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NAVADMIN 136/26

MSGID/GENADMIN/CNO WASHINGTON DC/N1/JUN//

SUBJ/NAVY COOL PROGRAM EXPANSION ANNOUNCEMENT//

REF/A/OPNAV/19FEB26//

AMPN/REF A IS OPNAVINST 1540.56C Navy Credentialing Programs.

RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN announces the expansion of the Navy Credentialing Opportunities Online (COOL) Program to include the General Educational Development (GED) test and select college and graduate entrance examinations. Enlisted Sailors who meet eligibility requirements outlined in reference (a) and on the Navy COOL website may receive funding for pre-approved, exam-related expenses prior to registration. Pre-approval from the Navy Credentials Program Office is required. Unauthorized out-of-pocket expenses will not be reimbursed. Funding will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

2. This expansion reduces barriers to education, commissioning, and professional advancement, ensuring Sailors have access to opportunities that support both personal and professional growth. Academic readiness directly contributes to warfighting readiness by strengthening the capability, resilience, and advancement potential of the force. Implementation will occur in two phases.

3. Phase 1. Upon release of this NAVADMIN, enlisted Sailors may submit pre-approval requests through the Navy COOL website for the following exams:

- a. General Educational Development (GED)
- b. Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
- c. American College Testing (ACT)

4. Phase 2. Beginning 1 October 2026, enlisted Sailors may submit pre-approval requests through the Navy COOL website for the following exams:

- a. Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- b. Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)
- c. Law School Admission Test (LSAT)
- d. Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

5. College entrance exams will only be reimbursed for those applying for commissioning programs and require the exam as part of the commissioning package. A command endorsement for the commissioning program must be included with the pre-approval requests.

6. For detailed information on eligibility, policies, and procedures, visit the Navy COOL website: <https://www.cool.osd.mil/usn/index.html>
7. Free study preparation materials and practice tests are available through the Department of War Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Digital Library (<https://www.dodmwrlibraries.org/>) under the Continuing Education section, as well as through <https://military.tutor.com/home>.
8. For GED registration information, visit <https://www.ged.com/>. Registration details for college entrance exams are available on the respective official websites.
9. For questions regarding general Navy COOL policy, contact Ms. Shania Truelove at (703)604-5256/DSN 664 or shania.m.truelove.civ@us.navy.mil.
10. This NAVADMIN will remain in effect until superseded or canceled, whichever occurs first.
11. Released by Rear Admiral J. S. Couture, N13.//

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