

# How Can I Tell If I Am Going To Be In-Zone For A Promotion Board This Year?

- First, a NAVADMIN message with subject “Notice of Convening FY-XX Active-Duty Navy (Or Navy Reserve) Promotion Selection Boards” setting the “promotion zone” is released. This message establishes the senior and junior person that will be “in-zone” for each grade and competitive category for the upcoming year. The active-duty zone message also includes a “junior eligible.” The junior eligible marks the end of the “below zone” list of eligible officers. Reserve boards do not consider below zone officers for promotion. SECNAV releases the promotion zone message at least 30 days before the first board is scheduled to convene (which is usually the Active-Duty O-6 Line), typically in the middle of December.
- If your active-duty lineal number (or precedence number for reserve officers) is lesser or lower than the number for the junior in-zone officer on the NAVADMIN message, you will be considered “in-zone” by the promotion board. If your lineal/precedence number is lesser or lower than the senior in-zone officer, then you will be considered “above-zone” by the promotion board. If not selected for promotion, above-zone officers continue to be considered for promotion by subsequent boards until discharged or retired. To find your lineal/precedence number please refer to the Professional Overview section under MyRecord on MyNavy Portal (<https://my.navy.mil/>), your Officer Data Card on BUPERS Online (<https://www.bol.navy.mil/>) or the NSIPS Self-Service Member Data Summary (<https://www.nsips.navy.mil/>).
- For active-duty officers, if your number is greater or higher than the junior in-zone but lower than the junior eligible you will be viewed as “below-zone” by the upcoming board. Active-duty boards are allowed to select up to ten percent of the officers selected for promotion from below-zone eligible officers. A below-zone consideration for promotion is a “free” look since non-selection will not incur a failure of selection (or FOS). Depending on varying officer community needs, officers may receive one, two, or occasionally three below-zone looks.