

Program Authorization: Reserve Component (RC) special duty officer (Oceanography), designator 1805 Direct Commission Officer (DCO) program. BUPERS-351 is the RC Oceanography (OCEANO) Officer Community Manager (OCM).

1. Program Authority: Sections 12201 to 12209 of Title 10 U. S. Code, OPNAVINST 1120.3C
2. Cancellation: Program Authorization 208B, October 2023.
3. Quota: As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Personnel, Manpower and Training, N1.
4. Qualifications
  - a. Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens of the United States.
  - b. Age: Applicants must be at least 18 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. Waivers beyond age 54 will not be considered.
  - c. Education
    - (1) Minimum of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution is required. This requirement cannot be waived.
    - (2) Major fields of study directly related to science, meteorology, oceanography, mathematics, physics and engineering are most strongly preferred, but not required.
    - (3) An undergraduate cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.8 or greater on a 4.0 scale is required. Candidates with otherwise exceptional qualifications may request a waiver if their cumulative undergraduate GPA is above 2.6. Waivers for a GPA under 2.6 will not be considered. A conferred graduate-level degree from an accredited institution with a cumulative graduate program GPA of 3.0 or greater will supersede an undergraduate degree with a non-qualifying GPA.
    - (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. Waiver requests for the calculus-based physics I course may be considered on a case-by-case basis for candidates with a “C” average in that course. Additionally, waivers for calculus series and calculus-based physics series may be considered for prior National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Officers or applicants that have significant experience in physical oceanography, meteorology, hydrographic survey or geospatial information.
  - d. Physical: In line with the Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15.
  - e. Duty Preference: Not applicable.

f. Marital Status: No restrictions.

g. Program Specific Requirements.

(1) Work Experience: Prior military or civilian experience in physical oceanography, meteorology, hydrographic survey or geospatial information and systems is strongly desired.

(a) Military work experience shall be validated with submission of the applicant's three most recent observed enlisted performance evaluations.

(b) In line with Direct Appointment Program Standard Operating Procedures, COMNAVIFORESINST 1120.1C, temporary rated enlisted personnel shall complete initial training requirements and make their rate permanent prior to applying.

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

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

(a) Applicants are required to complete a pre-nomination interview with the local special security officer prior to the convening of the professional recommendation board.

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

(4) Interviews: Interviews will be conducted in line with COMNAVIFORESINST 1120.1C.

5. Waivers: In cases where the applicant does not meet the education qualifications referenced in Section 4, but otherwise has an exceptional record or proven skillset required by the Navy, waivers may be authorized in limited numbers. If a waiver is requested, follow the steps below prior to the convening of the professional recommendation board.

a. Application Contents

(1) Age: Application package, including a signed maximum age statement of understanding, indicating the applicant acknowledges he or she may not be able to serve long enough to obtain a retirement (regular or non-regular).

(2) Undergraduate GPA and Physics: Transcripts, résumé and (if applicable) three most recent observed enlisted performance evaluations.

b. Routing: Recruiters shall submit waiver requests to RC OCEANO OCM for

recommendation prior to submission to Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (CNRC).

c. Approval Authority: CNRC.

d. Notifying the Applicant: CNRC.

6. Accession Source

a. Civilians (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 while on orders but must complete their Active Duty obligation under current orders before being commissioned.

7. Indoctrination: Selectees will complete the initial accession course within 1 year of commissioning.

a. Selectees will complete the following in consecutive order:

(1) Officer Development School (CIN: P-9E-003), 5 weeks in course length at Officer Training Command Newport, Newport, RI, within one year of commissioning.

(2) Information Warfare Basic Course (CIN: J-3A-2301), 3 weeks in course length at Information Warfare Training Command Virginia Beach, Dam Neck, VA.

(3) Basic Oceanography Accession Training (CIN: S-5A-0011), 7 weeks in course length at Meteorology and Oceanography Professional Development Center, Gulfport, MS.

(4) Meteorology and Oceanography qualification program (NAVEDTRA 43203-G) within 36 months from date of commissioning.

(5) Information Warfare Officer qualification program (NAVEDTRA 43360-A) within 60 months from date of commissioning.

b. Failure to complete and maintain minimum professional requirements in line with COMNAVIFORESINST 1120.1 series (including security clearance eligibility) will result in separation under SECNAVINST 1920.6D (Administrative Separation of Officers).

8. Enlistment: Not applicable.


9. Constructive Entry Credit: Not applicable.

10. Appointment: Candidates will be commissioned in the Line of the U. S. Navy Reserve as an ensign, designator 1805.

11. Service Obligation: Selectees will incur an 8 year ready reserve obligation, the first 3 years of which must be served in the SELRES.

12. Pay and Allowances: Not applicable.

Approved:

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

Date: 6 May 2025