

Program Authorization: Seaman to Admiral-21 (STA-21) Core option commissioning program. This authorization is for the STA-21 Core program only. Additional STA-21 option authorizations are contained in the PA 150 series. Applicants who do not wish to be considered for or are not selected for special options will, if desired, be considered for the STA-21 Core program that allows designator selection during the final year of college studies. Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) is the program manager.

1. Program Authority: Title 10 U.S. Code sections 532, 2013, 6323 and 12201 to 12209.
2. Cancellation: Program Authorization 150, 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 U.S. citizens.
  - b. Age: All applicants must be 19 years old and be able to complete degree requirements and be commissioned prior to age 32. Waivers may be granted as specific option program authorizations allows. Age limitations and waiver requirements for individual option programs are listed in the respective PA (PA 150 series).
  - c. Education:
    - (1) Must be a high school graduate. High school diploma or equivalency certificates based upon military education experience and General Equivalency Diploma test results are acceptable to meet the educational requirements if issued by the Department of Education of a state, commonwealth or territory of the United States of America or the District of Columbia.
    - (2) All STA-21 participants must complete a baccalaureate degree within 36 months from a regionally accredited institution.
    - (3) Participants must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
    - (4) STA-21 Core option selectees must take a minimum of two semesters/three quarters of calculus and calculus-based physics with a passing grade of "C" or better. Calculus and physics taken at other than the host institution must be transferrable to the host institution to satisfy the STA-21 requirement.
    - (5) Specific option programs may require additional education requirements.
    - (6) Selectees will major in a discipline that has direct application to the unrestricted line.

(7) Applicants must provide Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or American College Testing (ACT) assessment scores. Minimum SAT score is 1000 SAT (500 Math and 500 Critical Reading) or 41 ACT combined Math/English (not less than 21 Math or 20 English).

(8) In addition to disenrollment for academic reasons, candidates may be disenrolled because of disciplinary problems (i.e., drug usage, civil convictions, etc.) by the DCNO N1 as recommended by the NSTC Deputy Commander for Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Operations (NSTC N04).

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). Additional medical qualifications will fall in line with the respective STA-21 option PA.

e. Program Specific Requirements: Refer to specific option program authorizations.

5. Waivers: In cases where the applicant does not meet the age limit, but otherwise has an exceptional record or proven skillset required by the Navy, an age waiver may be authorized in limited numbers. If a waiver is requested, follow the steps provided in the specific option program authorization.

6. Accession Source: Must be serving on active-duty with an active duty service date in the U.S. Navy or Full-Time Support. Selected Reservist must be on active duty for special work orders. Navy Reservists on active duty for training, including annual training and inactive duty for training, are not eligible.

7. Indoctrination: Before beginning full-time college studies, STA-21 participants must attend the 8-week Naval Science Institute (NSI) at Officer Training Command 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 pay grade of E-4 and below will be designated officer candidates and advanced to the pay grade of E-5. Participants will remain eligible for promotion while participating in the STA-21 program.

9. Constructive entry Credit: Not applicable.

10. Appointment: Ensign, U.S. Navy, unrestricted line. Designator will be identified at time of service selection. Candidates will choose from unrestricted line communities only (Nuclear, Surface Warfare Officer, Pilot, Naval Flight Officer (NFO), Special Warfare, Explosive Ordnance Disposal options).

11. Service obligation: STA-21 officer candidates will incur a 5-year active-duty obligation upon commissioning. STA-21 Pilot Option officer candidates will incur an 8-year active-duty obligation upon date of designation as a Naval Aviator (designator 1310). STA-21 NFO Option officer candidates will incur a 6-year active-duty obligation upon date of designation as a NFO (designator 1320). Candidates disenrolled from flight training will incur obligation as specified in OPNAVINST 1420.1B (Enlisted to Officer Commissioning Programs Application Administrative Manual).

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 will 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 will be counted in computing the years of active service of the officer for all other purposes.

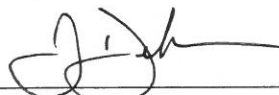
13. Pay and Allowances:

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:

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

Date:

18 Jul 19