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You and your spouse will have the chance to meet with detailers, interact with other career-motivated Sailors, and gain knowledge from a host of experts, all geared towards improving your career. You will also have the opportunity to hear from senior Navy leaders about developing and becoming better leaders and how to make the most of opportunities in the Navy.

We have taken many steps in this direction, from the continuing Rating Modernization work to overhauling the Enlisted Advancement Exam Process, and giving Commanding Officers more authority to promote deserving personnel through the Meritorious Advancement Program. And yet, we still have further to go in order to ensure our best and brightest Sailors Stay Navy. We brought CDS here to show you exactly how we are doing that. By participating today, you are demonstrating your deliberate commitment to grow throughout your career.

Thank you for coming to CDS. As part of our Navy family I hope this symposium empowers you with the knowledge and tools needed to successfully manage your career. Every day you face challenges to overcome and at times need to rely on your shipmates. From one shipmate to another, allow me to help you advance your Navy Career. I have assembled a team to help you do just that. You give 100% as part of the Navy Team; you can expect us to do the same.

You will have an opportunity to provide feedback. I look forward to hearing your ideas on how we can make the next symposium even more useful and beneficial in the future.

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• **Performance**, for a brand new view of PRIMS with a graphic depiction that charts your PFAs and a calculator to measure test results
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Quarterly updates will add new functionality, information, and resources to achieve the goal of making MNP the one-stop-shop Sailors use to manage personnel and career activities.

**Bookmark MNP for quick access:** [https://my.navy.mil](https://my.navy.mil)

For now, MNP requires a common access card (CAC) to logon. You have the option of choosing a low bandwidth or high bandwidth version of MNP when logging in.
**Blended Retirement System**

An important career decision with financial significance

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If you joined as active duty:

• Before January 1, 2006 you will remain in your current system
• After December 31, 2005 but before January 1, 2018 you can choose your current system or BRS
• After December 31, 2017 you will be enrolled in BRS

The opt-in/election period: Jan. 1 — Dec. 31, 2018

**Credentialing Opportunities On-Line**

Separation from the Navy is inevitable

Preparing for civilian life applies to Officers and Sailors who plan to make a career out of their Navy service, plan to separate after their initial obligation, or fit somewhere in between. The Navy’s Credentialing Opportunities On-line (COOL) is a great resource to discover possible career fields after service is finished, and to plan for that eventuality.

Preparation is vital, especially if planning for a different career than the one you had as an Officer or Sailor

Civilian credentialing improves members’ active duty professionalism. The three types of credentials that can be earned are licensure, certification and apprenticeship.

There are four key Navy COOL credentialing steps:

- Finding and selecting related credentials
- Completing a voucher and applying
- Schedule testing, an exam or recertification
- Report results to Navy COOL

Sailors’ average pass-rate is 93% compared with the industry average of 85%. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NAVY COOL. Help ensure your civilian credentials are squared away, and you’re ready to start your profession, post-Navy service.

See details at the Navy COOL website: [https://www.cool.navy.mil](https://www.cool.navy.mil)

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**HAVE YOU OPTED IN YET?**

BRS is on My Navy Portal in the Career & Life Events (CLE) menu under Retirement and Separation.

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**FIVE-STEP BLENDED RETIREMENT SYSTEM (BRS) CHECKLIST TO SUCCESS**

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- **STEP 2**: Take the mandatory BRS Opt-In Course
- **STEP 3**: Educate yourself on the BRS and use the BRS Calculator to analyze your estimated benefits
- **STEP 4**: Schedule an appointment to consult your installation personnel financial manager/counselor
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**Growing Your Career Competencies**

A Learning and Development Roadmap is a guide for you, mentors, supervisors and career counselors to use for professional development and advanced education in your career community. Roadmaps help to build on Sailorization, specifically by rate and pay grade. They give you an overview and point to the ideal progression in professional knowledge.

https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/

USE YOUR ROADMAP: Click the “FIND” button on the webpage above to track when you should be hitting milestones, Career & Life Event accomplishments, qualifications, training and typical career path developments.

*A lifelong continuum helping to standardize your Navy Career and civilian afterlife*

Sit down with your mentor and schedule an appointment with your command career counselor, to discuss if you’re hitting your benchmarks. Devise a plan to continue onto what’s next, talk through priorities, or chart a way to realign with your Roadmap if you have gotten off course. A partial example is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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