



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
701 SOUTH COURTHOUSE ROAD
ARLINGTON VA 22204-2472

BUPERSINST 1730.11B
BUPERS-3
9 Jun 2026

BUPERS INSTRUCTION 1730.11B

From: Chief of Naval Personnel

Subj: ACCOMMODATION OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Ref: (a) 42 U.S.C. §2000bb-1
(b) DoD Instruction 1300.17 of 1 September 2020
(c) SECWAR memorandum of 11 Mar 26
(d) SECNAVINST 1730.8B
(e) NAVPERS 15665J
(f) BUMEDINST 6230.15B
(g) NAVPERS 15560D
(h) SECNAV memorandum of 27 May 26
(i) 10 U.S.C. CH-47, article 136

Encl: (1) Sailor Religious Accommodation Request and Command Endorsement
(2) New Accessions Statement

1. Purpose. To provide policy, guidance, procedures, and responsibilities for the accommodation of practices in support of sincerely held conscience, moral principles, or religious beliefs for Sailors and prospective accessions per references (a) through (d). Reference (e) provides the Navy's manner of wear policy for various religious accommodations (RA) of uniform and grooming standards, as delineated in paragraph 6. Reference (f) provides Navy medical requirements. Reference (g) provides policy, rules, and practices for administration of military personnel within the Navy. Reference (h) provides implementing guidance on reference (c) and amplifying timelines. Reference (i) is the authority for military personnel to administer oaths. NAVPERS 1730/1 Sailor's Religious Accommodation Questionnaire, NAVPERS 1730/2 Chaplain Questionnaire, and NAVPERS 1730/3 Navy Religious Accommodation Command Questionnaire may be accessed at: <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/References/Forms/NAVPERS/>. This revision updates policy, guidance, and procedures for the accommodation of practices in support of sincerely held conscience, moral principles, or religious beliefs. This is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUPERSINST 1730.11A.

3. Scope and Applicability

a. This instruction applies to all active and reserve members of the Navy, including applicants for entry into the Navy and Navy Reserve, as well as midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA), the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA), the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC), and officer candidates in Navy officer accession programs. Nothing in this instruction precludes disciplinary or administrative action for conduct that is proscribed by the Uniform Code of Military Justice or supporting policies.

b. Conscientious Objectors. Conscientious objections are not covered under this instruction (see DoD Instruction 1300.06 Conscientious Objectors of 12 July 2017).

c. Peyote Use. Peyote use is not covered under this instruction (see 42 U.S.C. §1996a).

4. Background. Per references (a) through (d), if a Navy policy burdens a Sailor's exercise of sincerely-held religious beliefs, the Sailor may request a RA. Such accommodation will only be denied if the Navy policy, practice, or duty in question is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and maintaining the policy, practice, or duty is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest. Similarly, a Sailor may request accommodation if a Navy policy burdens non-religious beliefs based on the Sailor's conscience or moral principles. Sincerely-held beliefs derived from conscience or moral principles will be accommodated, so long as they do not have an adverse impact on military readiness, unit cohesion, good order and discipline, or health and safety.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

a. Chief of Naval Personnel (CHNAVPERS). CHNAVPERS is responsible for execution of RA policy. In line with references (b) and (d), CHNAVPERS will review and act on RA requests that require waiver of otherwise applicable Department of Navy (DON) policy, as detailed in table 1. RA approval authority for requests that can be approved per DON regulations and policies are further delegated in table 1.

(1) Bureau of Naval Personnel, Military Community Management (BUPERS-3). BUPERS-3 will administer the program and is delegated authority to act on all RA requests within policy.

(2) Religious Accommodation Program Team (RAPT). The RAPT will process RA requests that require waivers of policy for CHNAVPERS decision and maintain oversight of RAs adjudicated at lower levels consistent with this instruction. The RAPT will process RAs within policy via BUPERS-3. The RAPT will keep records of all RAs, including lower-level approvals delegated pursuant to this instruction and submitted to RAPT for information only.

b. Chaplains. Chaplains, assisted by Religious Program specialists, provide for and facilitate religious requirements of Sailors and advise commanders on command religious program matters throughout the DON. Chaplains are responsible for advising and assisting Sailors and commands with RA policy execution.

