

Program Authorization: Seaman to Admiral-21 (STA-21) Oceanography commissioning program. The STA-21 Oceanography program provides an upward mobility opportunity for active duty Sailors regardless of enlisted rate by providing them an opportunity to obtain a commission and 1800 designation (Note: Sailors with physical science backgrounds have the greatest transferability of skills, i.e. Aerographer's Mates, Sonar Technicians, etc.). BUPERS-314E is the OCEANO community manager. Program manager: Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) (OD), DSN 922-9437.

1. Program Authority: 10 USC 532, 2013, 6023 and 12209.
2. Quota: As prescribed by the Director, Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education Policy Division (N13).
3. Qualifications:
 - a. Citizenship. Applicants must be citizens of the United States. Waivers will not be granted.
 - b. Gender. Open to men and women.
 - c. Education and qualifications.
 - (1). Applicants are required to pursue physical science degrees (i.e., Physical Science, Meteorology, or Physical Oceanography). Additionally, the Oceanography community is looking for particular academic majors and for officers who possess strong analytical ability, as well as communication skills (both oral and written).
 - (2) STA-21 OCEANOGRAPHY selectees must take a minimum of two semesters each of Calculus and two semesters Calculus-based Physics receiving a passing grade of "C" or better. Calculus and Physics taken at other than the host institution must be transferable to the host institution to satisfy the STA-21 requirement.
 - (3) All STA-21 OCEANOGRAPHY participants must complete requirements for a baccalaureate degree in 36 months.
 - (4) Physical Science degrees must include 24 semester/36 quarter hours in physical science and/or related engineering science such as mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, and electronics.

(5) Meteorology or Atmospheric Science degrees must include at least 24 semester/36 quarter hours of credit in meteorology/atmospheric science including a minimum of:

(a) Six semester hours of atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics; (Calculus courses must be appropriate for a physical science major. There is a prerequisite of calculus for course work in atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics, physics, and differential equations.)

(b) Six semester hours of analysis and prediction of weather systems (synoptic/mesoscale);

(c) Three semester hours of physical meteorology and two semester hours of remote sensing of the atmosphere and/or instrumentation.

(d) Six semester hours of physics, with at least one course that includes laboratory sessions. (Calculus courses must be appropriate for a physical science major. There is a prerequisite of calculus for course work in atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics, physics, and differential equations.)

(e) Three semester hours of ordinary differential equations. (Calculus courses must be appropriate for a physical science major. There is a prerequisite of calculus for course work in atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics, physics, and differential equations.)

(f) At least nine semester hours of course work appropriate for a physical science major in any combination of three or more of the following: physical hydrology, statistics, chemistry, physical oceanography, physical climatology, radiative transfer, aeronomy, advanced thermodynamics, advanced electricity and magnetism, light and optics, and computer science.

d. Physical Oceanography or Marine Science degrees must include at least 24 semester/36 quarter hours in physical oceanography including a minimum of:

(1) Six semester hours of ocean dynamics and thermodynamics; (Calculus courses must be appropriate for a physical science major. There is a prerequisite of calculus for course work in atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics, physics, and differential equations.)

(2) Six semester hours of analysis and prediction of physical oceanography or acoustics (synoptic/mesoscale);

(3) Three semester hours of physical oceanography; and two semester hours of remote sensing of the atmosphere and/or instrumentation.

(4) Six semester hours of physics, with at least one course that includes laboratory sessions. (Calculus courses must be appropriate for a physical science major. There is a prerequisite of calculus for course work in atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics, physics, and differential equations.)

(5) Three semester hours of ordinary differential equations. (Calculus courses must be appropriate for a physical science major. There is a prerequisite of calculus for course work in atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics, physics, and differential equations.)

(6) At least nine semester hours of course work appropriate for a physical science major in any combination of three or more of the following: physical hydrology, statistics, chemistry, meteorology, hydrography, physical climatology, radiative transfer, aeronomy, advanced thermodynamics, advanced electricity and magnetism, light and optics, and computer science.

