NSTC INSTRUCTION 1533.8G

From: Commander, Naval Service Training Command

Subj: MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION SCHOLARSHIP RESERVATIONS

Ref: (a) NSTCNOTE 1533
     (b) NSTC M-1533.2C

1. Purpose. To provide procedural guidance for granting Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Minority Serving Institution Scholarship Reservations (MSISR) at NROTC-affiliated Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Minority Institutions (MIs), and institutions with High Hispanic Enrollment (HHE). Each of these types of institutions shall be generally referred to as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI).

2. Cancellation. NSTCINST 1533.8F.

3. Background

   a. Each academic year, NROTC Professors of Naval Science (PNSs) at MSI-affiliated NROTC host units may nominate individuals interested in attending an MSI for an MSISR Scholarship. All other PNSs may refer interested individuals to a nominating PNS.

   b. The MSISR process is an additive effort to the Continuous National Selection Board (CNSB), Immediate Scholarship Reservation (ISR), and the NROTC 2 and 3 Year Scholarship processes, all of which allow NSTC to recruit and educate a year group (YG) of officers that best reflects the projected future needs of our Navy.

   c. NSTC understands that a student’s grade point average (GPA) and performance on standardized tests are important; however, they are not always the best predictors of a student’s potential to become a successful Naval Officer. NSTC seeks individuals who have demonstrated leadership, integrity, and character by using the factors identified in paragraph 4.a.(9) below.

   d. The NSTC Selection and Placement (N92) shall be available to assist MSISR selectees in obtaining a nomination from an NROTC Unit affiliated with an MSI university/college. If an MSISR selectee wishes to transfer their scholarship to another MSI, they must receive a nomination (or a favorable endorsement on the initial nomination) from the nominating PNS at the MSI prior to the transfer being approved.

4. Eligibility

   a. General Requirements Applicable to All Applicants. Applicants may be of any gender, race, or ethnic background and must meet all Navy-Option NROTC Scholarship eligibility requirements as well as the following conditions:
(1) Only Navy Option applicants (those who agree to seek an Unrestricted Line (URL) commission as an officer in the U.S. Navy) are eligible for a MSISR. Marine Corps and Nurse Corps Option applicants are not eligible.

(2) Applicants may not be on active duty at the time of their application.

(3) Applicants previously disenrolled from the NROTC program for disciplinary or academic reasons are ineligible for an MSISR Scholarship.

(4) Applicants must have attained scores of at least 540 in Math and 550 in Evidence Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) on the SAT or 21 in Math and 22 in English on the ACT during a test taken no earlier than two years from the date of the application. A combination of test scores using the highest component Math and EBRW/English scores for either SAT or ACT test may be used. Applicants with the minimum individual Math and Verbal scores and who respond positively to the MSISR interest question in the application are not required to meet the combined score in order to be eligible to apply and be considered on the MSISR selection board (Navy Option only).

(5) Applicants must complete the on-line National application and forward a copy to the NROTC unit from which they are seeking a nomination. The application must be fully processed by the local Navy Recruiting Station and forwarded to Officer Development (OD).

(6) Applicants must complete the NROTC Statement of Understanding (NSTC 1533/112), the Debarment Form (NSTC 1533/102) and the Drug Statement Form (NSTC 1533/101). The Deputy Commander for NROTC Operation (N04) will review and approve or deny all applicants that answer "yes" to statement one or two on NSTC 1533/101, concerning previous drug arrests or drug use.

(7) Applicants must apply to one of the NROTC-affiliated MSIs if not currently enrolled. Applicants must be admitted to the MSI in order to use their scholarship if selected.

(8) Applicants must demonstrate the ability to complete all Naval Science requirements and graduate on time with their assigned class YG by submitting a degree plan to the PNS of the MSI School the applicant wishes to attend. The degree plan must include all NROTC program and Naval Science course requirements.