(1) A Navy chaplain will conduct a consultation for each RA request. When a Navy chaplain is not available, such as in joint command environments, Reserve, or remote locations without Navy chaplains, a non-Navy chaplain may conduct the consultation after coordination with the RAPT. Telephone or video conference meetings with requestors are permitted. The chaplain will document the consultation for inclusion in the RA request in NAVPERS 1730/2 .

(2) The chaplain will inform the Sailor or prospective accession that the consultation is for the purpose of preparing the Chaplain Questionnaire (NAVPERS 1730/2) for the record and advising the Sailor that the communication during the consultation is therefore not confidential, sacramental, or privileged communication.

(3) During the consultation, the chaplain will explore the Sailor's religious beliefs and the religious nature of the request, to include discussing other aspects and requirements of the religious beliefs in question, how the Sailor practices those religious beliefs, and acquiring specific details as to how the Sailor's religious beliefs are burdened by the policy in question. Following the consultation, the chaplain will provide a completed Chaplain Questionnaire (NAVPERS 1730/2) and advise commanders on the religious nature of the requestor's belief.

c. Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED). BUMED is the designated authority for the review and processing of all RA requests for waivers of medical requirements, to include immunizations. In line with references (d) and (f), BUMED will review and act on RA immunization requests that require waiver of otherwise applicable DON policy, further detailed in table 1. RA approval authority for requests that can be approved per DON regulations and policies are further delegated in table 1.

d. Navy Recruiting Command (NAVCRUITCOM). NAVCRUITCOM will ensure recruiters route RA requests as directed in table 1 for future Sailors, officer candidates, and applicants, as appropriate. If a prospective recruit or officer candidate requests RA for medical requirements, recruiters will ensure that immunization records and entry level medical physicals (DD 2808 Report of Medical Examination, DD 2807-1 Report of Medical History, DD 2807-2 Accessions Medical History Report, New Student Indoctrination, etc.) are uploaded into Military Health System (MHS) Genesis or provided directly to RAPT as part of the RA request.

e. Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Uniform Matters (N13X). OPNAV (N13X) will provide the RAPT with background, guidance, and recommendations on uniform and grooming policy standards contained in reference (e), relevant to pending RA requests.

f. Commanders and Commanding Officers (COs). Commanders and COs are responsible for processing RA requests according to the criteria set forth in this instruction. Commanders and COs will route RA requests as directed in table 1.

(1) COs will provide maximum opportunity for the free exercise of religion by members of the naval service.

(2) COs will obtain the advice of a chaplain and judge advocate prior to acting on a request for accommodation. References (c) and (d) provide detailed factors for analyzing an RA request.

(3) COs will provide a written assessment of the sincerity of the requestor's religious beliefs. This assessment of sincerity will include the factors identified in reference (c), including:

(a) Contextual factors such as circumstances existing at the time of the request, contradictory or inconsistent statements and conduct, and any evidence suggesting that the request may be based on personal preference or convenience.

(b) Input from the first-line supervisor on the character of the requestor and adherence to Navy values.

(c) Input from the consulting chaplain on the religious nature of the belief.

(d) Input from other sources, at the CO's discretion.

(4) COs will provide specific information concerning the requestor's occupation, current work environment and anticipated work environment, including any requirements concerning the likely and expected use of protective equipment (e.g., helmets, masks, and firefighting respirators) and scheduled deployments, exercises, or assignments utilizing NAVPERS 1730/3.

(5) COs may request additional documentation or evidence from the requestor to assist in evaluating religious exemption requests. Requests for additional information will be in writing and narrowly tailored to the specific concerns identified during the review.

