Program Authorization: Chaplain Candidate Program Officers (CCPO) are prospective Chaplain Corps (CHC) officers who serve in the Chaplain Candidate Program (CCP), designator 1945. The CCP familiarizes graduate students of religion with religious support activities in the U.S. Navy environment. The Chaplain Corps uses this program as an accession source for Navy chaplains (active and reserve). Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (CNRC), CHC Officer Community Manager, CCP Program Manager (CCP PM), Force Chaplain, Commander Navy Reserve Force, and CHC Force Structure Division (OPNAV N0971) work together to maximize prospective chaplain gains through this program. BUPERS-316 is the Chaplain Corps Officer Community Manager.

1. **Program Authority:** Title 10, U.S.C. 531, 532, 533, 1251 (Active Component); Title 10, USC 12201 through 12210 (Reserve Component); DODD 1304.19; DODI 1304.28; COMNAVRCRUITCOMINST 1131.2 series; OPNAVINST 1120.9 series; COCINST 1110.1 series.

2. **Cancellation:** Program Authorization 219 of July 2008.

3. **Quota:** As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education) (N1) in the annual accession plan.

4. **Qualifications:**

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

   b. Gender: Open to men and women.

   c. Education:

      (1) Undergraduate Requirement: Bachelor’s degree from an accredited educational institution with a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

      (2) Graduate Requirement: Graduate Requirement: Currently enrolled in a graduate-level degree-granting religious studies program of qualifying educational institutions that requires at least 2/3 of course hours completed in residence. Such programs and institutions must comply with qualifying Religious Ministry Professional (RMP) - producing educational institution criteria established in DODI 1304.28 series.

      (3) A curriculum plan demonstrating course requirements and projected completion date must be submitted with the
application. In addition, official transcripts must be submitted to the CCP PM (COMNAVCRUITCOMINST 1131.2 series). Failure to disclose complete academic transcripts or evidence of tampering in any way will result in disenrollment.

(4) The educational progress of CCPOs will be monitored by the CCP PM. Participants must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; failure to do so will result in program probation and possible disenrollment from the program.

d. Ecclesiastical Approval: Applicants must have an approved DD FORM 2088 from a qualified Religious Organization (RO), as specified in DODI 1304.28, verifying that the individual is a Chaplain Candidate. If approval is lost or rescinded, CCPO must receive new approval from a RO within 30 days. This new approval must be submitted by the RO to the CHC Force Structure Division (OPNAV N0971) via the CCP PM within the 30 day time frame. Failure to maintain ecclesiastical approval will result in disenrollment.

e. Age - OPNAVINST 1120.9 (series) applies:

(1) Chaplain candidate applicants must be at least 21 years of age and be commissioned before age 38.

(2) Age waivers may be granted for chaplain candidate applicants with prior military service (active or reserve) only. CNRC is granted waiver authority. Waivers cannot be sub-delegated below the flag level, and CNRC will maintain on file written justification for each waiver granted.

(3) CCPOs must be IAW PA 110 age criteria upon completion of seminary studies.

f. Physical Requirements: Must be physically qualified in accordance with Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15. Applicants must meet the physical fitness weight and/or percentage of body fat standards at the time of application and commissioning. Participants must maintain these standards while in the program; failure to do so will result in program probation and possible disenrollment from the program.

g. Marital Status: No restrictions.

h. Time in service: No restrictions.

i. Work Experience: No restrictions.
j. Appointment Eligibility: Be able to meet all other appointment eligibility criteria found in OPNAVINST 1120.9 series.

5. Source:
   a. Civilian men and women.
   b. Navy and Marine Corps personnel, officer and enlisted (active or reserve) with an approved conditional resignation/release.
   c. Enlisted personnel of reserve components of other armed forces provided an appropriate conditional release is authorized. DoD Directive 1205.5 applies.
   d. Commissioned personnel of other armed forces branch (active or reserve) who are not otherwise eligible for interservice transfer or superseding appointment, provided a conditional resignation/release (other services only) is approved by member’s service component (DD Form 368).

6. Selection: Using approved processing protocol, applications containing all required documents will be forwarded by CNRC to the Chaplain Appointment and Retention Eligibility (CARE) Advisory Group for evaluation in accordance with provisions of COCINST 1110.1 series.

7. Indoctrination: CCPOs will attend Direct Commission Officer Indoctrination Course (DCOIC), Officer Training Command, within 12 months from the date of appointment as a Chaplain Candidate. Chaplain Candidates must complete Chaplain Candidate Orientation Course, Naval Chaplaincy School and Center within 24 months or prior to their first active duty for training (ADT)/on-the-job training (OJT).

8. Training Requirement: CCPOs will enroll in Navy e-Learning courses and participate in ADT/OJT opportunities available upon completion of CCPO Indoctrination. A minimum of one OJT, assigned by CCP PM, is required for a direct appointment as a Navy chaplain (active or reserve). Uniforms must be worn during periods of active duty served at a military facility.
9. Disenrollment: In accordance with provisions found in OPNAVINST 1120.9 series, CCPOs may be separated from the program by Chief of Naval Personnel (PERS-9).

10. Appointment: Ensign, USNR, designator 1945, Unrestricted Line-Prospective Staff Corps.

11. Service Obligation: If eligible under provisions of PA 110 and OPNAVINST 1120.9 series, accept a direct appointment, if tendered, to Active Duty or Reserve Component (SELRES). CCPOs who are not offered a direct appointment, and those who do not accept one when offered, will be disenrolled from the program.

Approved:  

F. J. ROEGER, RADM, USN  
Director, Military Personnel  
Plans and Policy (N13)

Date: 7/28/15