordnance) and 1 year job-specific training on their respective trade.

During the summer periods, the trainee technician will undergo specific technical training in the DFTC, where they will gain hands-on practical experience in a specialist repair unit. On successful completion of the Engineering Degree, TTs undergo a final period of on the job training including trade-specific courses.

Armourer

The Armourer Technician is a trained soldier who has expert knowledge of light weapon systems. They ensure that the full schedule of light weapons in the Defence Forces are operational, serviceable and safe to use through inspection, gauging, maintenance and repair.

The duties of an Armourer Technician consist of the inspection, gauging and repair of:

1. Small Arms–rifles, pistols, sub-machine guns, riot control weapons, and their associated stores.
2. Machine Guns–all types including their mountings and associated stores.
3. Mortars–all infantry mortars, their mountings and associated stores.
4. Armament–anti-tank weapons and various turret systems for Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs).
5. Technical Work–Repair of any items of equipment, which are the responsibility of the Ordnance Corps.
6. Miscellaneous–Any other work as directed, such as acceptance testing or appraisal of new equipment.

AAI

The duties of an Armament Artificer Instrument consist of the inspection, repair of:

1. Optical equipment – all types including their mountings and associated stores.
2. Robotic–all types including their mountings and associated stores.
3. EOD – repair and research into most up to date equipment.
4. Weapon Systems–anti-tank weapons and various turret systems for Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs). Fault finding and electronic repair.
5. Technical Work–Repair of any items of equipment, which are the responsibility of the Ordnance Corps.
6. Miscellaneous–Any other work as directed, such as acceptance testing or appraisal of new equipment.

On successful completion of the TT Scheme, the qualified Armourer or AAI, can serve until 62 years of age regardless of rank depending on meeting the prescribe conditions for sign on. With some experience, the qualified Ordnance Technician is eligible to apply for further courses and career opportunities within the Ordnance Corps such as, but not limited to:

- Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) No.2 courses
- Armament Artificers Course (Heavy Weapons)
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear EOD (CBRN EOD)
- Serve overseas with the Ordnance Section in selected missions.

Entry Rank and Educational Requirements

1. **Ordnance Corps Weapon System Mechanical Trainee Technicians (Armourers)**- must be either CAO-qualified or mature students (over 23 yrs). Armourer applicants must be of Cpl, or 3 Star rank. Corporals who wish to enter the scheme must revert to Pte Rank (without loss of Cpl's pay) prior to the commencement of training.
2. **Ordnance Corps Weapon System Electronic Trainee Technician (AAIs)** - must be either CAO qualified or mature students (over 23 yrs). Electronic Trainee Technician applicants must be of Cpl, or 3 Star rank. Corporals who wish to enter the scheme must revert to Pte Rank (without loss of Cpl's pay) prior to the commencement of training.

Period of Training for Armourers

The period of training will be approximately four (4) years from the date of Trainee Technician registration with SETU (or equivalent). The course will comprise of an induction period plus seven (7) training modules, including on the job internal training and external placement in Institutes of education.

PHASE	DURATION	REMARKS
Induction	5 Weeks	Induction training and assessments in SETU (or equivalent)
1	9 Weeks	Ordnance School, DFTC–Summer 1 Workshops
2	30 Weeks 6 Weeks	SETU (or equivalent)- Year 1 Ordnance School, DFTC
3	12 Weeks	Ordnance School, DFTC–Summer 2 Workshops
4	30 Weeks 6 Weeks	SETU (or equivalent)- Year 2 Ordnance School, DFTC
5	12 Weeks	Ordnance School, DFTC–Summer 3 Workshops
6	30 Weeks 6 Weeks	SETU (or equivalent)- Year 3 Ordnance School, DFTC
7	36 Weeks	Ordnance School, DFTC–Armourer's Course

The academic components of phases two (2), four (4) and six (6) are accredited by SETU (or equivalent institution) and upon successful completion students will be awarded a Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC) Level 7 Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Mechanical Engineering. At any stage during the TT training phase, should a trainee technician perform to an unsatisfactory level, he/she will be removed from the scheme and will return to his/her parent unit.