6. Policy. Per reference (i), article 0820, commanders will provide maximum opportunity for the free exercise of religion by members of the naval service.

a. Accommodation of Sincerely Held Religious Beliefs. The Navy has a compelling governmental interest in mission accomplishment at the individual, unit, and organizational

levels including such necessary elements of mission accomplishment as military readiness, unit cohesion, good order, discipline, health and safety. The military is a specialized community within the United States governed by a discipline separate from the rest of society. Many religious practices do not require a waiver of Navy policy and may be accommodated at the command level. The term “religious accommodation” includes any exercise of religion, whether or not compelled by, or central to, an organized system of religious belief. Sincerely held beliefs based on conscience or moral principles, while distinct from religious beliefs, are also routed in accordance with the processes identified in this instruction and based on the guidance and analysis in reference (b).

(1) Analysis. All requests for accommodation of religious practices are assessed on a case-by-case basis. Per references (a) through (d), accommodation of an RA request requires consideration of the following factors:

- (a) Impact on military readiness, unit cohesion, good order and discipline, and health and safety,
- (b) Religious importance of the accommodation to the requestor,
- (c) Cumulative impact of repeatedly granting similar requests,
- (d) Whether there are alternative means available to meet the requested accommodation, and
- (e) How other such requests have been treated.

(2) Compelling Governmental Interest and Least Restrictive Means. COs will not deny or recommend denial of an RA unless the denial furthers a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest. In either their adjudication or forwarding endorsement of an RA request, it is essential that commanders articulate the factual basis underlying any compelling governmental interest and why a recommended denial is the least restrictive means available to the commander to protect the compelling governmental interest over the individual request. Factors to consider include, but are not limited to, whether approving the accommodation would:

- (a) Pose a health or safety hazard (such as flammable materials or loose clothing that could become caught in a piece of equipment);
- (b) Interfere with the wear or proper function of special or protective clothing or equipment (such as a respirator, protective helmet or communication gear); or
- (c) Otherwise impair mission accomplishment.

(3) Alternate Means. For every request, commanders should assess whether there is an alternative means to accommodate the RA request without waiving the associated policy or regulation. For example, there may be options or resources not known to the member at the time of his or her request that might be known to the commander. Those alternatives should be discussed and offered to the member to determine if they might satisfy some or all of the member's sincerely-held religious beliefs. The commander should work with the chaplain to discuss alternative means available to address the requested accommodation.

b. Accommodation of Sincerely-Held Beliefs of Conscience or Moral Principles. In line with reference (b), commanders will accommodate individual expression of sincerely-held beliefs based on conscience or moral principles that do not have an adverse impact on military readiness, unit cohesion, good order and discipline, or health and safety. This analysis is distinct from the analysis described in paragraph 6a(2).

c. Common RA Requests and Delegation of Approval Authority. Common RA requests, approval authority, and routing instructions are included in table 1.

(1) Religious Observances of Worship and Holy Days. Worship practices, holy days, and Sabbath or similar religious observance requests will be accommodated except by necessity, and consistent with mission accomplishment. Navy personnel may wear any required religious apparel distinct to their faith group with the uniform while in attendance of organized worship services.

(2) Dietary Practices. Commanders will support religious dietary observances to the fullest extent possible. COs normally support religious dietary observances through a standard core menu that supports many religious dietary requirements or by issuing religious meals, ready-to-eat (MREs). In certain circumstances, commanders may consider other alternative solutions such as basic allowance for subsistence, ration separately, or alternative meals. Culinary specialists will be trained in preparation of meals compliant with common dietary RA requests (e.g., kosher, halal).

(3) Head Coverings. Consistent with table 1 and reference (e), Sailors of all duty types may be authorized to wear neat and conservative religious head coverings such as, but not limited to, a hijab, turban, kufi, kippah or yarmulke, as informed by the operational environment. Sailors granted an RA for head coverings are not required to wear military head gear in addition to their religious head covering, including in ceremonial uniforms. However, religious head coverings must be removed when donning personal protective equipment (PPE) if the head covering interferes with the safe and effective use of PPE.

(4) Uniform and Grooming. In addition to the analysis discussed in paragraph 6a above, when assessing whether an RA request for exception to uniform or grooming regulations may interfere with the accomplishment of the unit or individual mission, a commander should consider such factors as the safe and effective operation of weapons, work center equipment, and

machinery, as well as wear of protective clothing or equipment. Accommodation of such requests may include modifications suited to specific operational environments, which may be outlined when completing NAVPERS 1730/3.

