I’m a reserve officer selected for promotion, when will I be promoted?

For reservists (except Full Time Support (or FTS) Unrestricted Line (URL) Officers) promotion phasing is determined by the annual phasing (promotion) plan issued by OPNAV N-13 similar to active-duty officers. Reserve officers that are merit reordered (up to 15 percent of selections authorized) are promoted 1 Oct. The remaining officer promotions are spread over the next eleven months by seniority depending on paygrade and competitive category.

To determine your seniority relative to the other reserve officers selected for promotion in your grade and competitive category, you need to locate your 4-digit seniority number, which can be found next to your name on the ALNAV announcing selection board results. This number is your relative seniority among selects in your competitive category, and can be used to track approximately when you will be authorized to promote. Officers that are merit reordered will be indicated by an asterisk and have their seniority number adjusted to the top of the list (i.e. 0001, 0002, etc.).

The NAVADMIN authorizing your promotion for the first of the month should be available on the NPC website the last week of the month prior to your promotion.

For FTS URL officers, promotion timing is determined by the “Running Mate” system unless the officer was merit reordered. These FTS officers have been assigned, as a running mate, the next junior officer on the active-duty list in the same competitive category having the same grade and date of rank. The FTS URL officer on the reserve active-status list will be in the promotion zone and eligible for consideration for promotion to the next higher grade by a selection board when that officer’s running mate is in or above the promotion zone established for that officer’s grade.

In order to keep dates of rank between active duty and FTS URL officers aligned, a FTS URL officer promotes when his/her active duty running mate (who has the equivalent promotional history) promotes. This means promotions for FTS URL officers may occur at a different rate than promotions for active duty officers, and may result in months where no FTS URL officers are promoted. This occurs because none of the remaining FTS URL officers, selected for promotion, are aligned (seniority wise) with the active duty list officers being promoted in a given month.