Period of Training for AAIs

The period of training will be approximately four (4) years from the date of Trainee Technician registration with SETU (or equivalent). The course will comprise of six (6) modules, including on the job internal training and external placement in Institutes of Technology.

PHASE	DURATION	REMARKS
1	5 Weeks	Induction training and assessments in SETU (or equivalent)
2, 3 & 4	3 Years, including summer periods	Academic training in SETU (or equivalent) and the summer periods will consist of on-the-job training specific to the trade.
5	9 months (approx.)	On-the-job training, final placement and final TT scheme specific courses.

The academic phases (3, 4 and 5) are accredited by SETU (or equivalent institution) and successful students will be awarded a HETAC Level 7 Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Electronic Engineering. During the AAI TT training phase, should a trainee technician perform to an unsatisfactory level he/she will be removed from the scheme and will return to his/her parent unit.

Technical (Tech) Pay

All graduates of these schemes qualify for additional pay, the level of pay being based on this qualification. This additional pay is also dependent on vacancies being available. The level of pay associated with the specific qualifications can be seen below;

- Armourer – Technical Pay Group 4 (With the possibility of an increase to Group 5 Pay on completion of an Armament Artificer Course)
- Armament Artificer Instrument (AAI) – Technical Pay Group 5

Overseas

The Defence Forces currently have Armourers and AAI's deployed on missions overseas. These missions give the technicians the opportunity to put their technical skills to use in an operational environment overseas. All technicians will be expected to serve overseas from time to time in a role commensurate with their trade, experience and rank.

Posting

On completion of training, qualified technicians may be posted to any unit of the Ordnance Corps depending on the availability of vacancies within units, and subject to the exigencies of the service.

Undertaking

An undertaking, as required by Para 39 of DFR CS3, will be completed by all personnel assigned to undergo technician training. The time period of the undertaking will be prescribed by the Director of Defence Forces Training (DJ7) but for a period not more than 12 years. All Ordnance TTS attract an EIGHT (8) year undertaking commencing at the beginning of Phase 1. Should an individual leave the Defence Forces during this period, the undertaking states that the individual will be required to repay some or all monies expended on his/her training.

Discharge and Re-enlistment for the Purpose of Training as a Technician

Personnel selected to undergo technician training will be discharged from the Defence Forces in accordance with Para 58 Column (1) (u) of DFR A10 'For the purpose of re-enlistment.'

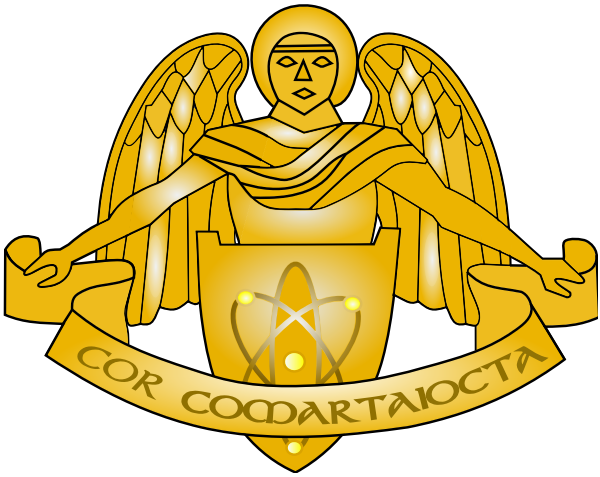
Personnel will concurrently be re-enlisted in accordance with Para 8 (10) (e) (ii) of DFR A 10 'For training as Technicians' for a length of time commensurate with the requirements of the undertaking but for not more than 12 years. Where a trainee technician enlisted prior to Jan 1994 and needs to be re-engaged or continued in service this will be completed by the individual's parent unit prior to the technician training course. They will be re-engaged/continued in service, in order to cover the duration of the undertaking.

