

Program authorization for: Seaman to Admiral-21 (STA-21) Special Warfare (Designator 1180) option commissioning program. The STA-21 Special Warfare option provides an upward mobility opportunity for active duty enlisted members of the SEAL community by providing them an opportunity to obtain a commission and a SEAL Officer designation 1180. BUPERS-311D is the Special Warfare Officer Community manager.

1. Program Authority: 10 USC 531, 532 and 12209.

2. Quotas: As prescribed by the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education) (N1) in the annual accession plan.

3. Qualifications:

a. Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens of the United States of America. Waivers will not be granted.

b. Gender: Designator 1180 is open to men only.

c. Age: Applicants must be at least nineteen (19) years old, able to complete degree requirements, and not have passed their twenty-ninth (29th) birthday before commissioning. Month-for-month waivers beyond twenty-four (24) months will be considered only for active or previous active duty enlisted personnel who possess particularly exceptional qualifications, provided they can be commissioned prior to their thirty-fifth (35th) birthday. Formal waiver requests should be submitted to BUPERS 311D.

d. Education:

(1) There are no specific degree requirements, however, applicants are strongly encouraged to pursue technical degrees or degrees relevant to a Naval Special Warfare career (i.e. National Securities Studies, Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict, Financial Management, Operations Research Analysis, or Information Systems and Operations). Candidates are also encouraged to pursue foreign language education.

(a) STA-21 selectees must take a minimum of two semesters/three quarters of Calculus and Calculus-based Physics receiving a passing grade of "C" or better. Calculus and Physics taken at other than the host institution must be transferrable to the host institution to satisfy the STA-21 requirement.

(b) All STA-21 participants must complete requirements for a baccalaureate degree in 36 months. No waivers over 36 months will be approved.

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

(3) Applicants must provide SAT or ACT Scores. The minimum combined Math/Verbal SAT score is 1000 (not less than 500 Math or 500 Verbal) or minimum combined Math/English ACT score is 41 (not less than 21 Math or 20 English).

(4) 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.

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

(6) In addition to disenrollment for academic reasons, candidates may be disenrolled because of disciplinary problems (drug usage, civil convictions, etc.) by Commander, Naval Service Training Command (OD).

e. Physical: In accordance with the Manual of the Medical Department, Chapter 15 and as detailed in DoD Directive 6130.3.

(1) In addition to the previous medical requirements, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) M3/5FP must review Report of Medical Exam (DD Form 2808) and Report of Medical History (DD Form 2807). During this review, BUMED M3/5FP will determine whether the individual is medically eligible. If eligible, a letter to BUPERS will be generated stating that the individual is Physically Qualified (PQ) for "Special Operations" duty.

f. Moral Character: As defined in DoDI 1304.26.

g. Marital Status: No restrictions.

h. Interview: Applicants that desire to become SEAL Officers and are not STA-21 Special Warfare options must be selected by a SEAL Officer Selection panel prior to service assignment. Officer candidates must provide current contact

information to coordinate this interview process with the SEAL Officer Community manager. Selection panel dates and interview times will be relayed with the candidates in advance of the board dates.

4. Source:

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

b. Applicants must have no record of courts-martial convictions or civilian felony convictions, disciplinary action under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), 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:

a. Selectees will continue to receive their full enlisted pay and allowances, and remain eligible for promotion while participating. An annual \$10,000 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 use veteran's benefits in accordance with VA rules. Students may not use Tuition Assistance (TA).

b. Special Warfare Option selectees should contact the SEAL Officer Community Manager regarding eligibility for special pays. Maintenance of certain skills and special qualifications enhances safety and is more cost effective than periodic retraining that is required when such skills lapse.

6. Indoctrination: Before beginning full-time collegiate study, STA-21 participants must attend the eight (8) week Naval Science Institution (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 unit and drill, but are only required to take two Naval Science leadership courses since coverage of most of the material is

provided during NSI. Upon completion of their baccalaureate degree program, STA-21 participants will be commissioned as regular Officers in the U.S. Navy.

7. Appointment: Candidates will be commissioned in the Unrestricted Line of the Navy as an Ensign, U.S. Navy, designator 1180.

8. Active Duty Obligation:

a. Selectees must volunteer to enlist for six years from date of enrollment.

b. Selectees will incur a five year active duty obligation upon commissioning. Additional obligated service may be incurred as a result of special training received following commissioning.

c. Those candidates that drop on request (DOR) 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 who 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 SEAL Officer candidates who fail to meet program requirements, but desire consideration for other than Unrestricted Line Officer opportunities may contact the NSTC OD for information regarding conversion to the STA-21 Core program subject to the requirements of the SEAL Option Program.

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

Approved:


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Director, Military Personnel
Plans and Policy Division (N13)

Date:

9/9/2011