

Program Authorization. Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP) appointment as prospective medical department staff corps officers of the U.S. Navy as full-time scholarship students in the AFHPSP, designator 1975, 1985, 1995 and 1905. Medical Department Officer Community Manager (BUPERS-315) is the Active Component (AC) medical department officer community manager (OCM).

1. Program Authority: Title 10 U.S. Code sections 531, 532, 533, 2120 through 2128 and OPNAVINST 1520.39A, Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program.

2. Cancellation: Program Authorization 130, June 2010.

3. Quota: As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education) (DCNO N1).

4. Qualifications:

a. Citizenship: Applicants must be United States citizens.

b. Age: Applicants must be commissioned before their 42nd birthday. Waivers will be considered on a case by case basis as in line with subparagraph 5a.

c. Education:

(1) Must be accepted for admission to, or enrolled in an accredited institution in the U.S. or Puerto Rico and in a course of study for a designated health profession. For completed undergraduate course work, a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale must have been maintained. During program participation, the officer must maintain status as a full-time student.

For Medical Corps (MC) Only: For completed undergraduate course work, a GPA of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale must have been maintained. Applicants must have a minimum Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) score of 500 with minimum subsection scores of 124 in each of the four subsections. Waivers will be considered on a case by case basis as per paragraph 5. b. During program participation, the officer must maintain status as a full-time student.

(2) Educational progress will be monitored by the program manager, Bureau of Navy Medicine (BUMED), Navy Medicine Accessions Department and Total Force Directorate (M1). A curriculum plan that demonstrates course requirements and projected completion date will be submitted with the application and updated as directed by BUMED M1. Participants may be disenrolled from the program by Chief of Navy Personnel (Navy Personnel Command, Reserve Personnel Management (PERS-9)/BUMED M1) if they fail to maintain school or military standards.

(3) Official transcripts may be required for submission to BUMED M1 upon completion of each school term. Failure to disclose complete academic transcripts or evidence of tampering in any way will result in disenrollment.

(4) The MC uses this program as the primary accession source for Navy physicians. Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (CNRC), MC OCM, BUMED M1 and BUMED, Chief Medical Corps' (M00C1) office work together to maximize prospective medical department physician gains through this program.

For MC only: Applicants must take and pass the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) parts I, IICK and IICS or the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX) levels I, II CE and II PE prior to graduating and superseding to active duty. USMLE or COMLEX Part I of the examination must be completed before the beginning of the 3rd-year of the academic curriculum of medical/osteopathic school. Failure to pass these examinations after two attempts or failure to obtain a valid state license following completion of internship will result in redesignation and completion of incurred active duty service obligation in another community or separation from the U.S. Navy and recoupment of Navy expenditures according to the terms and provisions of the service agreement and applicable Navy regulations.

(5) The dental corps (DC) uses this program as the primary accession source for Navy dentists. CNRC, DC OCM, BUMED M1 and the BUMED, Chief Dental Corps' (M00C2) office work together to maximize prospective dental officer gains through this program.

For DC only: Applicants must take and pass Parts I and II of the National Board Dental Exam (NBDE) prior to graduating and superseding to active duty. NBDE part I must be taken at the beginning of the 3rd-year academic curriculum of dental school. Applicants must take part II of the NBDE in December during the 4th-year academic curriculum. Failure to pass these examinations after two attempts may result in separation from the program. Failure to obtain a valid state license within 1 year of reporting to active duty will result in redesignation and completion of incurred active-duty service obligation in another community or separation from the U.S. Navy and recoupment of Navy expenditures according to the terms and provisions of the service agreement and applicable Navy regulations. Applicants from states that require a 5th-year (PGY-1) of training prior to licensure will be allowed an additional 6 months to obtain their license.

