

MILPERSMAN 1212-050

INFORMATION WARFARE COMMUNITY (IWC) OPTION PROGRAM

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References	(a) COMNAVSURFORINST 1412.1C (b) Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) (2019) (c) OPNAVINST 1210.5B
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1. Program Policy

a. The Information Warfare Community (IWC) Option Program provides a steady accession source of qualified surface warfare officers (SWO) into the IWC. The IWC officer communities that participate in this program are:

- (1) 1800 Oceanography (OCN)
- (2) 1810 Cryptologic Warfare (CW)
- (3) 1820 Information Professional (IP)
- (4) 1830 Intelligence (INTEL)

b. IWC Option Program accession quotas are limited in number and approved by the Chief of Naval Personnel per the annual fiscal year officer accession plan. Quotas are determined by the needs of the Navy and are allocated to each of the above communities. Under this program, highly qualified officers are initially commissioned into the SWO community. These officers are subsequently redesignated, without board action, to their respective IWC community upon completion of prerequisites outlined in paragraph 3 below.

2. **Applicability of this Article**. This article is applicable to active duty officers who have been selected for and commissioned into the IWC Option Program from the following commissioning sources:

- a. United States Naval Academy (USNA)
- b. Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC)
- c. Officer Candidate School (OCS)
- d. Seaman-to-Admiral Program (STA-21)

3. **Qualifications**. Eligibility criteria may be found on the [Program Authorizations](#) (PA) 108A, PA 108B, PA 108C and PA 108D Web page located on the Navy Personnel Command Web site.

4. **Appointment**. Candidates selected for the IWC Option Program are commissioned as ensigns and initially designated as SWOs in training (1160).

a. **IWC Option Program Identification**. Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM), Surface Officer Distribution Division (PERS-41) will assign IWC Option Program officers an additional qualification designator (AQD), identify them as IWC option officers and record their affiliation with a specific IWC community. Community specific AQDs are:

- (1) OCN (1800) - LOD
- (2) CW (1810) - LOC
- (3) IP (1820) - LOB
- (4) INTEL (1830) - LOE

b. **IWC Option Program Officer Accounting**. Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS), Information Warfare Community Branch (BUPERS-317) IWC officer community managers (OCM) will maintain the authoritative roster of all officers commissioned into the IWC Option Program. This listing will be coordinated with and informed by accession planners at USNA; Naval Student Training Command (NSTC); Navy Recruiting Command (NAVCRUITCOM); BUPERS, Surface Warfare Officers/Explosive Ordnance Disposal Warfare Officers Branch (BUPERS-311) OCM; NAVPERSCOM (PERS-41) and

NAVPERSCOM, Information Warfare Community and Foreign Area Officer Assignments Division (PERS-47).

5. **IWC Option Program Redesignation Execution**

a. **Service Agreement/[NAVPERS 1070/613](#) Administrative Remarks.** NAVCRUITCOM will ensure all service agreements for OCS accessed IWC Option Program officers reflect the timeline requirements detailed in subparagraph 5c below. USNA and NSTC will ensure their respective IWC Option Program officers read and sign [NAVPERS 1070/613](#) reflecting the timeline requirements in exhibit 1.

b. **Redesignation Prerequisites.** IWC Option Program officers will be **automatically** redesignated without board action into their respective IWC communities upon completion of the following prerequisites: Surface warfare qualification, per reference (a), and completion of one SWO division officer tour. Completion of this tour is usually within 3 years from date of commission.

c. **Timeline and Follow-On Assignment Availability.** IWC Option Program officers meeting the prerequisites listed above will normally be redesignated within 3 years of commissioned service.

(1) IWC OCM will notify SWO OCM, NAVPERSCOM (PERS-41) and NAVPERSCOM (PERS-47) of pending redesignation.

(2) IWC OCM will submit redesignation action to NAVPERSCOM, Career Progression Department (PERS-8) to execute administrative action for designation change.

(3) IWC OCM will notify SWO OCM, NAVPERSCOM (PERS-41) and NAVPERSCOM (PERS-47) when redesignation has been completed.

(4) Once redesignated, IWC officers will be made available by the surface warfare community for immediate transfer to their first IWC assignments.

d. **Exceptions**

(1) **Approved Resignation Request.** IWC Option Program officers will not be redesignated if they have a pending or approved resignation, to include unqualified or contingent

resignation, inter-service transfer, probationary officer continuation and redesignation or twice failure to select (2XFOS). If the resignation request is disapproved, the officer will be made immediately available for redesignation and transfer to the first IWC assignment.

(2) **Administrative Separation.** IWC Option Program officers will not be redesignated if they are currently under investigation for alleged offenses, under reference (b), or in the process of administrative separation.

(3) **Surface Warfare Career Sustainment.** IWC Option Program officers who desire to remain in the surface warfare community must submit a written statement to their respective IWC OCMs with a copy to the surface warfare OCM. The decision to allow an IWC Option Program officer to remain in the surface warfare community is at the discretion of the IWC OCM, in consultation with the SWO OCM, and will be made in the best interests of IWC community health. If the request is approved, the IWC OCM will inform the SWO OCM, NAVPERSCOM (PERS-41) and NAVPERSCOM (PERS-47). NAVPERSCOM (PERS-41) will remove the approved officer's AQD, and the officer will remain in the surface warfare community.

6. **Active Duty Obligation.** Per reference(c), upon redesignation to the IWC, IWC Option Program officers incur a minimum service requirement of 3 years from date of designator change to be served concurrently with any other obligations. Officers who remain in the surface warfare community must satisfy the initial active duty service obligation corresponding to their original commissioning source.

Exhibit 1

Service Agreement/NAVPERS 1070/613 Administrative Remarks

(DDMMYY): Per MILPERSMAN 1212-050, I understand that I have been selected for accession into the Information Warfare Community (IWC) Option Program. Per the IWC Program, I will be commissioned as an ensign and initially designated as a surface warfare officer (SWO) in training (1160) and be assigned an additional qualification designator (AQD) of (choose one of the following: "LOB for affiliation with the information professional community," "LOC for affiliation with the cryptologic warfare community," "LOD for affiliation with the oceanography community" or "LOE for affiliation with the intelligence community").

I understand that I will be automatically redesignated to (choose one of the following: "oceanography officer (1800)," "cryptologic warfare officer (1810)," "information professional officer (1820)" or "intelligence officer (1830)") upon completion of my surface warfare qualification, per COMNAVSURFORINST 1412.1C and completion of one SWO division officer tour.

Upon redesignation, I understand that I will incur a minimum service requirement of 3 years from the date of designator change to be served concurrently with any other obligations.

(Service Member's Signature)

Witness: _____
{Name, Rank and Title}