

SPECIAL DUTY OFFICER – INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL (DESIGNATOR 1820)

Community Overview: Information Professionals (IPs) are the Navy's Cyberspace Defensive Operations and Communications Officers with subject matter expertise in networks, computer systems, satellite communications, cyber defense, information & knowledge management, and Command and Control. IPs are expected to apply their expertise in support of maritime operations ranging from coordination with Allies, to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, to defense of the Nation against terrorism, and to combat operations. IP officers help translate the requirements of combat forces into capabilities that effectively employ command and control at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of war, under all conditions. The community is responsible for the maintenance, operation, and development of cutting-edge cyberspace systems, as well as global telecommunications and space systems that have been designed to operate under the most adverse conditions, from the deep ocean environment to outer space.

Information Professionals are technically adept, as well as effective communicators, able to translate complex technical issues into operationally relevant information for Naval and Joint Commanders.

Vision: IPs understand the Naval Commander's intent, then harness technology, information, and knowledge to ensure resilient command and control, battlespace awareness, and mission success.

Mission: IPs plan, acquire, integrate, operate, maintain, and secure networks, communications, and combat systems that support the Navy's missions, and ensure they are reliable, available, survivable and secure.

IPs conduct Defensive Cyberspace Operations, securing and protecting Navy information and systems from adversaries and ensuring continuity of operations and mission assurance.

IPs are essential to multi-lateral operations, driving interoperability with the other services in the Department of Defense, other government agencies, Allied, and Coalition partners.

IPs optimize Naval effectiveness through introduction of cutting edge technologies, knowledge management techniques, and a culture of innovation and continuous improvement.

Eligibility Requirements.

Required: A baccalaureate degree with a minimum GPA of 2.80, an Officer Aptitude Rating (OAR) minimum score of 50, US citizenship, the ability to obtain and maintain a Top Secret security clearance, and the physical fitness to deploy world-wide.

Desired: A baccalaureate degree in Information Systems, Electrical or Computer Engineering, Cybersecurity, Computer Science, Systems Engineering, or other STEM technical fields. A curriculum including calculus and calculus based physics (CALC I & II, PHYSICS I & II) is highly desired. Consideration will be given for professional certifications such as Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Global Security Leadership Certification (GSLC), Security+, etc.

Accession Options.

Direct Accession: There are a limited number of USNA and ROTC quotas, as well as a larger number of Officer Candidate School (OCS) quotas available each year to immediately begin as an Information Professional Officer.

Information Professional Option. IP Option Officers are commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) - Students, (designator 1160). These officers are assigned to Division Officer Afloat duties on a ship where they will complete a SWO experience tour and qualify as a Surface Warfare Officer. Following those tours, SWO-IP options are redesignated as IPs (1820) and begin serving in IP specific assignments.

Training Pipeline: New IP Officers attend several training courses:

The IP Basic course is 20 weeks in Virginia Beach, VA before initial assignment. The course covers fleet communications, network operations, and cybersecurity.

The Information Warfare Basic Course introduces new officers to the range of skills that make up the Information Warfare

Community.

The Division Officer Leadership Course helps to prepare new officers for their upcoming leadership roles.

Career Opportunities:

IP Officers serve everywhere there are communications and networks including ships at sea and units ashore, special operations and expeditionary forces, Cyber Mission Forces, the White House Communications Agency and on major Naval and Joint staffs. IP billets span the globe as well. From Norfolk, San Diego, and Pearl Harbor to Bahrain, Italy, and Japan; there are IPs serving at all major Naval installations. There are also IPs in Joint and Coalition commands: Combatant Command staffs, The Joint Staff, the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), NATO, and more.

Postgraduate education is important to the success of the IP community. Many IP Officers will have the opportunity to attend the Naval Postgraduate School to complete a Master's Degree in Network Operations and Technology, Computer Science, Space Systems Operations, Cyber Systems and Operations, or Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Qualification: IP officers are required to complete a series of IP-specific qualifications and to qualify as Information Warfare Officers (IWOs).

Point of Contact

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Web sites:

More Information at navy.com
<https://www.navy.com/careers/information-and-technology/information-professional>



Navy Personnel Command IP site:
<http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/officer/Detailing/IWC/IP/Pages/default2.asp>



Information Warfare Community on FaceBook:
https://www.facebook.com/IWCsync/?ef=br_rs

