Thank you for expressing interest in redesignating into the Civil Engineer Corps (CEC).

Probationary Officer Continuation and Redesignation (POCR) Boards can have more than 60 candidates for review; below are some suggestions that will help you set yourself apart from the group and get one of the communities you want, even if it is not the CEC.

**Step 1:** Probably the most important thing to do—reach out to the Officer Community Manager (OCM). In your POCR package, you likely applied to several communities. Reach out to each OCM on your list. As much as we would like to pick every single candidate that applies, as OCMs we are constrained by the number of people in the year group. I have had several candidates in the past boards who have put CEC as a potential community, but have not contacted me. How strongly can I rate them?

Have questions when you call or email, based on your preliminary research which shows you at least know you are eligible to redesignate into the community. Some good questions for your first conversation can include:

- “Do you have room in my year group?”
- “Do you have references where I can research more about your community?”
- “What TAD options are there for me to experience your community before the Board convenes?”

Be ready for the OCM to ask questions too, such as:
- “Why are you redesignating?”
- “What attracted you to the Civil Engineer Corps?”
- “What do you know about what we do?”

**Step 2:** In depth research on each community on your list. Find out about the requirements to join, what will be expected of you in the community, what your career progression and jobs will look like. One mistake several candidates make is not researching, and it is obvious when talk with the OCM in their follow up interview that they do not understand the community basics.

**Step 3:** Request no cost TAD to work in the community (if possible). Work with your Admin department to get a 1-2 week TAD (more if possible) to experience the day to day life in each of your chosen communities. You may find out it is not the right call for you to join that community, and you have the ability to contact that OCM and request they not select you. Make sure to take a “test drive” of as many communities as possible on your list.

**Step 4:** Request Letters of Recommendation from the supervisors at your TAD location and other senior officers who know you and observe your work. If timing does not allow it to be included in your package, have your supervisor email it directly to the OCM so we can consider it, but it needs to be in our hands at least a week before the board meets. This factors strongly into our decision of whether or not we should pick you up.

**Step 5:** Follow up with each community on your list. Things like periodic check-in and asking good questions, even if by email, shows initiative and desire. Remember, we can’t pick up everyone who puts us as their #1 pick. Not following up, or only following up with one OCM, is putting all your eggs in one basket. If that OCM can’t take you in your year group, what does that mean for you?
CEC Program Requirements:

1. Degree/Requirements: CEC applicants must have either a (minimum) Bachelor’s degree from:
   a. An engineering program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering (ABET-EAC*) leading to registration as a Professional Engineer, or
   b. An architecture program accredited by the National Council of Architect Registration Boards (NCARB) leading to registration as a Registered Architect.

   * Candidates with other than an EAC accredited degree must have their EIT

2. Final GPA >2.70 on a 4.0 scale.

3. Physical: Must be world-wide deployable