Further Information

Potential candidates are advised to read the following for further information:

- DF Administration Instruction 03/02 Army Trainee Technician Scheme
- DF Training Instruction 04/02 Army Trainee Technician Scheme
- DF Training Instruction 09/2013 Administration of Service Undertakings
- DF Training Instruction 06/24 The Conduct and Administration of Authorised Courses in the Defence Forces

- DF Training Instruction 07/14 Military Codes of Practice for Instructors and Students in the Training Environment.
- DF Training Syllabus Armament Artificer Instrument Trainee Technician Scheme AAI.
- DF Training Syllabus Weapon System Mechanical Technician Course.
- DF Training Syllabus Armament Artificer Trainee Technician Scheme AA.



COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION SERVICES CORPS

Introduction

The CIS Corps is a combat support multi-skilled Corps and its mission is to provide the necessary communications and information services for the command, control and administration of the Defence Forces. The CIS Corps provides the support and maintenance of these services.

The CIS Corps has units in the following locations: Casement Aerodrome Baldonnel, Collins Bks Cork, McKee Bks Dublin, Cathal Brugha Bks Dublin and DFTC Curragh Camp.

The CIS Corps is offering a Trainee Technician Scheme leading to qualification as a Communications Information Services Technician (CIST).

The Communication and Information Services Trainee Technician Scheme (TTS)

The purpose of the CIS Corps trainee technician scheme is to provide Communication and Information Services Technicians for the Defence Forces. The scheme offers successful candidates the opportunity of becoming an efficient and disciplined member of the CIS Corps as well as the opportunity to become technically skilled in the area of electronics, telecommunications and computer technology. The system of raining is of the highest standard and should ensure the attainment of the highest qualifications.

The Trainee Technician Scheme in the CIS School is run in conjunction South East Technical University (Carlow Campus) and will lead to the award of an externally accredited HETAC BEng Degree Electronic Engineering (Military Communications Systems) on successful completion by the trainee technician.

The Communications Information Services Technician scheme is a standards based modular scheme. The training comprises of stages as a communications operative, 3rd level academic training, equipment maintenance and practical training modules. Module advancement is dependent on successfully achieving the required standards at each stage.

Each Trainee Technician must successfully complete a six month communications operative course before commencing Phase 2 of the scheme. Academic training comprises a four year degree covering Electronics, Computers and Telecommunications in SETU Carlow together with courses in the CIS School on Radio Theory, Computer Networks and other military technical related subjects.

Equipment maintenance courses are provided on a multitude of Radios Systems, Vehicular Platforms and Radio Power Supply maintenance. In addition to this students are provided

with training on administering network devices, structured wiring including fibre optic cabling and other practical skills. These skills allow a technician to operate within the CIS Corps. These courses will be spread over the full training period.

Each trainee will do On-the-Job Training in CIS Corps unit locations. Attachments will be of a minimum of two months duration and will give the trainee an insight into CIS Corps operations in that region. On completion of his/her training the newly qualified technician will be posted to a CIS Corps unit and will become an integral part of the CIS Corps IT Network support tactical communications and general maintenance structure.

All applications for this scheme whether recommended or otherwise from the parent unit, must be forwarded to the next higher authority. Personnel who enter this scheme will be required to sign an undertaking. The time period of this undertaking is defined by D HRM. This undertaking requires that should an individual leave the Defence Forces during this period, this individual will be required to repay all monies expended on his/ her training.

All graduates of these schemes qualify for additional pay, the level of pay dependent on the qualification. This additional pay is based on vacancies being available. On completion of training qualified technicians, may be posted to any unit of the CIS Corps depending on the availability of vacancies and subject to the exigencies of the service.