(5) Hair. Requests for Sailors to maintain hairstyles not addressed in reference (e), require RA approval. Hairstyles will be worn in a manner that presents a professional and well-groomed appearance subject to the standards in reference (e), and may not fall over the ears, eyebrows, or reach below the lower edge of the back of the collar. When wearing protective headgear, the bulk of the hair will be repositioned or adjusted to ensure proper fit.

(6) Facial Hair. Requests to wear facial hair require an RA approval. Approved facial hair accommodations must be worn in a neat and conservative manner that presents a professional and well-groomed appearance subject to the standards in reference (d). Personnel with RAs for facial hair are still expected to perform all assigned duties. COs must describe specific duties of the Sailor and outline any safety or mission accomplishment concerns for operational environments in NAVPERS 1730/3, as outlined in reference (c) and (d).

(7) Immunizations. When assessing an RA request seeking exemption from immunization requirements, local commanders should first determine whether alternative vaccinations (when available) meet both religious needs of Sailors and the Navy's immunization requirements as outlined in reference (f).

(a) RA requests seeking exemption from immunization requirements require documentation of medical history, recent physical, and immunization records which will be uploaded into MHS Genesis. Documentation from a medical treatment facility (MTF) detailing the current vaccination requirement and status of the requestor for any required vaccinations must accompany the RA request.

(b) Medical exemptions for immunization requirements not associated with religious belief will continue to be adjudicated in line with reference (f).

Table 1
Religious Accommodation Types and Authorities

Type of Religious Practice	Active or Reserve Members Approval Level	Pre-Accessions Approval Level
Religious observances	CO	CO
Dietary practices	CO	CO; Notify Recruit Training Command (RTC)/Officer Training Command, Newport (OTCN) if MREs are requested

Type of Religious Practice	Active or Reserve Members Approval Level	Pre-Accessions Approval Level
Head covering	CO	CO
Uniform or religious apparel accommodation consistent with uniform regulations	CO	CO
Deviation from uniform regulations requiring a waiver of Navy policy	CHNAVPERS; Route request to OPNAV (N13X) via RAPT	CHNAVPERS; Navy Talent Acquisition Group (NTAG) send directly to OPNAV (N13X) via RAPT
Deviation from grooming regulations <u>not</u> requiring a waiver of Navy policy	CHNAVPERS or as delegated; Route request via RAPT	CHNAVPERS; NTAG send directly to RAPT
Deviation from grooming regulations requiring a waiver of Navy policy	CHNAVPERS; Route request to OPNAV (N13X) via RAPT	CHNAVPERS; NTAG send directly to RAPT
Immunizations	CO may approve use of any available alternative vaccinations. If no alternatives available, BUMED; Route request to BUMED via RAPT for adjudication with MTF documentation detailing current vaccination requirement and vaccination records of member	BUMED; Route request to BUMED via RAPT; NTAG will send directly to BUMED ensuring medical history, physical and immunization records are uploaded into MHS Genesis
All other requests that require a waiver of Navy policy	CHNAVPERS; Route request to RAPT via first flag officer in the chain of command	CHNAVPERS; NTAG send directly to RAPT

7. Process

a. Submission Process and Routing. The below process amplifies the routing instructions addressed in table 1. While the accommodation analysis is different, this routing process is identical whether the Sailor is requesting an accommodation for religious practices or beliefs based on conscience or moral principles.

(1) Initial Request by Sailor. Sailors seeking an RA must submit a request in writing to their CO. Enclosure (1) provides a template RA request and Sailor questionnaire (NAVPERS 1730/1), which includes recommended content consistent with reference (d). The requestor must state the desired accommodation and elaborate on the sincerely-held religious beliefs driving the

request. Content of the request should include: A description of the specific religious belief that is the basis of the request, an explanation of how the religious belief conflicts with the associated policy, and supporting information or evidence that demonstrates the religious belief is sincerely held (such as personal testimony, participation in religious observances, or corroborating statements from religious leaders or community members). NAVPERS 1730/1 will be witnessed by an official authorized to administer oaths in accordance with reference (i).