(6) The medical service corps (MSC) uses this program specific to specialty. The MSC OCM, in conjunction with BUMED M1 and the BUMED, Chief Medical Service Corps' (M00C4) office, reviews and designates which specialties in the MSC are eligible for this program as referenced in a memorandum to CNRC. Subparagraphs 4c(6)(a) through 4c(6)(d) provide specific guidance to the physician assistant, optometry, podiatry and clinical psychology specialties. On-line degree programs are not currently allowed under this Program Authorization.

(a) For physician assistants, applicants must be enrolled in or accepted for transfer to an accredited college, university or school of study for a Master's Degree in Physician Assistant

studies. Applicants must be enrolled in a program accredited through the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (see www.arc-pa.org). Degree requirements must be completed within 12 to 24 months after enrollment to accommodate the standard 2-year program. The benefit can be extended up to 30 months to accommodate those academic programs requiring 30 months to complete. Determination of a 30-month contract will be made prior to the applicant's entry into the program by the professional review board. Applicants must have an approved degree or course of study completion plan prior to enrollment in order to determine the projected graduation or completion date. Applicants must pass the Physician Assistant National Certification Exam (PANCE) at the completion of their program prior to superseding to active duty. Failure to pass the PANCE examination after two attempts will result in separation from the U.S. Navy and recoupment of Navy expenditures according to the terms and provisions of the service agreement and applicable Navy regulations.

(b) Optometry applicants must be enrolled in an optometry program that is accredited by the Council on Optometric Education of the American Optometric Association. Participants must be eligible to be licensed by passing parts I, II, and III of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry prior to superseding to active duty. Optometrists must obtain their license within 1 year of entering active duty.

(c) Podiatry applicants must be enrolled in a program accredited by the Council on Education of the American Podiatry Association. Applicants must complete part I of the examination before the beginning of the 3rd-year academic curriculum and provide results to the AFHPSP program manager's office by 15 September of the 3rd-year academic curriculum. Part II of the examination must be taken and passed by 15 October of the 4th-year. Failure to pass these examinations after two attempts may result in separation from the program. Failure to obtain a valid state license within 1 year of reporting to active duty will result in redesignation and completion of incurred active duty service obligation in another community or separation from the U.S. Navy and recoupment of Navy expenditures according to the terms and provisions of the service agreement and applicable Navy regulations.

(d) Clinical psychology applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program (Ph.D. or PsyD) in clinical or counseling psychology that is accredited by the American Psychological Association and must have successfully completed at least 1 year of the program. Applicants must submit a letter from their training director certifying that they are in good standing in their doctoral program and graduate school transcripts for review by the clinical psychology specialty leader in order to be considered for a scholarship. Failure to submit transcripts or failure to advance in the clinical training program may result in separation from the program. Applicants are required to enroll in the Navy's internship program following completion of their doctoral program. Applicants are required to become licensed within 18 months following completion of their 12-month internship. Failure to obtain a valid state license within 18 months of internship completion will result in redesignation and completion of incurred active-duty service obligation in another community or separation from the U.S. Navy and recoupment of Navy expenditures according to the terms and provisions of the service agreement and applicable Navy regulations.

(7) The nurse corps (NC) uses this program for graduate level nursing programs. Direct entry masters of science in nursing (MSN) degrees i.e., students with a non-nursing bachelor's degree wishing to pursue a nursing degree are eligible. The program will be completed within 24 months from the start of the program. Online degree programs for direct entry MSN are not currently allowed under this program authorization.

(a) Applicants must be enrolled full-time in or accepted for transfer to a college or university and its nursing school, which confers a graduate degree in nursing accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

(b) Upon graduation direct entry MSN students must obtain and maintain a valid unrestricted license to practice as a professional registered nurse from a state, territory or the District of Columbia based on the National Council Licensing Examination - Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN), provided by the National Council of State Board of Nursing. The NCLEX-RN examination must be taken at the first opportunity following graduation and prior to reporting for active duty.

d. Physical: In line with the Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15 and as detailed in DoD Instruction 6130.03 of 6 May 2018, Medical Standards for Appointment, Enlistment, Or Induction in the Military Services.

e. Duty Preference: Not applicable.

f. Program Specific Requirements:

(1) Selection: Using approved processing protocol, applications containing all required documents will be forwarded by CNRC to the appropriate corps professional review board for evaluation. The director of the specific corps will recommend to CNRC those applicants eligible for selection into this program. CNRC retains final selection authority.