Potential candidates are advised to also read the following documents regarding the

- Administration of these schemes:
- Administration Instruction 03/2002
- Army Trainee Technician Scheme Training Instruction TS CIS 08/2019

Entry Rank

Applications to the scheme may be of Corporal or Private 3 Star or equivalent rank. Successful applicants of Corporal rank must revert to Private rank before commencing the scheme.

Educational Requirements

The minimum educational standard is five passes in the Leaving Certificate to include English. A minimum grade of B3 at Ordinary Level Mathematics or equivalent is required.

Mature students (over 23 years) may apply for the scheme without having achieved the Leaving Certificate standard. A very good standard of Mathematics is still essential.

Period of Training Scheme

The training scheme is approximately four years duration. This period of service is regarded as a probationary period. Assessment during this period is based on a combination of examination results and ongoing evaluation of the behaviour, responsiveness and proficiency skill development of the trainee technician. If a trainee technician is reported by his/her Supervising Officer as being unlikely to become efficient or as being otherwise unsatisfactory, he/she will be removed from the scheme and will returned to his/her parent unit.

A Trainee Technician's Course consists of seven phases. A Trainee Technician must successfully achieve the required standard in each phase in order to progress to the next phase.

***Note** there is currently a syllabus change awaiting approval, subject to the new syllabus being approval, applicants will be forwarded the up to date syllabus for their attention.

Phase 1a: a six week induction course in SETU to determine if a candidate is at the appropriate standard to complete a level 7 engineering degree. This intensive period of training is part of the selection process and consists of Workshop Practices, Mathematics, Basic Electronics, Study Techniques and Introduction to Programming. The maximum number of candidates selected to continue onto Phase 1b is as designated by DJ1.

Phase 1b: is the Communications Operative Course TS 199/11.

Phase 2: consists of the first year of the three year course in SETU.

Subjects covered include Mathematics, Engineering Science, Electrical Principles, Electronics, Craft Practices, Technical Communications and Introduction to Computer Programming.

Phase 3: is the summer Year 1 and consists of On-the-Job Training in a Bde/ Formation unit and annual leave.

Phase 4: consists of year 2 in SETU. Subjects covered include Electronic Communications, Digital Electronic Systems, Analogue Electronics Systems, Mathematics, System Design and Test, Computer Programming for Engineers and Industrial Studies.

Phase 5: is summer year 2 and consists of On-the-Job Training in DFHQ/ DFTC and annual leave.

Phase 6: consists of the third and final year, which is run between the CIS School and SETU. Subjects include Analysis of Analogue Circuits, Microcontrollers, Project, Transmission

Lines and Radio Propagation, Mathematics, Computer Networks, Digital Communications, Radio System – Design and Maintenance.

Phase 7: consists of the final On-the-Job Training period.

Technical Pay

On qualification, personnel will qualify for Group 5 technical pay. After a minimum of 5 years and having completed the required Star Tests he/she may become eligible for Group 6 technical pay.

Role of the Communication and Information Service Technician in the CIS Corps

There are four main areas where a Communication and Information Services Technician (CIST) can be employed:

CIS Corps Bde Unit

Located in Dublin and Cork a CIST posted to one of these units may be employed in one of the following areas

- Installation & maintenance of radio equipment within the operational area of the unit/formation.
- Maintenance of radio equipment at field unit level is to module or PCB replacement level. He/she would also be responsible for carrying out preventative maintenance on all radio equipment and for providing technical support to user units of the formation.
- Involved in supporting the Communications Operators in their work.
- Installation & maintenance of the Brigade IT network.
- Installation and maintenance of hardware and network management in their operational area.
- He/she would be involved in the configuration, installation, administration, security and integrity of the local network.
- Part of the technical response team responding to problems arising from the Help Desk.
- Involved in supporting the Communications Operators in their work.