(7) Participants must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

(8) Applicants must provide SAT or ACT assessment scores. Minimum SAT score is 1000 SAT (500 Math and 500 Critical Reading) or 41 ACT combined Math/English (not less than 21 Math or 20 English).

(9) Enrollees will attend NROTC affiliated colleges or universities and be full-time students throughout the year (including summer sessions). Enrollees must remain at the university in which they initially enrolled and will not be permitted to transfer to another university while participating in STA-21.

(10) Waivers of these educational requirements may be granted by N13 with recommendations provided by NSTC on a case-by-case basis.

(11) In addition to disenrollment for academic reasons, candidates may be disenrolled because of disciplinary problems (drug usage, civil convictions, etc.) by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (N13) as recommended by NSFC.

e. Clearance: Applicants must have a current TS/SCI clearance or must complete and submit a SF-36 (Questionnaire for National Security Positions) if selected. Additionally, selectees must comply with periodic security updates, as required. For more information, candidates should contact their command Security Manager.

f. Age: Applicants must be at least 18 years old and be able to complete degree requirements and be commissioned prior to their 35th birthday.

g. Physical: Applicants must meet physical standards for appointment as prescribed in the Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15 and as detailed in DoD Directive 6130.3.

h. Marital status: No restrictions.

i. Time in service: No restrictions.

j. Moral Character: As defined in DoDI 1304.26.

4. Source:

a. Applicants must be serving on active duty in the U.S. Navy or Naval Reserve including Full Time Support of Reserves (FTS), Selected Reservist (SELRES), or Navy Reservist on active duty except those serving on active duty for training (ACDUTRA) to include annual training (AT) and initial active duty for training (I-ACDUTRA).

b. Disciplinary Actions. Applicants must have no record of courts-martial convictions or civilian felony convictions, disciplinary action under Article 15 (Uniform Code of Military Justice), or conviction by civil court for misdemeanors (except minor traffic violations) during the three years preceding the date of application to STA-21. Any substantiated drug abuse while in an enlisted status is disqualifying.

5. Funding: Selectees will continue to receive their full enlisted pay and allowances, and remain eligible for promotion while participating. An annual education voucher will be provided to benefit each participant and paid to the educational

institution attended. This voucher will be used to pay tuition, fees, and book costs only. Excess funding for vouchers will be remitted by the educational institution to NSTC as program manager. Students may not use Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) or Tuition Assistance (TA).

6. Indoctrination: Before beginning full-time college studies, STA-21 participants must attend the eight-week Naval Science Institute (NSI) at OTC Newport, RI to complete all required officer professional core competencies. While attending their selected NROTC affiliated college or university, STA-21 officer candidates will become members of the NROTC and drill with the unit, but are only required to take two Naval Science leadership courses since most material is provided during NSI. Upon completion of their baccalaureate degree program, STA-21 participants will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Navy.

7. Appointment: Ensign, USN, Restricted Line, Designator 1800.

8. Active duty obligation:

a. Selectees must volunteer to enlist for six years from the date of execution of orders to STA-21 training.

b. Selectees will incur a five-year active duty obligation upon commissioning.

c. Those STA-21 disenrollees who drop on request prior to commissioning will be obligated for five years of enlisted service from the date of program disenrollment, or the remainder of their current enlistment, whichever is longer.

d. Those that complete degree requirements but fail to be commissioned will be obligated for five years of enlisted service from the date of program disenrollment.

e. STA-21 Oceanography officer candidates who fail to meet program requirements, but desire consideration for Unrestricted Line officer opportunities may contact the Oceanography Officer Community Manager for information regarding conversion to the STA-21 Core program subject to the requirements of the Oceanography Program. All degree requirements must be completed within 36 months.

f. Additional obligated service may be incurred as a result of special training received following commissioning.

Approved:



DANIEL P. HOLLOWAY, RADM, USN
Director, Manpower, Personnel,
Training and Education Policy Division (N13)

Date:

12-22-09