

Submarine Warfare and Surface Warfare (Nuclear) Officer Lateral Transfer Guidelines

The Submarine Warfare and Surface Warfare (Nuclear) communities invest significant training, at-sea operational experience, and in-port maintenance expertise in each officer. All submariners and nuclear-trained surface warfare (SWO(N)) officers are valuable members of their communities with unique technical and warfighting skillsets that are needed at higher levels of responsibility, including command. As a result, lateral transfer of due-course submarine and SWO(N) officers is not normally approved prior to completion of a submarine department head (DH) or CVN principal assistant (PA) tour.

Officers who desire lateral transfer should review OPNAVINST 1210.5B (Lateral Transfer/Redesignation and Augmentation of Officers in the Navy) and MILPERSMAN 1212-010 (Lateral Transfer and Change of Designator Codes of Regular and Reserve Officers). Additionally, a NAVADMIN and Letter of Instruction are posted to *MyNavy Portal* before each lateral transfer board with additional guidance. Officers considering lateral transfer should discuss career options, both in and out of the Nuclear Force, with their chain of command and detailer.

The following guidelines apply:

- As stated above, nuclear-trained officers are not normally released for lateral transfer until completion of a DH or PA tour (MILPERSMAN 1212-010, BUPERSINST 1540.41). Exceptions may be approved on a case basis in unique circumstances. Examples include:
 - Lateral transfer into the Engineering Duty community, which directly supports the Submarine Force
 - Lateral transfer into the Nuclear Engineering Duty (EDO(N)) community, which directly supports the Carrier Force and the nuclear repair enterprise
 - Lateral transfer of officers with unique education, training, or skillsets into corresponding undermanned communities
 - Lateral transfer once an officer's year group meets retention goals to DH or PA
- Parent commands endorsing a lateral transfer request should acknowledge that lateral transfer of an officer in advance of PRD may result in a gap. If no gap is authorized, officers will not normally be released for lateral transfer unless they are within one year of PRD in order to meet retainability requirements for reassignment (MILPERSMAN 1306-106).
- Officers with an approved resignation or retirement request are not eligible to apply for lateral transfer (OPNAVINST 1210.5B).
- Officers may not request lateral transfer until within one year of completing any obligated service in their present community as a result of functional training received (OPNAVINST 1210.5B).
- Officers will not be released for lateral transfer with more than one year left on a nuclear continuation bonus (COBO) contract (OPNAVINST 1210.5B, MILPERSMAN 1212-010).
- Serving DHs and PAs may be released for lateral transfer but will not detach from their sea assignment until their normal rotation timing with a relief identified.
- PERS-42 will inform officers not released for lateral transfer consideration.
- Officers selected for lateral transfer will have nuclear AQDs removed effective the date results are posted to *MyNavy Portal* or upon transfer from a nuclear assignment, whichever is later (BUPERSINST 1540.41). Removal of nuclear AQDs results in the loss of eligibility for nuclear Annual Incentive Pay (AIP).