

Program Authorization: Reserve Component (RC) Public Affairs Officer (PAO) (designator 1655) Direct Commission Officer (DCO) Program. Reserve Officer Community Manager (OCM) (BUPERS-351) is the RC PAO OCM.

1. Program Authority: Title 10 U.S. Code sections 12201 to 12209.
2. Cancellation: Program Authorization 208 of February 2015.
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: Applicants must be at least 21 years old and less than 42 years old at the time of commissioning. Prior qualifying service will be considered for year-for-year credit up to age 50.
 - c. Education: Bachelor of arts or bachelor of science from an accredited college or university. Graduate education is preferred but not required.
 - (1) Cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
 - (2) Degrees must be in public relations, journalism, advertising, communications, mass communications, radio-television-film, photo-journalism, marketing or other communications related courses of study.
 - (3) Applicants with degrees in other fields may be considered if they have suitable experience in journalism, advertising or other communications related career fields.
 - (4) Educational waiver requests will be reviewed by BUPERS-351G for final adjudication by Commander, Naval Recruiting Command (CNRC).
 - d. Physical: Applicants must meet all requirements prescribed in the Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15.
 - e. Duty Preference: Not applicable.
 - f. Program Specific Requirements:
 - (1) Civilian or previous military work experience must be in public relations, journalism, advertising and marketing, communications, radio-television-film, photo-journalism or other communications related work experience. Relevant public affairs experience in international relations, business or industrial relations is preferred.

(2) Applicants must validate military work experience with submissions from the applicant's service record, including the most recent observed performance evaluations (no less than 3 and no more than 5 years), all positions held, and military training and education completed. Provide documentation concerning any previous military service discharge (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD 214) or Report of Separation and Military Service (NGB 22)).

(3) Applicants must include two officer interviews. One of these interviews must be conducted by a RC PAO at the commander (O-5) or captain (O-6) rank. The second interview may be conducted by any PAO (165X) at the lieutenant commander (O-4) rank or above.

5. Waivers: In cases where the applicant does not meet all of 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, then follow the steps below prior to the convening of the selection board.

a. Application Contents: Education waivers to include letter with formal request from applicant.

b. Routing: Applicant will route waiver request to BUPERS-351G for final adjudication by CNRC.

c. Approval Authority: CNRC.

d. Notifying the Applicant: CNRC.

6. Accession Source:

a. Civilian (U.S. citizens).

b. Enlisted personnel in the Selected Reserve (SELRES) or Individual Ready Reserve of any service. SELRES on extended active duty orders may apply but must complete their active duty obligation under current orders before being commissioned.

7. Indoctrination:

a. Selectees must complete all accession training requirements within 1 year of commissioning.

b. Selectees must complete Public Affairs Officer Qualification Course (DINFOS-PAOQC DL), Phases I and II, within 2 years of commissioning.

8. Enlistment: Not applicable.

9. Constructive Entry Credit: Not applicable

10. Appointment: Candidates will be commissioned in the restricted line of the U.S. Navy as an ensign, designator 1655.

11. Service Obligation:

a. Selectees will incur an 8-year ready reserve obligation, the first 3 years of which must be served in the SELRES.

b. Selectees must maintain eligibility for worldwide assignment.

12. Pay and Allowances: Not applicable.

Approved:



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

Date:

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