

A DAY IN THE LIFE

Full-Time Service With Navy Lt. j.g. May Oberlin

Active Duty refers to service members employed full time in the Military, which typically equates to a 40- to 50-hour workweek and benefits like health care and paid time off. May serves full time in the Navy and is currently stationed at Fort Meade in Maryland.

May begins her workday by commuting from her apartment in nearby Arlington, Virginia, to base, where she works as a cyber warfare engineer. In her role, she applies the principles of computer science to building tools and programs that detect, block and respond to potential cyberthreats. May’s day typically involves a mix of independent work and collaboration with other Service branches to share threat intelligence and strengthen joint cybersecurity. Any attempt to steal information or disrupt military capabilities will be met with swift defense from cyberwarriors like them.

May and her colleagues use their break room throughout the day to enjoy lunch, grab snacks and step away from their computers for a moment to catch up. These breaks provide a chance to connect with one another, whether they’re talking about work or discussing weekend plans.

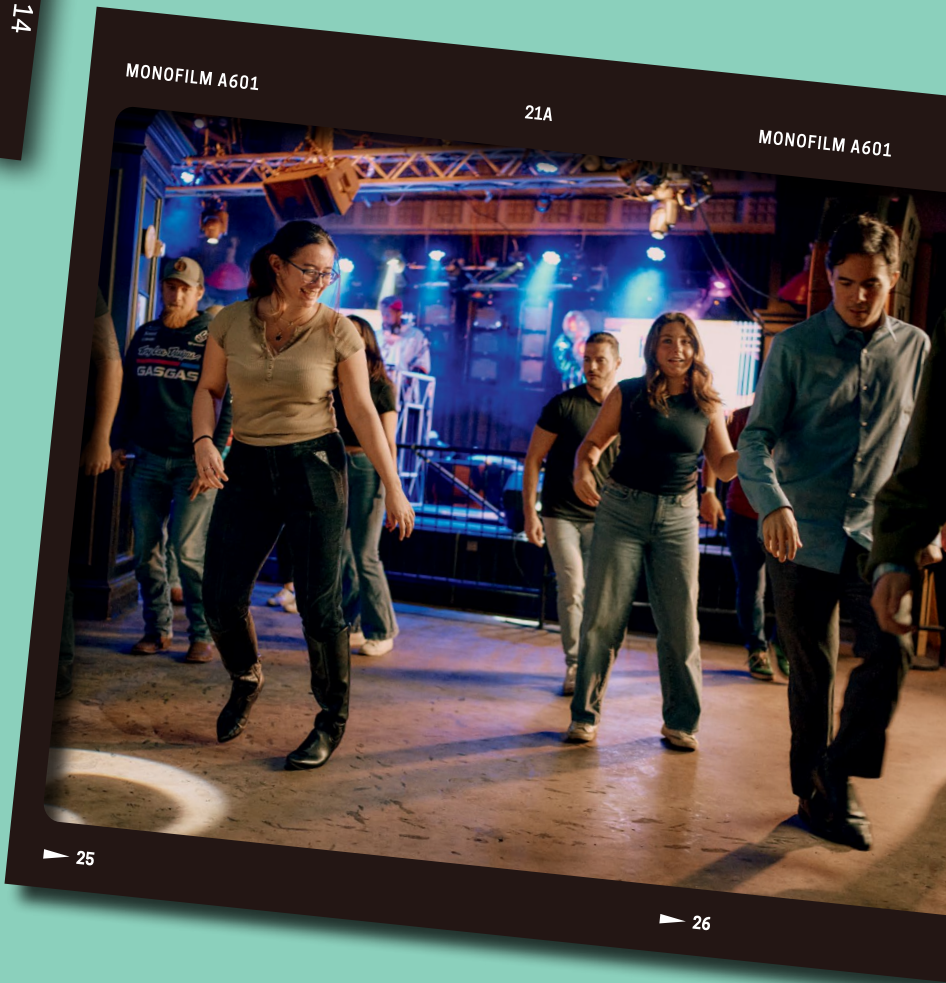


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Since joining, May has expanded her professional network by working with both civilians and service members from other branches. Once she and her team create the tools that help safeguard our national security, they train civilian contractors and defense partners on how to use and maintain them. They all learn from one another by cross-training to develop new skills, like threat analysis and secure coding.

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May is very social and enjoys bringing friends and co-workers together for casual hangouts, video games and trivia nights. Sometimes, for a change of pace, they head into nearby Washington, D.C., to attend a show or concert or stay closer to home to go line dancing in downtown Arlington.



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Becoming a cyber warfare engineer introduced me to peers who share my passion for cyber. The team dynamic we’ve built through training and collaboration is unmatched, and our diverse skills offer crucial perspectives for solving complex challenges.

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