DFTC CIS Group

Located in the Curragh Camp, in this unit a CIST is employed in one of the following sub-units:

CIS Base Workshops

- Module / PCB Repair. As already stated, equipment is repaired to module/pcb replacement at Bde unit level. This faulty item is then sent to the Base Workshops for repair. The CIST in Base Workshops will repair and test this item. The technician is also responsible for assessing the quality of the module and making recommendations on future serviceability as necessary.
- Test and Evaluation. Working in this section as part of a technical analysis team, the technician evaluates all new equipment proposed for purchase by the CIS Corps. The CIST prepares detailed evaluation reports on the quality of the equipment and of its suitability for use by the Defence Forces. In addition, there is a continuous requirement to examine new products and to test their suitability for use with existing equipment. This value-added development work is carried out within this section.
- Preventative Maintenance Inspections. Within this section, the technician carries out evaluations of all equipment in service through testing the equipment against the manufacturer's specification.
- Development of Maintenance Policy for New Equipment. It is the responsibility of the Base Workshops to develop the maintenance policy for all new equipment purchases. This involves undertaking manufacturer's maintenance courses and from this training the CIST must then develop in-house training courses and define the different maintenance levels for the Corps.
- Development of network-enabled capabilities utilising existing CIS resources. A current example of this is the development of Defence Forces Battlefield Management Systems (TBMS/Sitaware giving situational awareness and battlefield management capability). This project currently involves expanding tactical data networks to give a DF Common Operational Picture.

Operations Wing

- Involved in supporting the Communications Operators in their work.
- Installation & Maintenance of DFTC IT Network
- Installation and maintenance of hardware and network management in their operational area.

- He/she would be involved in the configuration, installation, administration, security and integrity of the local network.
- Part of the technical response team responding to problems arising from the Help Desk.

CIS School

Main employment as an NCO Instructor on CIS Corps Courses covering the following subjects:

- Radio theory & radio maintenance.
- Computer programming, network administration, PC configuration, web design and software development.
- Tactical Battlefield Management System.
- Data Communications.
- The CIST NCO Instructor also works closely with:
- Base Workshops technicians in the development of training courses for new equipment.
- The Information Technology Section is responsible for the delivery, development and planning of training courses on network administration and management.

Defence Forces Headquarters CIS Company

Located in Dublin, a CIST in this unit is employed in one of the following areas:

- Operations Management. He/she works as a member of a Technical Support team, responding to callouts from various sections located in Defence Forces Headquarters. This team is also responsible for maintaining the integrity and security of the CIS Network. He/she is responsible for the configuration and installation the Network services required. He/she is also involved in ongoing evaluation of new hardware and software for integration into the Defence Forces networks.
- Communications Group. He/she works as a member of the telecommunications team responsible for operating and maintaining the highly sophisticated voice and data networks deployed on- island and off-island.

CIS SQN (Air Corps)

Located at Casement Aerodrome Baldonnel Dublin a CIST in this unit may be employed in one or all of the following areas.

- Installation and maintenance of all ground radio equipment HF, VHF (Military and Aero band), and UHF.
- Installation and maintenance of all navigational aids in use by the Air Corps
- Installation and maintenance of all Control Tower equipment including ATM (Air Traffic management) Systems, Digital Voice Recording, Voice Switch.
- Test and Evaluation. Working in this section as part of a technical analysis team, the technician evaluates all new equipments proposed for purchase by CIS Sqn. The CIST prepares detailed evaluation reports on the quality of the equipment and of its suitability for use by the Air Corps. In addition, there is a continuous requirement to examine new products and to test their suitability for use with existing equipment. This value-added development work is carried out within this section.
- Involved in supporting the Communications Operators and IT Technicians in their work.
- Installation and maintenance of hardware and network management in their operational area. He/she would be involved in the configuration, installation, administration, security and integrity of the local network.
- The CIST is also part of the technical response team responding to help desk problems.

For further information, please see Defence Forces Administrative Instruction 03/2002 "Army Trainee Technician Scheme" and Syllabus of Training – TS CIS 08/2019 (Amendment 4), both available on IKON.

