



**BLUF**

## Seaman to Admiral 21 (STA-21) Fact Sheet

POC: GRLK\_STA21@navy.mil

February 2023

The STA-21 Program is a commissioning program for active duty enlisted Sailors. The application process opens in February and closes on July 1, 2023. Selected candidates attend the Naval Science Institute in Newport, RI and go on to attend college at an NROTC affiliated university. They receive \$10,000 per year, have 36 months to complete their degree, and receive a commission as an Ensign upon graduation. NAVADMIN 044/23 has the details.

### Who needs to know?

- Fleet Sailors
- Triads and Staff
- Everyone in the Fleet should be aware

### What you need to know – key points

- The STA-21 Program is a commissioning program for active duty enlisted Sailors.
- There are specific target officer designators available as well as the CORE option, which allows STA-21 Officer Candidates to select their designator during their final year in school.
- STA-21 Officer Candidates are detailed to an NROTC unit affiliated with a university and are required to complete the program (graduate college and commission) in 36 months.
- Selected Sailors receive \$10,000 per year to offset tuition and fees and can use their GI Bill to supplement the \$10,000 provided.

### Sample POD/POW Notes (After application website opens in February)

- STA-21 PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS - The Seaman to Admiral 21 (STA-21) Program is accepting applications through 1 JUL. Talk to [insert command POC] or [insert ESO contact info] or visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/STA-21/Application-Process/> for more information.
- SEAMAN-TO-ADMIRAL PROGRAM – Want to become an officer, but don't have a college degree? Check out the Seaman-to-Admiral program. 2023 applications being accepted through 1 JUL. Talk to [insert command POC] or [insert ESO contact info] or visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/STA-21/Application-Process/> for more information.
- WHAT IS STA-21? - STA-21 is a commissioning program for active duty enlisted Sailors that provides \$10,000/year and 36 months at a university affiliated NROTC unit for bachelor degree completion/commissioning. Talk to [insert command POC] or [insert ESO contact info] or visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/STA-21/Application-Process/> for more information.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Q. What is the Seaman-to-Admiral Program?

A. The STA-21 Program is a commissioning program for active duty enlisted Sailors.

#### Q. When do I need to apply by to be eligible for the FY24 board?

A. Sailors interested in applying for STA-21 should start to prepare as soon as possible – your application will require you to take SAT/ACT or provide scores from within five years, along with more information you can find on the program website:



QR Code to NAVADMINS



<https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/STA-21/Apply/>.

The STA-21 application website opens in February 2023 and closes on July 1, 2023. Additional information can be sent in through 24 July. The selection board will convene at the end of August.

**Q. How much tuition assistance will I receive and how long do I have to complete the program?**

**A.** All STA-21 Officer Candidates receive \$10,000 per year and can use their GI Bill to supplement. You have 36 months maximum to complete the program.

**Q. Do I have a choice of designator or is it assigned before I start?**

**A.** When applying to the STA-21 Program, you can pick from the available designators or apply for the CORE option. You also get to put down a second option which must be CORE. For example, if you apply as a Pilot and get selected, you will attend college, participate in the NROTC, graduation and commission as an Ensign, and then go on to flight school. If you were not chosen for Pilot but were chosen as a CORE option, you would attend college, participate in the NROTC, be selected for a specific URL designator during your final year in college, graduate and commission as an Ensign, and then go on to your initial training for your specific URL designator. For CORE, there is a selection process for your designator which happens during your final year in college and you are part of the overall selection amongst all NROTC graduates in that particular year.

**Q. Is there a cutoff age for the program?**

**A.** It depends. Certain designator options have different age requirements. Some are as late as 42 years of age upon commissioning. On the STA-21 website, there are links to all of the current Program Authorizations for each designator/community which defines the age, education, and commissioning requirements.

**Q. Is it hard to get selected for the program?**

**A.** Yes, STA-21 is very selective. Each year we have hundreds of applicants and a total of 79 are typically selected. There are 19 selects in a variety of target options such as Pilot, NFO, SWO, IP, Nurse, CEC, etc. and an additional 60 who are selected for the nuclear program. Those numbers can vary slightly from year to year based upon needs of the Navy and available designator options. But you can't be selected if you don't apply – so check out the requirements and start working on your application today!

**Q. Can I apply to the STA-21 Program multiple times?**

**A.** Yes, you can apply as many times as you want as long as you continue to be qualified for the program. During the time between selection boards, you should be working on qualifications, additional college course credit, community service, etc. You can also be updating and improving your application. All of these things can make your record stand out amongst a group of highly qualified applicants.

**Q. If I have more questions about the STA-21 Program and my command can't answer them, is there somewhere to find additional information?**

**A.** Yes, you can email [GRLK\\_STA21@navy.mil](mailto:GRLK_STA21@navy.mil) or visit our website at <https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/STA-21/FAQ/>

- END -