FY-21-2 Test Pilot School Selection Board
August 2020
TPS Overview

- Opportunities for TPS graduates:
  - Test and evaluation of leading-edge capabilities, including work related to: UAS, JSF, Next-Gen Jammer, P-8 Increments 2 and 3, V-22, next-gen strike weapons, networked/integrated warfighting capabilities, unmanned systems, etc.

- Ideal candidates:
  - Strong first sea tour EP performance with advanced fleet community quals
  - Career timing to support VX/HX tour and fleet community progression
  - Strong desire to solve technical challenges and directly impact the future warfighting capability of the U.S. Navy
  - Strong grades in STEM courses/degree programs
  - NFOs are in particularly high demand for a variety of systems-based programs

- Opportunity varies for each board - if interested, APPLY!

Community endorsement / encouragement of the TPS path is vital to the success of developmental test programs / future capability
FY21-2 Applicant Summary

- 68 Total Eligible Applicants*
  - 56 Pilot
    - HSC: 13
    - HSM: 17
    - VAQ: 2
    - VAW/VRC: 5
    - VFA: 11
    - VP/VQ(P): 8
    - VQ(T): 0
  - 12 NFO
    - VAQ: 4
    - VAW: 4
    - VFA: 2
    - VP: 1
    - VQ(P): 1
    - VQ(T): 0

* Eligible application = submitted on-time with positive command endorsement (support application and able to detach candidate for pre-arrival training)
## FY21-2 Requirements/Selects

**18 Quotas** (16 USNTPS, 1 ETPS, 1 USAFTPS)

- **11 Pilot quotas**
  - 1 Any Helo
  - 1 60R
  - 1 V-22/C-2
  - 1 E-2C/D
  - 2 P-8/P-3/EP-3
  - 4 Any TACAIR
  - 1 18E/F

- **7 NFO quotas**
  - 1 E-2C/D
  - 1 P-8/P-3/EP-3
  - 1 EP-3
  - 1 P-8
  - 1 18F
  - 2 Any TACAIR

**18 Selects**

- **11 Pilots selected**
  - 2 60S
  - 1 60R
  - 1 C-2
  - 1 E-2C/D
  - 2 P-8
  - 3 18E/F
  - 1 18G

- **7 NFOs selected**
  - 2 E-2C/D
  - 1 P3
  - 1 EP3
  - 1 18F
  - 2 18G
Select Summary (% of category)

• 18 of 68 selects (26%)
  – 11 of 56 Pilots (20%)
    ➢ 2 of 13 HSC (15%)
    ➢ 1 of 17 HSM (6%)
    ➢ 2 of 5 VAW/VRC (40%)
    ➢ 2 of 8 VP (25%)
    ➢ 3 of 11 VFA (27%)
    ➢ 1 of 2 VAQ (50%)
  – 7 of 12 NFOs (58%)
    ➢ 2 of 4 VAW (50%)
    ➢ 2 of 2 VP (100%)
    ➢ 1 of 2 VFA (50%)
    ➢ 2 of 4 VAQ (50%)
Eligibility

• Application based
  - Application requirements IAW BUPERSINST 1500.62D
  - Positive CO endorsement required
    - Must state that candidate will be available for training timeline to support class dates
    - If not available for training, do not positively endorse
      - May submit package with negative endorsement to show ‘continued interest’ of applicant (prior applications are retained for future boards)
  - Wing/CAG endorsement is common but not a requirement
  - Academic transcripts required; TPS Chief Academic Instructor provides assessment that is non-binding for the board
    - Bachelor of Science degree in engineering, physical science, or math ‘required’:
      - Can be waived by the board “…if requirements dictate and applicant has completed college-level calculus and physics”
      - Board uses TPS academic assessment to assist with uncertainty regarding academic credentials
Convening Order

• Test Wing provides requirements letter based on test squadron demand signal that forms basis of Convening Order (TMS/designator specific)

• Guidance to board
  – “Should ensure” selectees will be able to complete a 36 month test tour. Other timing will be considered, but no less than 24 months of availability.
  – URL: O-3 candidates “preferred”; O-4 may be selected if insufficient quantities of well-qualified O-3 provided they can still meet applicable career milestones
  – Strong operational background
  – Superior overall performance
  – Able to meet rigorous academic background requirements
Letters to the Board

- A well-written FITREP will preclude the need for a Letter to the Board (LTB)
- Recommend CO endorsement states whether officer will receive an EP FITREP prior to departure for TPS training track if not yet achieved
  - If FITREP will be at Change of Command, include date
- LTBs can be effective if explaining FITREP timing or screen group changes
  - Undocumented GSA/IA
  - Early pull for a flag aide, hard fill or transition
- LTBs can draw undue attention to a weakness
  - “Timing forced me to roll him two days before a COC”
- “Must Pick / Good Guy” LTBs are less effective
  - Screening is based on FITREP performance, not LTBs
Applications

- **Include all qualifications**
  - i.e. Wing LSO Qual, Tanker-Qualified, SFTI, Mission Commander, etc.
  - Wing LSO include designation letter with application
  - Include UAS experience
    - Increasing demand for UAS testing projected into the future

- Include CO office and cell phone numbers for notification
  - Include underway contact information, if deployed or anticipate deployment at board convening date
Applications (cont.)

• Applicants must have college level Calculus and Physics if they do not possess a STEM degree
  – Transcripts are reviewed by the Chief Academic Instructor of USNTPS and graded to assist board members. A grade of “Not Recommended” is assigned if the candidate does not have Calculus and Physics.
  – Some candidates take Calculus and Physics at local community colleges to correct this issue.
Records

- **All officers must be proactive in keeping their records up-to-date**
  - [http://www.npc.navy.mil/Boards/ScreenBoards/Aviation](http://www.npc.navy.mil/Boards/ScreenBoards/Aviation)
    - Click on “Printing OSR / PSR”
  - [https://www.bol.navy.mil](https://www.bol.navy.mil)
    - Click on “Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) My Record” and “ODC, OSR, PSR, ESR”
  - Ensure there are no FITREP gaps and no missing qualifications or awards
    - Contact your detailer to correct errors