

EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL OPERATOR

THE ROLE



As an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Operator, you are our Defence Force's technical specialists in neutralising all types of explosive hazards and threats. This means you will be extensively trained and equipped to detect, identify, render safe and dispose of munitions and explosives – such as Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), including those that involve Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) materials.

You will work in a Squadron that is an operational sub unit of the 1st New Zealand Special Air Service Regiment. You will therefore need to maintain high standards in your field of expertise, your soldier skills, and in your physical and mental fitness.

This is a challenging and rewarding specialised role, where you will work in small, highly trained teams with people from other Defence Force units, Government agencies and allied or partner militaries.

JOB ON CAMP

As a qualified EOD Operator you will conduct regular 'on call' or duty periods providing an immediate response to UXOs, IEDs, and any other explosive hazard or threat related incident occurring within New Zealand. Most often you will work in support of the New Zealand Police, New Zealand Fire Service and a range of other Government Agencies. In your role you will contribute to the safety of all New Zealanders from conventional and improvised explosive hazards.

You will be trained to operate bomb disposal equipment ranging from robotics to technical detection, diagnostic and explosive disposal.

JOB ON DEPLOYMENT

EOD Operators deploy to a number of international locations on operational and training missions. Wherever there is unexploded munitions, explosives or homemade bombs, the Defence Force needs EOD Operators present. In recent years EOD Operators have deployed to Afghanistan, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Iraq.

Your skills contribute directly to helping keep other deployed personnel – from our Defence Force, other Government Agencies and allied or partner militaries – and the local population safe from UXOs, IEDs, and other explosive hazards.

In your normal duties you will conduct planned and immediate tasks to locate, identify and dispose of unexploded ordnance, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices. You will respond to incidents and emergencies which could range from safely disposing of unexploded munitions to identifying and rendering safe an improvised explosive device.

At times, our EOD Operators are responsible for training and mentoring foreign military and government security personnel, so you could find yourself passing on your valuable skills to help keep local communities safe.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Once you are qualified as a Corporal, you could be selected to complete Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (IEDD) Team Leader training, where you will be responsible for the leadership of a small team of highly trained experts. It will be your job to coordinate an incident and formulate a plan to disarm explosive devices.

PAY & BENEFIT DETAILS

Careers in the Army are well-rewarded, as well as being diverse and exciting. As you become more experienced and move up through the ranks, gaining additional skills and qualifications, you will see your salary rise accordingly.

While undertaking Initial Recruit Course you will be paid as a Recruit (see [pay table](#)). On completion of your Recruit Course you will be paid as a Private and your pay will continue to increase as your career progresses.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- You must be at least 17 years of age.
- Meet the [citizenship & security](#) requirements to gain SV security clearance for this trade.
- Driver's Licence: A Class 1 restricted driver's licence is desirable.
- Computer skills are preferred.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

You must have achieved NCEA level 1 with a minimum of 12 credits in level 1 Science.

[Find out more about the NCEA levels and certificate requirements](#)

FITNESS REQUIREMENTS

- You must be [medically](#) fit for service.
- Colour perception restrictions may apply.

TRAINING

BASIC TRAINING

(16 weeks) Location: Waiouru Military Camp

Upon successful enlistment into the Army you will be posted to Waiouru Army base. Here you will do basic military training to find out if you have what it takes to be in the Army, and learn various subjects including:

- Organisation and Administration
- Army Customs and Protocol
- Drill and Parades
- Military Field Skills and Weapon Training
- First Aid
- Physical Fitness

JOB TRAINING

COMBAT CORPS TRAINING

(13 Weeks) Location: Burnham Military Camp (near Christchurch)

As an EOD Operator you will be required to complete this course alongside your Infantry and Armoured Combat Specialist peers. You will continue to improve your physical fitness, weapons, tactics and field-craft skills learnt on Basic Training, to allow you to support combat soldiers on future overseas deployments.

You will learn combat first aid and casualty evacuation, navigation, and how to operate military communications equipment. Other skills learnt on this course include the detailed organisation of combat units, and how they operate together within various types of tasks and conditions.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES INDUCTION COURSE

(10 Days) Location: Auckland

On successful completion of the Combat Corps Training you will conduct the Special Operations Forces Induction Course. This is a physically and mentally demanding course where you will be taught the basics of operating in a special operations environment. This includes revising existing weapons and medical skills, learning new weapons systems as well as tactical vehicle movement and communications skills.

BASIC EOD OPERATORS COURSE

(12 Weeks) Location: Trentham Military Camp (near Wellington)

This covers a number of courses that will teach the skills and knowledge required to operate effectively as a member of an Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Improvised Explosive Device Disposal Team. You will be taught how to operate and maintain the full suite of team equipment, as well as the driving skills required to operate an emergency response vehicle.

At the conclusion of this training, qualified Team Members will be posted to one of the Defence Forces EOD Troop detachments located in our Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch based facilities.

ONGOING TRAINING

INTERMEDIATE EOD OPERATORS COURSE

(12 Weeks) Location: Trentham Military Camp

Once you have gained a suitable level of rank and experience, several years into your career, you may be selected to attend this intermediate level course. This will teach the skills required for you to command an Explosive Ordnance Disposal or an Improvised Explosive Device Disposal Team, and conduct the 'render safe' of explosive hazards and devices.

SPECIALIST TRAINING

Throughout your career you may be selected to attend specialist EOD courses that will enhance your ability to operate in any environment throughout the world.

This may include one or more of the following courses:

- ESR Crimes Scenes Officer Course (forensic awareness)
- Home Made Explosives Course
- Urban Search and Rescue Course
- Critical Incident Management Systems (CIMS – Multi Agency) training
- Post Blast Analysis Course (bomb scene management)
- Advanced IEDD Electronics Course

LOCATION DETAILS

Your initial posting will be to Trentham Military Camp and from here you will complete all necessary technical training. Once qualified as an EOD Operator, you could then be posted to an EOD Response Troop located in our Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch based facilities. You will have the opportunity to live in one of the local military bases.

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