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SUBJ/NOTICE OF CONVENING FY 2028-1 TEST PILOT SCHOOL SELECTION BOARD//

REF/A/DOC/BUPERS/01JUL25//

NARR/REF A IS BUPERSINST 1500.62F, TEST PILOT SCHOOLS//

RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN announces convening of the U.S. Naval (USN) Test Pilot School (TPS) Selection Board on 5 November 2026. This board will select highly qualified Naval Aviators and Naval Flight Officers (NFO) for USNTPS. USNTPS graduates have significant and Long lasting influence on platforms and systems which directly impact the future warfighting capability of the Fleet. Request command and Fleet community assistance to identify candidates with strong operational performance and ideally, strong academic backgrounds in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields of study.

2. To be eligible for board consideration, a signed command endorsed application in accordance with reference (a), must be received by MyNavy Career Center (MNCC) no later than 2 October 2026. Applicants are encouraged to review reference (a) in detail to ensure their package complies with application guidelines.

Applicants with missing required information may be removed from consideration. Additional documentation (including Wing/Carrier Air Wing endorsements, letters of recommendation, FITREPs, etc.) will be accepted until 23 October 2026, but must be submitted by the applicant, as a letter to the board. The e-mail address(es), phone number(s), official college transcripts, Anthropometric Data Measurement Record, a current PRT and BCA Detail Report from PRIMIS-2 (subparagraph 8h), last FITREP, post-TPS service agreement, and post-TPS test squadron assignment preferences of the applicant must be included with the application. Current contact information (ashore/afloat email and phone) of Commanding Officer must also be included to expedite notification, if selected.

3. Typical post-TPS assignments for graduates are listed below and are subject to change. Post-TPS assignments are typically finalized halfway through the TPS course of instruction.

- a. VX-20: VP, VQ, VAW, VRC
- b. HX-21: All Helo, VRM
- c. VX-23 / VX-31: VFA, VAQ
- d. VX-30: VP, VAW, VFA, VAQ
- e. UX-24: All communities

4. The command endorsement shall explicitly state whether the applicant, if selected, will be allowed and available to report for aircraft pre-arrival training by the following dates:

- a. Fixed-wing Pilots:
 - (1) 1 January 2027 (Preferred)
 - (2) 1 February 2027 (Required)
- b. Tiltrotor Pilots: 1 April 2027
- c. Rotary Wing Pilots: 15 May 2027
- d. NFOs or UAS operators: 1 June 2027 Endorsements with availability dates after these respective dates may be removed from consideration and not reviewed by the board.

Inability for the applicant to meet the above dates may be mitigated by conducting initial training in a temporary additional duty (TEMADD) status at the expense of the endorsing command. If this is required, it must be explicitly stated in the command endorsement that the endorsing command will provide TEMADD funds until the applicant can officially detach. If the applicant has official change of duty orders and is projected to transfer prior to the board convening date of 5 November 2026, a gaining command endorsement is required in addition to the endorsement from the applicant's current command.

5. USNTPS has a cooperative program with Purdue University wherein Purdue teaches asynchronous online pre-arrival courses which serve as a technical refresher and provide 4 credits towards a master's degree. Candidates selected for USNTPS will receive directions for immediate enrollment in Purdue Online within 2 weeks of selection board results. Required pre-arrival coursework on foundational subjects (e.g., calculus and mechanics) will commence online on 8 March 2027 and will run concurrent to the preparatory aircraft training described above, dependent on the applicable timeline. In cases where the pre-arrival online courses precede aircraft training, candidates are expected to complete the online courses while still attached to their current command. If operational conflicts exist which prevent Purdue Online course registration and pre-arrival course completion, selected candidates should contact USN TPS promptly to discuss contingencies.

6. Application package submissions:

- a. The preferred method of application submission is electronic. E-mail encrypted PDF submissions to hrscselboard@us.navy.mil and carbon copy richard.s.westerfield.mil@us.navy.mil and brandy.l.dempster-theisen.ctr@us.navy.mil. If required, please visit <https://dod411.gds.disa.mil/> to download the required mailbox certificates to encrypt the email. As a backup, applications may be submitted via DODSAFE. If unable to send encrypted through either of the above options, please contact richard.s.westerfield.mil@us.navy.mil and brandy.l.dempster-theisen.ctr@us.navy.mil for assistance.

- b. If unable to send electronically, applications may be sent via U.S. Postal Service to the following address:

MyNavy Career Center
FY 2028-1 Test Pilot School Selection Board (Board #220)
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055

- c. Applications sent via FEDEX/UPS/DHL should use the following address:

MyNavy Career Center
FY 2028-1 Test Pilot School Selection Board (Board #220)
5640 Ticonderoga Loop, BLDG 768, RM E302
Millington, TN 38055-6300

7. Applicants should confirm receipt of their application package and all correspondence by calling the MNCC at 1-833-330-MNCC or DSN 882-6622.

8. Eligibility:

a. Designated Naval Aviators and NFOs (13X0 and 1510 designators) through the grade of O-4 who are qualified for flight duties and have not been terminated from flying status are eligible for selection.

b. The preferred unrestricted line (URL, 13X0) aviators are O-3 and O-4 aviators with detailer-forecasted career timing to complete the selected TPS program and a minimum 24-month follow-on test tour prior to their next career milestone (e.g. Department Head).

c. Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer (1510) aviators through the grade of O-4 may be selected if they are able to serve a 36-month follow-on test tour and still meet career milestones.

d. Applicants determined to have insufficient career timing to meet the minimum test tour of 24 months may have their application removed from consideration. Applicants may address any timing considerations in their personal statement.

e. Applicants who have pending or approved separation requests are not eligible and will have their applications removed from consideration.

f. USNTPS operates a diverse set of fixed-wing jet, propeller, and rotary-wing aircraft. Core aircraft include H-60, H-72, T-6, and T-38. T-6 and T-38 ejection seat weight limits are 103-245 lbs. All applicants must be able report to USNTPS pre-arrival training within the above weight limits. Applicants which have been anthropometrically or otherwise disqualified from a specific aircraft type, class, model, or series must include such information as part of the application package. Applicants who currently exceed ejection seat weight limits or are disqualified from a type, class, model, or series aircraft which preclude safe operation of TPS core aircraft may have their application removed from consideration.

g. Applicants must have a current Tier 5 investigation (T5) or Tier 5 reinvestigation (T5R) with eligibility for Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI) before transferring to this command. If the applicant does not have the aforementioned eligibility, then the command supporting the applicant will initiate a request for an interim TS/SCI eligibility and ensure it has been accepted and is being processed. Applicants unable to obtain a TS/SCI clearance may not be eligible for this assignment.

h. Applicants are encouraged to have completed a calendar year 2027 Cycle-1 PRT prior to reporting to pre-arrival training.

9. Applicants should periodically check for updates and additional information via MyNavy HR at <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Career-Management/Boards/Administrative/Test-Pilot/>.

10. Points of contact are CDR Richard S. Westerfield, PERS-434B, via e-mail at richard.s.westerfield.mil@us.navy.mil or Ms. Brandy Theisen, PERS-434B1, via e-mail at brandy.l.dempstertheisen.ctr@us.navy.mil.

11. Released by Vice Admiral Jeffrey J. Czerewko, N1.//

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