(a) Until the request is adjudicated, the requestor must comply with the applicable policy, practice, direction, or duty from which he or she is requesting an RA. In exceptional circumstances, the requestor's command may communicate directly with the RAPT to assess whether an exception to compliance may be permissible, in accordance with reference (b).

(b) A requestor with an approved RA must inform his or her chain of command when checking in to a new command or changing duties.

(c) Every requestor seeking an RA should consult a Navy chaplain to determine if an RA is required.

(d) If execution of permanent change of station orders is expected within 90 days (with the exception of recruiting commands), requestors will submit their application to their new command via their current command.

(2) Chaplain Consultation. The chaplain will assist the command in assessing whether the requestor's beliefs are of a religious nature and in developing a factual record to support the commander's assessment of sincerity. The chaplain will consult with the CO prior to the CO adjudicating or forwarding the request, using the questionnaire in NAVPERS 1730/2.

(3) Command Endorsement and Reporting. Upon receipt of a request, commanders/COs will first assess whether the beliefs in question are sincerely-held. In making this determination, commanders will consult with the consulting chaplain and a judge advocate. Presuming the beliefs are determined to be sincere, the commander will explore the full range of alternative options to accommodate the Service Member's sincerely-held beliefs, as the existence of alternative accommodations directly informs a determination on the least restrictive means of accommodating the member's request without jeopardizing the government's compelling interests.

(a) When reviewing an RA, commanders will endorse the member's request using NAVPERS 1730/3 (Navy Religious Accommodation Command Questionnaire) and provided in its entirety. This questionnaire is a comprehensive tool designed to guide the commander's review. It facilitates the compilation of specific information regarding the Sailor's request, their unique duties, and the potential impact of the accommodation on operational readiness, including the use of protective equipment (e.g., helmets, masks, respirators) and scheduled deployments or assignments. NAVPERS 1730/3 also documents the commander's assessment of the Sailor's

sincerely-held beliefs and provides space for a final recommendation or decision. For requests within the commander's adjudication authority, the completed NAVPERS 1730/3 serves as the official approval document for the RA.

(b) COs will route RA requests as directed in table 1. Requests forwarded by a commander must include NAVPERS 1730/1, NAVPERS 1730/2, and NAVPERS 1730/3. Commanders will ensure approved RAs are added to the member's official record.

b. Approval Authorities. Religious practices and corresponding approval authorities are listed in table 1. Many religious practices, such as, but not limited to, religious observances and dietary practices do not need a request for waiver of policy and can be accommodated at the command level.

(1) Where the authority to approve requests is delegated to the requestor's CO, if the CO disapproves the request, the denial must be routed to the first O-6 in the chain of command for review. If the O-6 recommends denial, it will be routed to the RAPT along with NAVPERS 1730/1, NAVPERS 1730/2, and NAVPERS 1730/3. At their discretion, the RAPT will review the disapproval and determine whether CHNAVPERS or BUMED adjudication (for immunization RAs) is required.

(2) Where table 1 identifies the approval authority as CHNAVPERS or BUMED or the RA request requires a waiver of otherwise generally applicable policy, the CO will endorse the RA request and route the request with NAVPERS 1730/1, NAVPERS 1730/2, and NAVPERS 1730/3 (3) to the RAPT. Per reference (b), exceptions to table 1 are not permitted without CHNAVPERS approval.

