

Program Authorization: Officer candidate indoctrination and training for appointment as an ensign, U.S. Navy, designator 1800 (Oceanography) (OCEANO). The provisions outlined in this Program Authorization (PA) shall apply only to the Active Component (AC). Information Warfare Community Management (BUPERS-317) is the officer community manager (OCM).

1. Program Authority: Title 10 U.S. Code section 532.
2. Cancellation: Program Authorization 108B of October 2022.
3. Quota: As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Personnel, Manpower Training, N1.
4. Qualifications
  - a. Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens of the United States.
  - b. Sex: No restrictions.
  - c. Age
    - (1) Applicants must be at least 18 years old and less than 42 at the time of commissioning.
    - (2) Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) (OCEANO option) applicants must not have passed their 29th birthday upon commissioning in line with Surface Warfare Officer Program Authorization 100.
  - d. Education
    - (1) Minimum of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution.
    - (2) Major fields of study directly related to science, meteorology, oceanography, mathematics, physics and engineering are most strongly preferred but not required.
    - (3) A cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or greater on a 4.0 scale is required.
    - (4) Completion of a calculus series (minimum of Calculus I and II) with a “C” or better average and completion of a calculus-based physics series (Physics I and II) with a “B” or better average are required.
    - (5) Waivers will only be granted to applicants who meet the minimum waiverable academic profile code for the Naval Postgraduate School’s Meteorology and Operational Oceanography curriculum.
  - e. Physical: In line with the Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15, candidates must be available for worldwide assignment and be physically qualified for sea duty assignments.
  - f. Duty Preference: Not applicable.
  - g. Marital Status: No restrictions.

h. Program Specific Requirements

(1) Officer Aptitude Rating (OAR): All applicants must take the OAR examination. Applicants must attain a score of 45 or greater.

(2) Work Experience: Prior military or civilian experience in physical oceanography meteorology, hydrographic survey or geospatial information and systems is strongly desired. Military work experience shall be validated with submission of the applicant's three most recent observed enlisted performance evaluations. This requirement may be waived.

(3) Leadership: A quantifiable record of leadership, management or supervisory experience in academia, civilian and/or military organizations is strongly preferred.

(4) Security Clearance Eligibility: Candidates must meet the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) 704 eligibility standards for access to sensitive compartmented information.

(a) Applicants who are recommended for a commission are required to complete a pre-nomination interview with the local special security officer prior to final selection as an officer candidate.

(b) Being a dual citizen (i.e., U.S. citizen and a citizen of another country) is not necessarily disqualifying criterion. Associated risks to national security will be determined on a case-by-case basis, refer to ICD 704.

5. Waivers: In cases where the applicant does not meet all the qualifications but otherwise has an exceptional record or proven skillset required by the Navy, a waiver may be authorized in limited numbers. If a waiver is requested, applicants should use the steps that follow. Waiver requests must be adjudicated prior to the convening of the selection board.

a. Application Contents: Letter with formal request from applicant on desired waiver(s).

b. Routing: Waiver requests routed from recruiter to the OCEANO OCM and then to Commander Naval Recruiting Command (CNRC).

c. Approval Authority: Any single waiver, apart from age, may be adjudicated by CNRC. If more than one waiver is required and if still recommended for approval, the request must be forwarded to BUPERS-31 for consideration. Age waivers may be granted to both OCEANO applicants and SWO (OCEANO option) applicants by BUPERS-31 with recommendation by CNRC.

d. Notifying the Applicant: CNRC will notify the applicant of waiver status.

6. Accession Source

a. Civilians.

b. Enlisted personnel of the regular Navy or Navy Reserve (active and inactive) or enlisted personnel of the other armed services with an approved conditional release for inter-service transfer.

7. Indoctrination: Selectees will complete Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Officer Training Command, Newport, RI.

8. Enlistment: Civilians and enlisted applicants in the paygrades of E-4 and below, who are selected for this program are designated officer candidates and advanced to paygrade of E-5 upon reporting to OCS. Enlisted applicants in paygrades of E-5 and above are designated officer candidates in their present paygrades.

9. Constructive Entry Credit: Not applicable.

10. Appointment

a. Candidates will be commissioned in the restricted line of the U.S. Navy as an ensign, designator (1800).

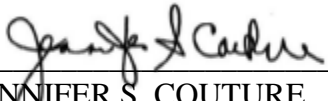
b. SWO (OCEANO option) will be commissioned in the unrestricted line of the U.S. Navy as an ensign, designator 1160 (Surface Warfare Officer Student), additional qualification designator of "LOD". Officers will be redesignated to 1800 without board action per MILPERSMAN 1212-050 Information Warfare Community (IWC) Option Program.

11. Service Obligation

a. Selectees will incur a four-year Active Duty obligation from date of appointment. The balance of service, sufficient to complete eight years total obligated service may be served in a Ready Reserve status.

b. SWO (OCEANO option): Upon redesignation to 1800, SWO (OCEANO option) officers incur an additional minimum service obligation in line with MILPERSMAN 1212-050 from date of designator change to be served concurrently with any other obligations.

12. Pay and Allowances: Upon commencing OCS, selectees will receive pay and benefits based on paygrade outlined in paragraph 8.

Approved:   
JENNIFER S. COUTURE  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Director, Military Personnel  
Plans and Policy (OPNAV N13)

Date: 26 Feb 25