

Am I eligible to take the CPO Exam for LDO purposes?

**BLUF:** Yes, provided:

1. You are a First Class Petty Officer (A Sailor who advances to First Class Petty Officer off the March Exam, **is** eligible to take the January CPO Exam for LDO purposes)
2. Have command endorsement and approval.

A Sailor who advances to First Class Petty Officer off the September exam, **is not** eligible to apply for the upcoming LDO/CWO ISP Board and **should not be recommended** to participate in the immediate upcoming January CPO Exam for LDO Purposes.

First let's review a typical scenario of an application year, which occurs on approximately the same dates every year:

October 2018 – LDO/CWO Applications due for FY 20

January 2019 – FY20 LDO/CWO In-Service Procurement (ISP) Board convenes

March 2019 – LDO/CWO Results released

May 2019 – Announcing NAVADMIN released soliciting applications for the FY 21 ISP Board

October 2019 – Those selected from the January 2019 LDO/CWO ISP Board begin getting commissioned (October 2019 is the beginning of FY 2020 hence why the board is called the FY20 ISP Board)

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 – LDO/CWO Applications due for FY 21

**The reference is the Advancement Manual (BUPERSINST 1430.16 G), Page 2-20, paragraph 215:**

“215. NWAE PARTICIPATION FOR LDO PURPOSES. Per OPNAVINST 1420.1 (series), E6 personnel who meet the eligibility requirements for the LDO program, have completed all requirements for E7, but do not meet the minimum E7 TIR requirements, and plan on submitting an LDO package, are authorized to participate in the E7 NWAE for LDO consideration.

Personnel must have served as an E6 for at least 1 year computed from their E6 TIR date to 1 October of the year the LDO application is submitted. CO/OIC written approval is required to take an NWAE for LDO purposes. Candidates participating in an E7 NWAE for LDO purposes must be identified as such when ordering NWAEs per paragraph 400b and/or by filling in “LDO CANDIDATE” on the answer sheet.

**Example:** YN2 Smith is a selectee for YN1 from the March 2016 advancement cycle. Her TIR for E6 is 1 July 2016. She will complete 1 year as an E6 on 1 July 2017, and is eligible to participate in the January 2017 CPO advancement cycle for LDO purposes, if she is submitting an LDO application for 1 October 2017.”