(3) COs will review and provide written notification to the requesting Service member no later than the processing timelines detailed in reference (b).

c. Reporting Requirements. Commands will upload all approval letters into the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS). A copy of all accommodations approved must be forwarded to the RAPT for record keeping purposes. Upon checking in to a new command, a requestor with an approved RA must inform his or her chain of command to ensure the gaining command is aware of the existing RA and its impact on applicable policies.

d. Joint/Multi-Service Commands. A requestor who reports directly to another U.S. military service must route RA requests to the authority specified in the policies of that Military Service (e.g., Sailors assigned to Marine Corps commands). Sailors assigned to a joint command will route requests to their respective Navy element commander for approval or recommendation to the RAPT as delineated in table 1. In all circumstances Sailors will adhere to the provisions set forth in subparagraph 6a.

e. Accessions. Navy accession sources, NAVCRUITCOM, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), USNA, BUMED, and USMMA are the designated chains of command for pre-accession requests in line with table 1. Accession source headquarters are responsible for ensuring active and reserve enlisted and officer accessions are informed of uniform and grooming standards and policies, as well as procedures for seeking RAs.

(1) Accession source headquarters must document RA requests in writing and ensure all accession RA requests are adjudicated prior to entering service. The language contained in enclosure (2) will be used to document the applicant's understanding of the Navy's RA policy.

(2) Prospective accessions must be given the opportunity to route an RA request prior to departure for a Military Entrance Processing Station. Many accession requests for religious practices such as religious observances and dietary practices and many uniform requests do not require a waiver of policy and can be accommodated at the command-level upon accession, including at RTC and OTCN or at their gaining command per table 1.

(3) Accessions will not ship to training commands until they receive an approved RA. Prospective accessions will route requests via the chain of command associated with their accessions source and route NAVPERS 1730/1, NAVPERS 1730/2, and NAVPERS 1730/3 and enclosure (2) to the appropriate approval authority per table 1.

(4) For requests that require waiver of regulation, commands such as RTC, OTCN, NAVCRUITCOM, NTAG, NSTC, USNA, USMMA, student programs, etc., will route requests directly to the RAPT. Requestors currently in training will continue training while the RA is being adjudicated.

f. Submission to RAPT: <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/Religious-Accommodations/>.

(1) E-mail Submission. For commands that do not have regular Navy/Marine Corps Intranet e-mail accounts (e.g., overseas, sea duty or joint commands), e-mail the RAPT before sending attachments.

(2) No Personally Identifiable Information (PII). The request should not include PII with the exception of immunization accommodation requests. If PII is included, the request must be labelled and encrypted appropriately. DoD Safe is an acceptable method of encryption/delivery.

(3) For Coordination with OTCN and RTC: nwpt_otcn_ra@us.navy.mil; grlk_rtc_religious_accommodations@us.navy.mil.

g. Appeals. Appeals are routed in line with the procedures outlined below:

(1) CHAVPERS will serve as the appellate authority for requests that are denied by decision authorities identified in table 1. Pursuant to reference (d), the Chief of Naval Operations will serve as the appellate authority for requests that are denied by CHNAVPERS. Appeals will be routed in accordance with the procedures identified above for initial requests, with the denying authority using their endorsement to explain the rationale for denial prior to appellate action.

(2) A denied request, to include a denied appeal, may be renewed upon a change in physical, operational or geographical environment, or at any time when there is a change to pertinent policy. Regardless of the level at which the request/appeal was denied, a renewed request will follow the guidelines outlined in this instruction.

h. Modification of Approved RAs. COs must notify the RAPT of any change in circumstances, such as new operational requirements that warrant modification or re-evaluation of an approved request.

(1) Per reference (b), RAs are subject to review, suspension, or revocation, in whole or in part, any time there is a change in the circumstances upon which the initial RA was based (e.g., new duty assignment, temporary duty, change in disease environment, or other material change in circumstances). A commander may initiate a request to review, suspend, or revoke an approved RA based on a change in circumstances by submitting written notification to the member. The written notification must include the nature of the changed circumstances and specify the reason for the proposed rescission or modification. While this review is pending, the approved RA remains in effect. Reviews initiated under this process will be adjudicated no lower than the same level of the chain of command where the original RA was approved.