(9) Applicants must have demonstrated leadership, integrity, and character by possessing some of the following characteristics:

   (a) Leadership and participation in a variety of school, extracurricular, community, or similar activities, particularly those with a charitable or public service purpose;

   (b) Receipt of civic or similar awards;

   (c) A history of overcoming personal adversity or the presence of other compelling factors, indicating that the student has a desire to succeed and the ability to overcome barriers; and
(d) Being regarded as a role model by the teachers and peers at their high school.

Not all the above factors need be present. The intent is to provide additional opportunities to all who, for any of the above or similar reasons, demonstrate potential for future success as a Naval Officer.

(10) Applicants must conduct an NROTC Applicant Fitness Assessment (AFA) and provide their scores to their recruiter for inclusion in their application package in order for their application to be considered complete and forwarded for consideration to the selection board.

b. Additional Requirements for Applicants with College Experience. Applicants must have completed no more than four academic terms totaling 30 semester credit hours (45 quarter hours) or less of college course work.

5. PNS Nomination Process

a. Each year, NSTC N92 will release an Officer Program Management Information System (OPMIS) Official Mail Message identifying the nomination deadline and the information required in the nomination package.

b. The nominating PNS at the MSI that the applicant is seeking to attend must personally interview each applicant and ensure compliance with the eligibility requirements in paragraph 4.

c. The PNS must submit all MSISR nominations, including all minimally qualified nominees even if the PNS does not recommend their selection, to NSTC N92 by the deadline stated in the annual MSISR OPMIS Official Mail Message.

d. Once the MSISR nomination has been received from the NROTC Unit, the application will continue to be considered by the National board until the MSISR board is convened. If the application is designated as a select by the National board the MSISR nomination will be removed from the application and the selection will not be counted as an MSISR select from that MSI. Once the MSISR board is convened, the MSISR nomination will no longer be considered by the National board and will only be considered by the MSISR board.

6. Selection Procedures

a. Annually, NSTC will publish an update to reference (a) to provide NSTC N9 the number of MSISR offers available.

b. NSTC N92 will review all timely submitted applications to ensure that applicants meet the eligibility criteria outlined in paragraph 4 and have no disqualifying factors. NSTC N92 will compile the applications of all eligible applicants and present them to the MSISR selection board for the board’s consideration.

c. The MSISR selection board will evaluate each eligible applicant using the current MSISR selection board precept.
d. Each MSI will be given a maximum number of scholarships that it may be awarded. The cap will be based on a 3-year average of nominations submitted from that MSI as a percentage of the overall authorized number of MSISR scholarships available. The caps are school specific and may not be moved between schools at NROTC Units affiliated with multiple MSIs.

c. If a NROTC unit submits fewer nominees than their associated cap, then the MSISR board will reallocate the excess MSISR offers initially using the current MSISR selection board precept cap guidelines.

7. Post-Selection Action

a. Upon final approval of board results, NSTC N92 staff shall enter each applicant's select status into the OPMIS selection files and send formal letters announcing selection status for an MSISR to selected applicants. The letters shall state that the award of the scholarship is contingent upon meeting all requirements including full medical qualification. Once an applicant has been assigned to the MSI, they cannot transfer to another MSI unless they were denied admission at the school where their scholarship was placed.

b. The nominating PNS shall be notified of the approval of MSISR selections by the OPMIS 61-Report.

c. The Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) must find selectees medically qualified for the NROTC Program before the MSISR is activated. The selectee must complete the DoDMERB physical examination on the earliest possible date. The purpose of the examination is to determine whether a medical condition exists that may disqualify the selectee from service as a Naval Officer upon graduation. Upon completion of the medical determination, DoDMERB will notify the selectee and NSTC OD of the selectee's status.

d. For selectees who require authorization for Navy reimbursed travel letters, the PNS shall notify NSTC N92 when the selectee is medically qualified or receives a medical waiver. If the selectee is already enrolled at the unit, the NROTC Placement Office will not issue a travel letter.

e. The PNS will appoint the selectee as a midshipman at the unit and commence subsistence payments in accordance with reference (b).

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