

Program Authorization: Nurse Corps (NC) Officer appointment in the Active (designator 2900) and Reserve (designator 2905) component of the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps. Program Manager is Commander Navy Recruiting Command (CNRC) N314. The Officer Community Manager for the Nurse Corps is in BUPERS-315.

1. Program Authority: Title 10, USC 531, 532, 533 and 1251 (Active Component); Title 10, USC 12201 through 12209 (Reserve Component); and OPNAVINST 1120.7 (series) pertains and provides specific guidance.

2. Cancellation: Program Authorization 116 of March 2007.

3. Quota: As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education) (DCNO) (MPTE) (N1)).

4. Qualifications: Must meet the criteria of OPNAVINST 1120.7 Series.

a. Citizenship: Must be a citizen of the United States.

b. Gender: Open to males and females.

c. Age: New accessions must be at least 20 years of age and be able to attain 20 years of active commissioned service by age 62. Age waivers may be granted for continuation beyond statutory separation or retirement when a manning shortfall exists against authorized strength in a nursing specialty.

(1) Age Limit Waivers. The maximum age qualification for initial appointment may be waived for applicants who do not exceed age 47 at time of commissioning on a case-by-case basis for direct commission and reserve recall. Emphasis will be placed on undermanned specialties and those with a pattern of missed recruitment goals. NCP, MECP, STA-21 and ROTC program age limits remain unchanged and applicants for these programs are **not** eligible for age 47 waiver consideration. Commander, Navy Recruiting Command is granted waiver authority. All waiver requests shall be coordinated through the Navy Recruiting Command and the Officer Community Manager (BUPERS-315).

(2) Applicant Acknowledgement of Age Limitations. Before appointment in the AC or RC, applicants who will be unable to complete 20 years of active commissioned or credible service by age 62 will be required to acknowledge in writing that they are ineligible for a regular appointment.

(3) Record of Age Waivers Authorized. The Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (COMNAVCRUITCOM), acting for DCNO (MPTE) (N1), shall maintain on file written justification for each waiver granted.

d. Education:

(1) Graduate of a school of nursing accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) that conferred a nursing baccalaureate or an advanced nursing degree.

(2) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA), Nurse Practitioners (NP), and Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) must have been awarded a Master's degree from a graduate educational program approved by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Educational Programs/Schools and have passed the certifications examination from a professional specialty organization.

(3) Foreign nursing school graduates who obtained a Bachelors of Science in Nursing Degree from an institution outside the United States which is not accredited by the NLNAC or CCNE are eligible for commissioning upon award of a Bachelor or Master of Science in Nursing from a NLNAC or CCNE accredited program and demonstrating oral and written English language proficiency.

e. Work Experience:

(1) Regular Component. Recently licensed Baccalaureate Degree graduates are eligible to apply.

(2) Reserve Component. Applicant must have a minimum of three months work experience and be engaged in nursing practice.

f. License:

(1) Must possess a current license, in good standing, to practice as a registered professional nurse from a state, territory, or commonwealth of the United States or the District of Columbia, awarded upon successful completion of the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

(2) Recent baccalaureate degree graduates who attended a Navy NC pipeline baccalaureate program while in an active duty status (NROTC, STA-21, Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program/MECP, or Nurse Candidate Program/NCP) may be appointed before licensure, but must take the NCLEX to become a registered professional nurse at the first opportunity.

g. Certification: CRNAs, NPs, and CNMs must obtain and maintain certification by a nationally recognized professional organization.

h. Physical: In accordance with the guidelines of Manual of the Medical Department, NAVMED P-117, Chapter 15.

i. Marital Status: No restrictions.

5. Source:

- a. Civilians (U.S. citizens).
- b. Enlisted personnel of the Active or Reserve components of the Navy (active or inactive) or other armed forces provided an appropriate conditional release is authorized.
- c. Commissioned personnel of any branch of the Uniformed Services (active or inactive) who are not otherwise eligible for interservice transfer or superseding appointment, provided conditional release or contingent resignation (USN/USNR only) is provided.

6. Indoctrination:

a. Active Component

(1) All newly appointed officers of the Nurse Corps (with the exception of those who access through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Nurse Option Program) will receive military orientation training at the Naval Officer Development School (ODS), Newport, Rhode Island prior to reporting to their first assignment.

b. Reserve Component

(1) All newly appointed officers will attend Officer Development School and complete selected Reserve mobilization training and correspondence courses within one year of appointment.

7. Appointment: Appointments shall be made in accordance with OPNAVINST 1120.7 Series. DOD Directive 1300.4 shall determine entry grade and date of rank for officers transferred from other uniformed services into the Nurse Corps of the U.S. Navy.

8. Minimum Service Requirement:a. Active Component.

(1) Three years (36 months) from the date of appointment. The balance of service, sufficient to complete eight years total, may be served in an individual ready reserve status (IRR).

b. Reserve Component.

(1) Remain commissioned in the Navy Reserve for eight years.

Approved:

A. M. Kurta
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Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy
Division (N13)

Date:

2/17/2012