

MILPERSMAN 1520-060

NURSE CANDIDATE PROGRAM

Responsible Office	CNO (N13)	Phone:	DSN	223-2326
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Governing Directives	SECNAVINST 1120.6B SECNAVINST 1920.6B DODI 6000.13
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1. **Purpose**. This program gives qualified individuals the opportunity to complete the requirements for a baccalaureate degree in nursing and earn a commission as a Nurse Corps officer.
2. **Eligibility**. Applicant must be
 - a. a civilian or an enlisted member of a Reserve component of one of the Armed Forces not on active duty.
 - b. 18-34 years of age on date of commission.
 - c. Enrolled in or accepted for transfer to a program accredited by a nationally recognized nursing accreditation agency that confers a baccalaureate degree in nursing. The program must be completed within 24 months of enlistment as an OCUI2.
3. **Nurse Candidate Program (NCP) Selectees**
 - a. Selectees will sign the NCP Agreement prior to enlistment and acceptance of orders as an NCP candidate. Commanding Officer, Naval School of Health Sciences (NSHS) Bethesda, MD, maintains administrative responsibility for NCP students.
 - b. While enrolled in school the NCP student will be in an inactive status as an Officer Candidate Under Instruction second class (OCUI2), U.S. Naval Reserve.

c. Interested individuals should contact a Medical Programs Recruiter at the closest Navy Recruiting District (NAVCRUITDIST) for complete details. Commander, Navy Recruiting Command maintains responsibility for the NCP applicants.

4. Terms and Obligations Upon Graduation

a. Upon conferral of baccalaureate degree, the NCP graduate will be appointed as Nurse Corps, United States Naval Reserve (Designator 2905) at a grade in accordance with DODI 6000.13 and concurrently discharged from enlisted status. There should be no break in service.

b. The total commissioned obligation is 8 years. Time not spent on active duty will be spent in the inactive Reserves. Service obligation does not commence until the candidate graduates, is commissioned and begins active duty.

c. Candidates who enter this program during the 4th year of their nursing program will agree to serve on active duty as a Nurse Corps Officer for 4 years. Candidates who enter the program during the 3rd year of their nursing program will agree to serve on active duty as a Nurse Corps Officer for 5 years.

d. Appointees will be retained under the administrative control of NSHS, Bethesda, MD, pending assignment to the next available Officer Indoctrination School class at Newport, RI, following appointment and passing the NCLEX-RN. The NCP and subsequent appointment as a Nurse Corps Officer are governed by SECNAVINST 1120.6B.

5. License Requirements

a. Nurse Corps officers must obtain and maintain a license to practice as a registered professional nurse from a state, territory, or the District of Columbia based on a licensing examination provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and administered by one of its member boards of nursing. The exam must be taken at the first opportunity following graduation and prior to reporting for active duty.

b. Obtaining and maintaining a license to practice nursing is the responsibility of the officer. Officers who fail to become licensed may be reappointed in a different competitive category to complete any incurred active-duty obligation or separated under the guidance of SECNAVINST 1120.6B and 1920.6B.