Discharge and Re-enlistment for the Purpose of Training as a Technician

- Personnel selected to undergo technician training will be discharged from the Defence Forces in accordance with Para 58 Column (1) (u) of DFR A10 'For the purpose of re-enlistment.'
- Personnel will concurrently be re-enlisted in accordance with Para 8 (10) (e) (ii) of DFR A 10 'For training as Technicians' for a length of time commensurate with the requirements of the undertaking but for not more than 12 years.
- Where a trainee technician enlisted prior to Jan 1994 and needs to be re-engaged or continued in service this will be completed by the individual's parent unit prior to the technician-training course. They will be re-engaged/continued in service, in order to cover the duration of the undertaking.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Introduction

The Corps of Engineers is offering a Trainee Technician Scheme that will qualify successful candidates in one of the following trades:

- Electrician
- Plumber
- Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
- Construction Plant Fitter
- Carpenter

The Corps of Engineers Trainee Technician Scheme trains and qualifies military tradespeople in the Defence Forces. Successful candidates will become qualified and experienced Combat Engineers, serving as Technicians in Field Engineer Companies and Overseas. The system of training is of the highest standard and will lead to a trade qualification accredited by SOLAS, the national trades training authority.

An offer of a place on a COE TT Scheme is dependent on the candidate first successfully completing the Combat Engineer Course.

Entry Rank

Applications to the scheme may be of Corporal or Private rank. Successful applicants of Corporal rank must revert to Private rank before commencing the scheme.

Personnel who are subject to a TTS undertaking will not be considered for this scheme.

Educational Requirements

A candidate on entering the TT Scheme will have completed three star military training prior to applying for the scheme. Candidates will be shortlisted after the interview stage and will be required to undergo a Combat Engineer Course in the School of Military Engineering, DFTC. On successful completion of the course candidates will then be offered placements on the TT scheme. Failure to successfully complete the Combat Engineer Course will result in a candidate not being offered a place on the TT Scheme. Further military training will continue throughout the entire period of the scheme.

The minimum educational requirements are a Grade D in five subjects in the Department of Education & Skills Junior Certificate Examination or an approved equivalent.

It should be noted that these are the current approved minimum educational requirements for apprenticeship programs, however, previous experience of the following subjects would be an advantage but not essential: Mathematics, Technology, Technical Drawing/ Graphics, Physics and Construction Studies.

Technical Training

The Trainee Technician Scheme in the Corps of Engineers has been adapted to comply with SOLAS Standards Based Trainee Technician Scheme. Successful completion of the scheme (including Department of Education Junior and Senior Trade Certificates) will lead to the award of FETAC National Craft Certificate. The Trade Union organisations have agreed that Defence Forces personnel trained and qualified under the Corps of Engineers Trainee Technician Scheme may be accepted as qualified trades-persons and on return to civilian life may be admitted as members of the appropriate Trade Unions. Participants in the Trainee Technician Scheme are also encouraged to undertake City and Guilds Examinations appropriate to their trade.

The COE Trainee Technician Scheme is a standard based modular scheme of 4 years duration. The training comprises alternating phases of academic and practical training modules. Phases 1, 3, 5 and 7 are carried out in the operational units of the COE under the supervision of selected trade supervisors and assessors. Where relevant work experience is not available, "on the job" training may be carried out with civilian private contractors and semi state employers at the discretion of the Director of Engineering.

Indicative durations for each phase are as per the table below.

PHASE	TYPE	LOCATION	DURATION
1	On-the-Job	Employer	3–6 Months
2	Off-the-Job	ETB Training Centre	20–22 Weeks
3	On-the-Job	Employer	6–9 Months
4	Off-the-Job	Technological University/Institute of Technology	10–11 Weeks
5	On-the-Job	Employer	6–9 Months
6	Off-the-Job	Technological University/Institute of Technology	10–11 Weeks
7	On-the-Job	Employer	Remainder of Year 4

Trainee Technicians will be required to exercise technical expertise in combination with military skills. Trainee Technicians will be required to carry out standard annual military training in order to maintain their operational readiness and will be required to successfully complete Defence Forces Annual Fitness Test (TI 05/07), Annual Medical and Annual Personal Weapons Tests annually, for the duration of the Trainee Technician Scheme. Failure of students to meet these standards will preclude them from progression to the next phase.

