Program Authorization: Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP). The MECP is a commissioning program designed to afford outstanding performers the opportunity to complete the educational requirements for an entry-level Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing and earn a commission as a Nurse Corps Officer, USN. The program manager is NPC (PERS-4415 CMNC), Commercial (901) 874-2818 or DSN 882-2818. Resource Sponsor is Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) (MOOFMC/M09B-HC).

1. Program Authority: 10 U.S.C. 532, 2013, 6323, Chapter 539

2. Quota: As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education), (MPT&E), CNO N1.

3. Qualifications:
   
a. Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens of the United States. Waivers will not be granted.

b. Gender: Open to male and female applicants.

c. Age: Must be at least 20 years old and able to complete 20 years of active commissioned service by age 62.

d. Education:

   (1) Applicants must be high school graduates. High school diplomas or equivalency certificates based upon military education experience and general equivalency diploma (GED) test results are acceptable if they are issued by the Department of Education of a State, Commonwealth, or Territory of the United States of America or the District of Columbia.

   (2) Applicants must have a collegiate cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and be accepted by a university accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Applicant must have completed a minimum of 45 quarter, or 30 semester credit hours in undergraduate courses concentrated in the sciences. Credit hours may be a combination of traditional classroom courses, College Level Entry Program (CLEP) credit, on-line or distance learning programs, or military training credits provided the school to which the application is made accepts the non-traditional credits.

   (3) Have a certified copy of Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or ACT Assessment (ACT) test scores no older than 3 years
from application due date. Minimum recommended scores are 1000 SAT (500 Math and 500 Verbal) or 42 ACT (21 Math and 21 English).

(4) Participants must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

(5) Participants will be enrolled on a full-time, year-round basis, beginning in the Fall semester following selection.

(6) Participants must submit official transcripts to: Naval Medical Education and Training Command (NMETC), Code OG3, 8901 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20889-5611 upon completion of each school term. A selectee's failure to disclose complete academic transcripts or evidence of tampering in any way will result in disenrollment from MECP.

(7) Participation in a non-mandatory co-op or work-study program will not be authorized if such participation will cause delay in projected graduation date.

(8) Participants must remain at the university initially enrolled in and will not be permitted to extend their projected graduation date, cease attending classes, change majors, enter exchange programs, or transfer schools without specific approval of NPC (PERS-4415CMNC). Failure to obtain prior approval may result in disenrollment.

(9) Participants must be able to complete the requirements for a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from an institution accredited by the NLNAC or CCNE, within 36 consecutive months from date of enrollment into the MECP. Full-time distance learning programs are not authorized.

(10) Waivers of educational requirements may be granted by N13 with recommendation provided by NMETC on a case-by-case basis.

(11) In addition to disenrollment for academic reasons, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (N13), as recommended by NMETC, may disenroll candidates as a result of discipline/moral problems (drug usage, civil convictions, etc.).

e. Physical Requirements: Must meet the physical standards for service on active duty as recommended by the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) and approved by CNO. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education) (CNO N1), upon recommendation of BUMED, may waive
physical defects that will not interfere with the performance of active duty within the guidelines of NAVMED P-117.

f. Marital Status: No restrictions.

g. Time in Service: No restrictions.

h. Recommendation: Applicants must be recommended by their Commanding Officer.

4. Source:

a. Applicants must be serving on active duty in either the U.S. Navy or Navy Reserve (including the Full Time Support (FTS)). Reserves on Active Duty for Special Work (ADSW), or one, two, or three-year Recalls and Canvasser Recruiters are not eligible for this program.

b. Disciplinary Actions: Applicants must have no record of courts-martial convictions or civilian felony convictions prior DUI/DWI convictions, disciplinary action under Article 15 (Uniformed Code of Military Justice), or conviction by civil court for misdemeanors (except minor traffic violations) during the three years preceding the date of application to MECP. Any prior record of drug use is disqualifying.

c. A person who is drug or alcohol dependent, abuses drugs or alcohol, or whose pre-service abuse of drugs or alcohol indicates a proclivity to continue abuse in the service or who has a record of any trafficking offenses is ineligible.

5. Funding: Selectees continue to receive full pay and allowances and remain promotion eligible while participating. Selectees pay for tuition, books, and other school related expenses. Students may not use Tuition Assistance (TA), but may seek financial assistance from other sources including the Veteran’s Educational Assistance Program (VEAP), the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB), and the Admiral Boorda Scholarship Program.

6. Appointment: Ensign, USN, Nurse Corps, Designator 2900, upon completion of the Degree in Nursing. No subsequent reversion to an enlisted status is authorized. Commissioned officers must serve the minimum years active commissioned service per Title 10 U.S. Code 6323 to be eligible for retirement as an officer at the rank held.
7. Service Obligation:

   a. Selectees must reenlist for six years from the date of execution of orders to begin MECP training.

   b. Selectees will incur an 8-year commissioned service obligation. Total active duty obligation is four years. Obligated time not spent on active duty will be served in the Selected Reserve or the Individual Ready Reserve as determined by the Chief of Naval Reserve.

   c. Selectees will maintain their enlisted status and be eligible for advancement in rating under the Navy advancement system. Their Armed Forces Identification Card, DD2N (ACT) will reflect the enlisted paygrade currently held.

   d. Participants who attrite or complete degree requirements, but fail to commission, will be obligated for five years of enlisted service from the date of program disenrollment, or the remainder of their current enlistment, whichever is longer.

8. Indoctrination: As directed by Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education) (MPT&E) (CNO N1), officers will attend Officer Indoctrination School (OIS), Newport, Rhode Island prior to reporting to first assignment. Participants in the Navy Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NROTC) program will be ordered directly to first duty stations and will not attend OIS.

9. License:

   a. Nurse Corps Officers must obtain and maintain a valid, current, unrestricted license to practice as a Professional Registered Nurse from a State, Territory, or the District of Columbia based on the licensing examination provided by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCLEX-RN) and administered by one of its member boards of nursing as required by OPNAVINST 1120.7 series.

   b. Appointment as a Nurse Corps officer may occur prior to licensure; however, the NCLEX-RN examination must be taken at the first opportunity following completion of the baccalaureate program.

   c. An officer who twice fails the licensure examination is a training attrite and may be re-appointed through the training attrite process to a different officer community (designator) to complete any incurred active duty obligation. The Assistant
Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs (M&RA)) may relieve an officer of incurred active duty obligation, considering the comments and recommendations of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education), (MPT&E), CNO N1 when such action would be in the best interest of the naval service. Officers whose active duty obligation has been waived shall either submit a voluntary resignation or be processed for administrative separation per SECNAVINST 1920.6 series.

d. Obtaining and maintaining a license to practice as a professional nurse is an expense incurred by the individual.

e. Prior to appointment, applicants will be required to acknowledge in writing that they are aware of licensure requirements.

Approved:  

[Signature]

M. A. LEFEVER  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Director, Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education Division (N13)

Date:  

[Signature]  

May 7