SPECIAL DUTY – INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL (1825)

Community Overview: The Reserve Information Warfare (IW) Programs (Intelligence, Cryptologic Warfare, Information Professional, Oceanography, and Space Cadre) are established under the cognizance of Commander, Naval Information Force Reserve (IW Reserve TYCOM) and Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command. Information Professional (IP) is a Restricted Line community comprised of approximately 290 Naval Officers.

Community Overview: Information Professionals (IPs) are the Navy's Cyberspace Defensive Operations and Communications Officers with subject matter expertise in networks, computer systems, satellite communications, cyber defense, information & knowledge management, and Command and Control. IPs are expected to apply their expertise in support of maritime operations ranging from coordination with Allies, to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, to defense of the Nation against terrorism, and to combat operations. IP officers help translate the requirements of combat forces into capabilities that effectively employ command and control at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of war, under all conditions. The community is responsible for the maintenance, operation, and development of cutting-edge cyberspace systems, as well as global telecommunications and space systems that have been designed to operate under the most adverse conditions, from the deep ocean environment to outer space. Information Professionals are technically adept, as well as effective communicators, able to translate complex technical issues into operationally relevant information for Naval and Joint Commanders.

Vision: IPs understand the Naval Commander's intent, then harness technology, information and knowledge to ensure resilient command and control, battlespace dominance and mission success.

Mission: IPs plan, acquire, integrate, operate, maintain, secure networks, communications, and combat systems that support the Navy's missions, and ensure they are reliable, available, survivable and secure. IPs conduct Defensive Cyberspace Operations, securing and protecting Navy information and systems from adversaries and ensuring continuity of operations and mission assurance. IPs are essential to multi-lateral operations, driving interoperability with the other services in the Department of Defense, other government agencies, Allied, and Coalition partners.

Eligibility Requirements:
(1) Required: Baccalaureate degree with a minimum GPA of 2.8, US citizenship, and the ability to obtain and maintain a Top Secret security clearance.

(2) Desired: A baccalaureate degree in Information Systems, Electrical or Computer Engineering, Cybersecurity, Computer Science, Systems Engineering, or other STEM technical fields. A curriculum including calculus and calculus-based physics (CALC I & II, PHYSICS I & II) is highly desired. Master of Science degree or higher in IT Management, Information Systems Management, Computer Science or Engineering supersedes a baccalaureate degree. Education and/or experience related to Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning is desired. Consideration will be given for professional certifications such as Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Global Information Assurance Certification (GIAC) Global Security Leadership Certification (GSLC), Certified Information Security Manager, Comp TIA Security+, etc.

Accession Options:
(1) Navy Veteran (NAVET): The NAVET program provides the opportunity for officers leaving active duty and in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) to affiliate in the Navy Reserve as IP Officers.

(2) Direct Commission Officer (DCO): The Reserve IP Community has a limited number of annual quotas for the DCO Program.

(3) Change of Designator: The IP Community accepts limited applications into the community from other designators via the Change of Designator process.

(4) Appointment/ Reappointment: Previously commissioned Officers in the Navy or Navy Reserve may request Appointment/ Reappointment as Reserve IP Officers.

(5) Inter-service Transfer (IST): The IP Community accepts a limited number of Officers in a reserve status each year from other services.

Special Pay/Bonuses: An Affiliation Bonus is offered for Reserve IP Officers (LT and LCDR).

Training Pipeline: Newly commissioned officers attend Officer Development School (five weeks). IP Officers attend the Information Warfare Basic Course (three weeks) and the IP Basic Course (twenty weeks).

IP Officers must also complete the IP Basic Officer Qualification Program within 36 months from the date of Commissioning or Change of Designator and the Information Warfare Officer (IWO) qualification within 60 months. Additionally, IP Officers shall complete the IP Intermediate Qualification and optionally may complete the IP Advanced Qualification.

Career Opportunities:
IP Officers serve in challenging billets in Cyber (Offensive, Defensive, and Networks), Information Systems, Information Assurance, Command and Control, Communications, Combat Systems, Space, Knowledge/Info Management, Intel/Surveillance/ Reconnaissance, and other communications or network warfare-related disciplines.

Billet Assignment:
Initial billet assignments will be coordinated through Commander, Naval Information Force Reserve (CNIFR). Follow-on billet assignments are made through Junior Officer APPLY (JOAPPLY). Initial assignments position an Officer to become a recognized expert with key skills in a particular area, enabling the officer to crush their job/mobilization.

Community Values:
(1) Sustained superior performance and demonstrated expertise in demanding billets and assignments.
(2) Warfare Competence.
(3) Professional expertise (e.g. Cyber Security Workforce Qualifications, Technical Expertise in Systems Management, etc.).
(4) Master's degree in technical field.
(5) Leadership.

Points of Contact:
Information Warfare Reserve Officer Community Managers:
(901) 874-4309/2976

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