The Trainee Technician Scheme is regarded as a probationary period. Assessment during this period is based on a combination of examination results and general observation of the behaviour, responsiveness and proficiency in skill development of the Trainee Technician. A Trainee Technician will be required to successfully complete each phase of training in order to successfully complete the Trainee Technician Scheme.

Postings

On successful completion of the scheme, postings will be decided by the Corps Assignment Board. The qualified technician may be posted to one of the following Engineer Units:

- 1 Brigade Engineer Group, Collins Barracks, Cork.
- 2 Brigade Engineer Group, Custume Barracks, Athlone.

Overseas

The Corps of Engineers currently have technicians deployed overseas providing critical life support services such as:

1. Operation and maintenance of generators
2. Purification and distribution of water
3. Firefighting services
4. Engineer Specialist Search and Clearance capabilities
5. Camp maintenance
6. Force protection works

Applicants for the Corps of Engineers Trainee Technician Scheme should be aware that technicians are expected to serve overseas from time to time in a role commensurate with their trade, experience and rank. With approval from the Director of Engineering and appropriate supervision, it is possible for Trainee Technicians to complete their "on the

job" phases overseas. This provides Trainee Technicians the opportunity to develop and apply their technical skills in a military environment.

Carpentry

The Carpenter and Joiner cuts, shapes and joins wood and wood based products using a wide range of hand tools, power tools and machines. Carpenters and Joiners use their skills to set out and construct roofs, install floors, stairs and window, built-in furniture and hang doors. They also manufacture doors, windows, stairs and shop-fronts, etc. The Carpenter and Joiner has to study drawings, perform craft calculations and select materials to meet design requirements. Site work includes the construction of buildings and houses which require first and second fixing, including roofing. The place of work may vary, depending on the type of work done could be on site, in a workshop or in a private dwelling. Carpenters and Joiners require many skills including:

- Working with a variety of specialized hand and power tools
- Knowledge of setting out, production and assembly of joinery, which includes stairs, doors, windows, floors, roofs and built-in furniture.
- Interpreting technical drawings and specifications
- Planning and organizing work schedules
- Liaising with other Craftsperson's
- Knowledge of and working to Health and Safety requirements

Electrical

The Electrician is involved in the installation, commissioning, testing and maintenance of various wiring systems and services in domestic, commercial and industrial applications. Work ranges from wiring of domestic houses and retail units to more complex systems involving process control and maintenance in industrial plants, hospitals and power stations. Electricians also service, maintain and repair electrical equipment, both domestic and industrial.

Electricians require many skills including:

- Knowledge of scientific principles
- Performing general electrical installations
- Interpreting technical drawings and specifications

- Planning and organizing the installation of electrical systems
- Inspecting and testing of electrical systems and fault diagnosis
- Performing routine maintenance and repairs on electrical systems
- Knowledge and application of Health and Safety Procedures

Plumbing

The Plumber will be responsible for installing, repairing and maintaining pipes, fixtures and other plumbing used for water distribution, water treatment and waste water disposal in military installations and buildings and to conduct new and refurbishment building works. All works conducted to be compliant with building regulations, installation requirements and relevant legislation.

Plumbers carry out the installation, service and maintenance of a wide range of systems installed inside buildings:

- Cold water.
- Hot water.
- Sanitation systems serving appliances such as water basins and sinks.
- Heating systems fuelled by gas, oil and solid fuel.
- Gas and oil fuelled systems containing appliances such as water heaters and cookers. Plumbers also carry out the installation of systems and supplies external to buildings such as:
    - **i.** Rainwater systems including gutter arrangements.
    - **ii.** Cold water supply pipework.

