

Program Authorization: Officer Candidate indoctrination and training of college graduates for appointment as Special Duty Officer (Oceanography) (OCEANO). Unless explicitly stated, the provisions outlined in this Program Authorization (PA) shall apply to both the Active Component (AC) and the Reserve Component (RC). BUPERS-317 is the AC OCEANO Officer Community Manager (OCM) and BUPERS-351 is the RC OCEANO OCM.

1. Program Authority: Title 10 United States Code §532, §5587 and §12201 to §12209.
2. Cancellation: PA 108B, April 2015.
3. Quota: As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education) in the annual accession plan.
4. Qualifications:
  - a. Citizenship: IAW 10 USC §532, Applicants must be citizens of the United States. This requirement cannot be waived.
  - b. Gender: No restrictions.
  - c. Age:
    - (1) AC: In accordance with 10 USC §532, applicants must not have passed their 42nd birthday upon commissioning. This requirement cannot be waived.
    - (2) RC: Must be at least 18 years old and less than 42 at the time of commissioning. Prior qualifying service will be considered for year-for-year credit up to age of 50. Non-prior service personnel over 42 may be considered provided:
      - (a) The applicant understands and acknowledges, by signing the Maximum Age Statement of Understanding that he/she may not be able to serve long enough to obtain a retirement (regular or non-regular).
      - (b) The community professional review board recommends the member for commissioning and will accept the applicant over the age requirement.
  - d. Education:
    - (1) Minimum of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution. This requirement cannot be waived.
    - (2) Major fields of study directly related to Science, Meteorology, Oceanography, Mathematics, Physics, and Engineering are most strongly preferred, but not required.
    - (3) A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.8 or greater is required.

(4) Completion of a calculus series (minimum of Calculus I and II) with a C or better average and completion of a calculus-based physics series (Physics I and II) with a B or better average are required.

(5) Waiver requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and should be sent to the OCEANO OCM in coordination with Navy Recruiting Command (NRC). Waivers for AC will only be granted to applicants who meet the minimum waivable Academic Profile Code for the Naval Postgraduate School's Meteorology and Operational Oceanography curriculum.

e. Physical: IAW the Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15, selectees must maintain eligibility for sea duty and worldwide assignment.

f. Duty Preference: Not applicable.

g. Marital Status: No restrictions.

h. Program Specific Requirements:

(1) Officer Aptitude Rating (OAR) (AC Only): All applicants must take the OAR examination. Applicants must attain a score of 45 or greater.

(2) Work Experience: Prior military or civilian experience in physical oceanography meteorology, hydrographic survey, or geospatial information and systems is strongly desired.

(a) Military work experience shall be validated with submission of the applicant's three most recent observed enlisted performance evaluations. This requirement may be waived by the OCEANO OCM in coordination with NRC.

(b) (RC Only) In accordance with CNIFRINST 1120.1(series), temporary rated enlisted personnel shall complete initial training requirements and make their rate permanent prior to applying.

(3) Leadership: A quantifiable record of leadership, management or supervisory experience in academia, civilian and/or military organizations is strongly preferred.

(4) Security Clearance Eligibility: Candidates must meet the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) 704 eligibility standards for access to Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI).

(a) Applicants who are recommended for a commission into the active and reserve component are required to complete a pre-nomination interview with the local Special Security Officer (SSO) prior to final selection as an officer candidate.

(b) Being a dual citizen (i.e. U.S. citizen and a citizen of another country) is not necessarily disqualifying criterion. Associated risks to national security will be determined on a case-by-case basis, refer to ICD 704.

(5) Interviews (RC only): Interviews will be conducted in accordance with CNIFRINST 1120.1 series.

5. Accession Source:

a. AC:

(1) Civilians.

(2) Enlisted personnel of the regular Navy or Navy Reserve (active and inactive) or enlisted personnel of the other armed services with an approved conditional release for inter-service transfer.

b. RC:

(1) Civilians.

(2) Enlisted personnel in the Selected Reserve (SELRES) or Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) of any service in the armed forces. SELRES on Active Duty Other than Training (ADOT) may apply but must complete their active duty obligation (i.e. mobilization, Active Duty Operational Support (ADOS) or Special Work (ADSW), and definite recall) under current orders before being commissioned.

6. Indoctrination:

a. AC: Selectees will complete Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Officer Training Command, Newport, RI.

b. RC: Selectees must complete Direct Commission Officer Indoctrination Course (DCOIC) at Newport, RI, within one year of commissioning.

7. Enlistment: (AC Only) Civilians and Enlisted applicants in paygrades E-4 and below, who are selected for this program are designated Officer Candidates and advanced to paygrade E-5 upon reporting to OCS. Enlisted applicants in paygrades E-5 and above are designated Officer Candidates in their present paygrades.

8. Appointment:

a. AC:

(1) Direct Accession: Ensign, U.S. Navy, Special Duty Officer (OCEANO), designator 1800.

(2) Surface Warfare Officer (OCEANO Option): Ensign, U.S. Navy, Surface Warfare Officer Student, Designator 1160G, Additional Qualification Designator (AQD) of "LOD."

Officers will be redesignated to 1800 without board action per MILPERSMAN 1212-050.

b. RC: Ensign, U.S. Navy Reserve, Special Duty Officer (Oceanography), designator 1805.


9. Service Obligation:

a. AC: Selectees will incur a four (4) year active duty obligation from date of appointment. The obligation commences upon commissioning. The balance of service, sufficient to complete eight (8) years total obligated service may be served in a Ready Reserve status.

(1) Surface Warfare Officer (OCEANO Option): Upon redesignation to 1800, SWO (OCEANO Option) officers incur an additional minimum service obligation in accordance with MILPERSMAN 1212-050 from date of designator change, to be served concurrently with any other obligations.

b. RC: Officers incur a three (3) year SELRES obligation followed by a five (5) year IRR obligation, for a total eight (8) year obligation. This obligation commences upon commissioning.

10. Pay and Allowances: Upon commencing OCS, selectees will receive pay and benefits based on paygrade outlined in paragraph 7.

Approved:   
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