

Program Authorization: Seaman to Admiral-21 (STA-21) nurse corps (NC) option commissioning program. STA-21 NC option will facilitate the completion of a baccalaureate degree and enhance upward mobility opportunity for enlisted personnel to obtain a commission, designator 2900. Medical Department and Nurse Corps Officer Community Manager (BUPERS-315) is the NC officer community manager (OCM). Commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) is the program manager.

1. Program Authority: Title 10 U.S. Code sections 532, 2013, 6323 and 12201 through 12209.
2. Cancellation: Program Authorization 150H, October 2011.
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 citizens of the United States.
 - b. Age: Applicants must be commissioned before their 42nd birthday.
 - c. Education

(1) STA-21 NC option participants will attend Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) affiliated colleges or universities with nursing programs that confer a baccalaureate degree in nursing that is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

(2) Participants will be enrolled as full time students throughout the year (including summer sessions).

(3) Participants must remain at the university in which they initially enrolled and will not be permitted to transfer to another university while participating in STA-21 NC option program.

(4) Participants are exempt from the two semester calculus and calculus-based physics minimum requirement of STA-21 core program. However, they are required to meet the math and science requirements of their nursing degree program.

(5) Participants must be able to complete requirements for a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an ACEN or CCNE accredited program at a NROTC affiliated college or university within 36 consecutive months from date of enrollment.

(6) Participants must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

(7) Applicants must be accepted by the university to which he or she is applying, and have a minimum of 45 quarter or 30 semester credit hours in undergraduate nursing prerequisite

courses. Credit hours may be a combination of traditional classroom courses, college level entry program credit, on-line or distance learning programs or military training credits provided the school to which the application is made accepts the non-traditional credits.

(8) Applicants must provide SAT or ACT scores. Minimum SAT is 1000 (500 math and 500 verbal) or 41 ACT score combined math/english (not less than 21 math and 20 english).

(9) Participation in a non-mandatory co-op or work study program will not be authorized if such participation will cause delay in the projected graduation date.

(10) Selectees will not be permitted to extend their projected graduation date, cease attending classes, change majors, enter exchange programs or transfer schools without specific approval of NSTC. Failure to obtain prior approval may result in disenrollment.

(11) In addition to disenrollment for academic reasons, candidates may be disenrolled because of discipline/moral problems (drug usage, civil convictions, etc) by DCNO N1 as recommended by NSTC.

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

e. Duty Preference: Not applicable.

f. Program Specific Requirements

(1) License

(a) NC officers must obtain and maintain an unrestricted license to practice as a professional registered nurse from a state, territory or the District of Columbia based on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

(b) Appointment as a NC officer may occur prior to licensure. However, the NCLEX examination must be taken at the first opportunity following graduation.

(c) Obtaining and maintaining a license to practice as a professional nurse is an expense incurred by the individual.

(d) Prior to appointment, applicants will be required to acknowledge in writing that they are aware of the license requirements.

5. Waivers: Not applicable.

6. Accession Source

a. Applicants must be serving on active duty in the U.S. Navy or full-time support. Selected reserve must be on active duty for special work orders. Navy Reservists on active duty for training, including annual training and inactive duty for training. Inactive duty for training personnel are not eligible.

b. Applicants must have no record of court martial convictions or civilian felony convictions, disciplinary action under Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice, or conviction by civil court for misdemeanors (except minor traffic violations) during the 3 years preceding the date of application to STA-21. Any substantiated drug abuse while in an enlisted status is disqualifying.

c. A person who is drug or alcohol dependent, abuses drugs or alcohol or whose preservice abuse of drugs or alcohol indicates a proclivity to continue abuse in the service or who has a record of any trafficking offenses is ineligible.

7. Indoctrination: Before beginning full-time college studies, STA-21 participants must attend the 8-week Naval Science Institute at Officer Training Command in Newport, RI to complete required officer professional core competencies. While attending their selected NROTC affiliated college or university, STA-21 officer candidates will participate in drills with their NROTC unit, attend two naval science leadership courses, and are strongly recommended to hold leadership positions within the unit. Upon completion of their baccalaureate degree program, STA-21 participants will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Navy.

8. Enlistment: Participants in the paygrades of E-4 and below will be designated officer candidates and advanced to the paygrade of E-5. Participants will remain eligible for promotion while participating in the STA-21 Program.

9. Constructive Entry Credit: Not applicable.

10. Appointment: Candidates will be commissioned in the staff corps of the U.S. Navy as an ensign, designator 2900.

11. Service Obligation: Selectees must volunteer to enlist for 6 years from the date of enrollment. Payment of the selective reenlistment bonus is not authorized for selectees who reenlist for the purpose of meeting this obligated service requirement.

a. Selectees will incur a 5-year active-duty obligation upon commissioning.

b. Those STA-21 disenrollees who drop on request prior to commissioning will be obligated for 5 years of enlisted service from the date of program disenrollment or the remainder of their current enlistment, whichever is longer.

c. Those who complete degree requirements but fail to be commissioned will be obligated for 5 years of enlisted service from the date of program disenrollment.

d. STA-21 NC option officer candidates who fail to meet program requirements, but desire consideration for other unrestricted line officer opportunities may contact the nurse corps OCM for information regarding conversion to the STA-21 core program, subject to the requirements of the NC option program. All degree requirements must be complete within 36 months.

e. Additional obligated service may be incurred as a result of special training received following commissioning.

12. Time in Service: In line with Title 10 U.S. Code section 6328, the months of active service in pursuit of a baccalaureate-level degree under the STA-21 program shall be excluded in computing the years of service of an officer who was appointed to the grade of ensign in the Navy upon completion of the program to determine the eligibility of the officer for retirement, unless the officer becomes subject to involuntary separation or retirement due to physical disability. Such active service shall be counted in computing the years of active service of the officer for all other purposes.

13. Pay and Allowances

a. Participants will continue to receive full enlisted pay and allowances, and remain eligible for promotion while participating.

b. Participants will receive an annual \$10,000 education voucher, provided to benefit each participant and paid to the educational institution attended. This voucher will be used to pay tuition, fees, and book costs only. Excess funding for vouchers will be remitted by the educational institution to NSTC as program manager.

c. Participants will pay for any requirements that exceed the \$10,000 voucher. STA-21 students are not eligible for tuition assistance from the Navy's tuition program, but may use Montgomery GI Bill funds and the other Veterans Affairs educational benefits listed in Title 38 U.S. Code section 3681(b) so long as payment is for different courses and not combined to pay for the same course.

Approved:



JOHN B. NOWELL, JR.

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy

Director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy (N13)

Date:

5/13/19