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning

The Refrigeration and Air Conditioning craftsperson installs, maintains and repairs all types of refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment and systems, domestic, marine, commercial and industrial, including such items as household, hospital, hotel and shop refrigerators, display cabinets, deep freezers, cooling plants, cold rooms and refrigerated transport.

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning crafts persons require many skills including:

- Knowledge of electrical work

- Knowledge of welding
- Knowledge of plumbing
- Inspecting and testing of systems and fault diagnosis
- Interpreting drawings and diagrams
- Performing routine maintenance and repairs

Construction Plant Fitting

A construction plant fitter is a skilled technician who services, diagnoses and resolves technical concerns in mobile equipment used in materials handling for the off-road and on-road construction, excavation, mining, forestry and waste management industries.

The work includes:

- Carrying out the routine service procedures as recommended by the manufacturers
- Diagnosing and resolving problems with the operation of the mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic and electrical systems of machines and equipment such as tracked excavators, forklifts, cranes etc.
- Carrying out all work in accordance with manufacturer's recommended procedures.
- Construction Plant Fitters are required to:
- Observe and adhere to all national and EU Health, Safety and Environmental legislation and precautions relative to their work.
- Read, interpret and adhere to the vehicle manufacturer's instructions when servicing machines and equipment.
- Use specialized equipment to check the operation of the mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, electrical and other systems, recording the results and liaising with the customer.
- Use logical thinking and manufacturer's recommended diagnostic techniques to identify and resolve problems.

Military Training

The Combat Engineer course is designed to develop the character, morale and discipline of the trainee and to instil in him/her a broad knowledge of Combat Engineering Skills. The syllabus includes laying and clearing mines, placing demolitions, constructing bridges,

crossing water obstacles, temporary and permanent camp construction, supply of electrical and water services and other military engineering skills. Much attention is also given to the physical development of the trainee through both physical and adventure training.

Technical Pay

On qualification as a technician and posting to a technical appointment in the Corps of Engineers, personnel may qualify for Group 4 technical pay.

Trade Preference

Successful applicants will only be offered a place on the COE Trainee Technician Scheme if they have specifically applied for that trade as detailed in their initial application form.

Persons, who volunteer to undertake the COE Trainee Technician Scheme, do so in the full knowledge that they may be posted to their new Corps, Unit and trade on successfully completing technician training.

In general, Trainee Technicians will remain on the strength of their parent units until they complete their training and qualify. Thereafter, they may be posted to a technical appointment only if vacancy exists, in accordance with the decisions of the Corps Assignment Board.

Potential candidates are advised to also read the following documents available on IKON regarding the administration of these schemes:

1. Administration Instruction 03/2002 Army Trainee Technician Scheme
2. Army Trainee Technician Scheme Training Instruction TI 04/02

All applications for this scheme will be completed through the Candidate Manager System on the Defence Forces website www.military.ie.

TTS Undertaking

Personnel who enter this scheme will be required to sign an undertaking.

The period of time of this undertaking is defined by J1 Branch. This undertaking requires that should an individual leave the Defence Forces during this period, this individual will be required to repay all monies expended on his/ her training.

Further information on undertakings is detailed in the following Training Instruction:

- Administration of Service Undertakings TI 09/2013.
- Discharge and Re-enlistment for the Purpose of Training as a Technician
- Personnel selected to undergo technician training will be discharged from the Defence Forces in accordance with Para 58 Column (1) (u) of DFR A10 'For the purpose of re-enlistment.'
- Personnel will concurrently be re-enlisted in accordance with Para 8 (10) (e) (ii) of DFR A 10 'For training as Technicians' for a length of time commensurate with the requirements of the undertaking but for not more than 12 years.
- Where a trainee technician enlisted prior to Jan 1994 and needs to be re-engaged or continued in service this will be completed by the individual's parent unit prior to the technician training course. They will be re-engaged/continued in service, in order to cover the duration of the undertaking.

Notes

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