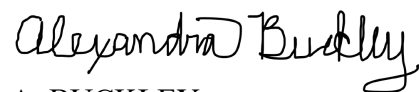


MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subj: UPDATE TO EXTENSION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY BONUS
CERTIFICATION FOR SAILORS AFFECTED BY COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

1. The Navy Deputy Senior Language Authority (OPNAV N13F1) is extending proficiency certification for Foreign Language Proficiency Bonus (FLPB) eligibility until 30 September 2021. This applies to Sailors whose current annual certification may expire due to an inability to test because of ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. This memorandum replaces the previous extension (Ser N13F/003) dated 10 November 2020.
2. Due to the continued suspension of foreign language testing in key fleet concentration areas and closures or limited testing availability at alternative testing sites, the Navy Senior Language Authority (OPNAV N13F) extended the certification of valid Defense Language Proficiency Tests starting on 1 April 2020 for Sailors affected by COVID-19 related restrictions. Although most testing sites are now open, a testing backlog still exists. The intent of extending certification until 30 September 2021 is to provide sufficient time for Sailors to test and to eliminate the backlog.
3. This is a blanket extension, and there is no requirement to request individual waivers to be eligible for this extension. This extension does not preclude Sailors from testing and updating their proficiency certification when testing is available. On the contrary, OPNAV N13F highly encourages testers to do so, as no further extensions are anticipated. It is incumbent upon the individual Sailor to test when testing is available and recertify before expiration of this extension.
4. Additionally, OPNAV N13F encourages language professional communities and organizations with civilian language analysts to employ a similar approach to extend certification of language proficiency for professional standards and Foreign Language Proficiency Pay (FLPP) eligibility.
5. Please do not hesitate to contact the Navy Language, Regional Expertise, and Culture Office (OPNAV N13F) if you have any questions or concerns.
6. My point of contact for this issue is MCPO Laura Stout who can be reached at ALTN_N13F1@navy.mil.



A. BUCKLEY
Navy Deputy Senior Language Authority
OPNAV N13F