(2) Training: Members of AFHPSP must serve on active-duty for a period of 45 days each year while in a student status. Pay and allowances during the 45 days active duty training period will be in the grade of O-1 unless current law directs otherwise. Longevity for previous military service is creditable for pay purposes. Uniforms must be worn during periods of active duty served at a military facility.

5. Waivers:

a. In cases where the applicant exceeds the age to be commissioned, but otherwise has an exceptional record or proven skillset required by the Navy, a waiver may be authorized in limited numbers. When considering an age waiver request, strong emphasis will be place on undermanned specialties and those with a pattern of missed recruitment goals. An age waiver will be considered for applicants between the ages of 42 and 47. If a waiver is requested, then follow the steps below prior to the convening of the selection board.

(1) Application Contents: The member should formally request a waiver via personal letter and provide justification.

(2) Routing: Age waiver requests will be routed to CNRC. Waivers cannot be sub-delegated below the flag officer level and CNRC will maintain on file written justification for each waiver granted. Additionally, CNRC will coordinate with the appropriate AC MC OCM on each request received.

(3) Approval Authority. CNRC.

(4) Notifying the Applicant. CNRC will notify the applicant of waiver status.

b. Applicants who do not meet undergraduate GPA or MCAT criteria for MC HPSP, then follow the steps below prior to the convening of the MC HPSP Professional Review Board (PRB).

(1) Application Contents: The member should formally request a waiver via personal letter and provide explanation of exceptional circumstance.

(2) Routing: GPA and MCAT waivers will be routed to the to the President of the MC HPSP Professional Review Board (PRB) via the MC Program Manager at CNRC.

(3) Approval Authority: President of the MC HPSP PRB.

(4) CNRC will notify the applicant of waiver status.

6. Accession Source:

a. Civilians.

b. Enlisted personnel of any branch of the armed forces (Active or Reserve) provided an appropriate conditional release is authorized. Prior Navy enlisted service personnel are required to submit a copy of their enlisted performance summary record in addition to the most recent 3 years of evaluations.

c. Commissioned personnel of any branch of the armed forces (Active or Reserve) who are not otherwise eligible for inter-service transfer or superseding appointment, provided conditional release (other services only) or contingent release (USN/USNR only) is approved by the member's service component.

d. Midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy in numbers authorized by the DCNO N1 and designated as eligible by the Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy.

e. Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) midshipmen in numbers authorized by the DCNO N1 and designated as eligible by the Commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC).

7. Indoctrination: Officers will attend military orientation training at Naval Officer Development School in Newport, RI.

8. Enlistment: Not applicable.

9. Constructive Entry Credit:

a. Entry grade credit will be awarded per DoD Instruction 6000.13 of 30 December 2015 (Accession and Retention Policies, Programs, and Incentives for Military Health Professions Officers (HPOS)) and OPNAVINST 1120.4C (Appointment Of Regular And Reserve Officers in the Medical Corps of the Navy) prior to commissioning.

b. Inter-Service Transfers: DoD Instruction 1300.04 (Inter-Service Transfer of Commissioned Officers) will determine entry grade and date of rank of medical officers transferred from other uniformed services into the MC of the U. S. Navy.