(2) Under exigent circumstances and in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest due to operational necessity, when time is of the essence and no less restrictive means of RA are available, a CO may temporarily modify or suspend accommodation, upon notice to the Sailor concerned and without benefit of appeal. To the extent practicable, the commander concerned, if not a general officer or flag officer, or member of the Senior Executive Service (GO/FO/SES), will notify, in advance, the first GO/FO/SES (as appropriate) in the affected Service member's chain of command or supervision, of the commander's intent to modify or suspend a previously granted accommodation. When such advance notice is not practicable, the commander concerned will notify the appropriate GO/FO/SES, as appropriate, as soon as circumstances permit. The modification or suspension of the accommodation will apply for only the minimum period required by the circumstances.

8. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned for the standard subject identification codes (SSIC) 1000 through 13000 series per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy/Assistant for Administration (DON/AA), Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD) portal page at <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact your local records manager or the DON/AA DRMD program office.

9. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, the RAPT will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency and consistency with Federal, Department of War, SECNAV and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 5 years unless revised or cancelled, and will be reissued by the 5-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. If the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.

10. Forms. NAVPERS 1730/1 Sailor Religious Accommodation Questionnaire, NAVPERS 1730/2 Chaplain Questionnaire, and NAVPERS 1730/3 Navy Religious Accommodation Command Questionnaire are located at: <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/References/Forms/NAVPERS/>.



J. J. CZEREWKO
Chief of Naval Personnel

Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via BUPERS/NAVPERSCOM Web site, www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/references/BUPERS-Instructions/

BUPERSINST 1730.11B
9 June 2026

SAILOR RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION REQUEST AND COMMAND ENDORSEMENT

Member Religious Accommodation Request (if unable to use NAVPERSFORM)

(Date)

From: Rate or rank, as applicable, full name, branch, DoD ID

To: Appropriate authority per table 1 (CO, Chief of Naval Personnel, BUMED, Religious Accommodation Program Team (RAPT))

Subj: RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION REQUEST

Ref: (a) BUPERSINST 1730.11B
(b) Other references as needed

[Encl: (1) Optional enclosures (e.g., religious leader letter, Picture or graphic of the desired accommodation, etc.)]

1. Pursuant to references (a) [through (b)], I hereby request religious accommodation for:

a. Religion: [State your religion/religious belief]

b. Accommodation: [Describe specific practices requiring accommodation]

c. Navy policy requesting accommodation for: [Reference (b) as applicable]

d. Statement of belief: [Describe how the religious practice you are seeking requires accommodation and how such practice is required by the sincerely-held religious beliefs. Explain how the religious belief conflicts with the policy in question. Additional documentation or evidence demonstrating the religious belief is sincerely held or that may otherwise assist in adjudicating the request may be submitted as enclosures.]

(Requestor Signature)

(Command Endorsement to CHNAVPERS Religious Accommodation Program Team (RAPT) –
not required if submitting online)

SSIC
Ser
Date

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on Rate/Rank FIRST LAST ltr. of DD Mmm YY

From: Appropriate authority per table 1 (i.e., CO, first O6)

To: Chief of Naval Personnel, RA Program Team

Encl: (1) NAVPERSFORM 1730/3 (Navy Religious Accommodation Command Questionnaire)
(2) NAVPERSFORM 1730/2 (Chaplain Questionnaire)
(3) NAVPERSFORM 1730/1 (Sailor Religious Accommodation Questionnaire)

1. Forwarded with Enclosures.

R. L. GABEL

Enclosure (1)

NEW ACCESSIONS STATEMENT

I understand that Department of the Navy policy is to accommodate religious practices whenever possible, unless doing so would have an adverse impact on mission accomplishment, including military readiness, unit cohesion, good order, discipline or health and safety.

I understand accommodation of my religious practices cannot be guaranteed at all times. I understand that determination of military necessity rests entirely with my Navy chain of command, and that I will be expected to comply with the Navy's policy, practice, or duty from which I am requesting accommodation unless and until approved by the designated authority.

I do NOT desire to request support for specific religious practices at this time

(Applicant Signature)

I DO desire to request support for the following religious practice(s):

(Type of Request)

(Applicant Signature)

Applicants requesting religious accommodation may not enlist or commission until they receive a final response in writing. Accession commands must immediately process the request in line with BUPERSINST 1730.11B.

(Typed or Printed Name and Signature of Witnessing Recruiting Representative)