10. Appointment:

a. Medical/osteopathy (designator 1975), dental (designator 1985), MSC (designator 1995), NC (designator 1905), as ensign U.S. Navy Reserve, inactive.

b. If eligible under provisions of other statutes, students may obtain active duty base pay greater than O-1.

c. For appointment in the MC (2100), upon graduation officers will be commissioned in line with OPNAVINST 1120.4C.

d. For appointment in the DC (2200), upon graduation officers will be commissioned in line with OPNAVINST 1120.5B (Appointment of Regular and Reserve Officers in the Dental Corps of the United States Navy).

e. For appointment in the MSC (2300), upon graduation officers will be commissioned in line with OPNAVINST 1120.8A (Appointment of Regular and Reserve Officers in the Medical Service Corps of the Navy).

f. For appointment in the NC (2900), upon graduation officers will be commissioned in line with OPNAVINST 1120.7A (Appointment of Regular and Reserve Officers in the Nurse Corps of the Navy).

11. Service Obligation:

a. Active Duty:

(1) Computation of obligation is based upon OPNAVINST 1520.39A which states that appointees incur 1 year for each year in the program. For periods of less than a year, 6 months is added for each additional 6 months of participation. Periods of 15 days or more will be counted as a 6 month period.

(2) Appointees who incur an active duty obligation of less than 3 years will be required to serve a 3 year minimum term of active-duty service.

(3) Obligated service incurred under this program is in addition to any other unfulfilled active-duty service obligation.

b. Total service obligation is 8 years. Time not served on active duty will be served in the Selected Reserves or Inactive Ready Reserves component.

c. Members will be required to sign a written agreement that stipulates the member will:

(1) Accept an appointment, if tendered, in the appropriate officer corps, USN on the active duty list upon completion of the AFHPSP.

(2) Agree to serve any active duty obligation incurred as a result of participation in the AFHPSP or any portion thereof.

(3) Agree to complete any active-duty obligation as a result of voluntary withdrawal or deficiency in conduct or studies through appointment, if tendered, as a commissioned officer, unrestricted line, USN on the active duty list. If not qualified for reappointment, the member will be required to reimburse the government for all costs incurred as a result of participation in the AFHPSP. The Secretary of the Navy may waive this requirement when such a waiver is in the best interest of the government. Members not qualified for reappointment will be processed for administrative separation under SECNAVINST 1920.6C (Administrative Separation of Officers).

(4) Acknowledge they are aware of license and certification requirements. The expense of maintaining a license to practice is the responsibility of the officer.

(5) Acknowledge they are aware that they will be called to active duty immediately upon completion of course requirements.

12. Pay and Allowances:

a. Tuition and authorized fees for each member of the program will be paid by contracts with the educational institutions. Contracts will be administered by BUMED M1.

b. Members will be eligible for reimbursement for costs incurred for required textbooks, equipment and supplies. Dated, itemized purchase receipts and certification by the educational institution are required for all requests for reimbursement. Reimbursement will be limited to expenses normally incurred by students at the same institution who are not members of the program. State and local taxes will not be reimbursed.

c. Members will be paid a monthly stipend while on inactive duty at the rate specified annually by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) (ASD (HA)).

d. Initiation of the monthly stipend will begin on the later of three following dates also known as the benefit start date (BSD): the date the member signs the oath of office, the date the member signs the program agreement/contract and the start date of the academic year.

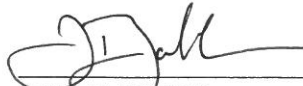
e. Members who become eligible for program benefits during an academic session will be eligible for full term tuition. The BSD determines the start date of the stipend.

f. Payment of the stipend will continue until the date of graduation unless the member is suspended or disenrolled from the designated course of study.

g. Payment of the stipend will be terminated upon completion of the academic program when that date precedes graduation by more than 45 days.

h. Receipt of the stipend does not preclude acceptance of payment from the civilian education/training institution, as long as the member does not incur any service obligation following graduation for the payment(s).

i. Pay and allowances of the pay grade O-1 will be paid for periods when the officer is on active duty for training unless current law directs otherwise. Longevity for previous military service is creditable for pay purposes.

Approved: 

J. T. JABLON
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Director, Military Personnel Plans
and Policy (OPNAV N13)

Date: 3 Jun 19