

INFORMATION FOR STA-21 CONDITIONAL SELECTEES/ALTERNATES

1. Introduction. The information contained on these pages is provided so that you might more fully understand the opportunity available to you through STA-21, and to inform you of the events which will transpire in the coming months. Your selection will remain conditional until at least four conditions are met. Each selectee/alternate must:

a. Complete a physical examination for commissioning and be certified as physically qualified by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) for commissioning in the designator in which you were selected. (Pilots and NFOs must also be certified as qualified for aviation by the Naval Operational Medicine Institute (NOMI).)

b. Apply and be accepted at an available and approved NROTC college/university or approved cross-town college/university (see paragraph 5).

c. Submit an **official** degree plan from the above college/university that indicates you can graduate by the age limit of the designator in which selected and within 36 months. Your degree plan must be approved and signed by a university academic advisor or the NROTC STA-21 academic advisor at your desired university to be considered official. Degree plans should include what previously earned credits will be accepted towards your desired degree program. A sample degree plan is included in this package as Addendum I. Prior to commissioning, each selectee will be required to complete eight Naval Science courses. Six of which will be taken at the Naval Science Institute (NSI) and the last two of which must be taken at the university. Additionally, two semesters of calculus and two semesters of calculus-based physics are required by all selectees (except Nurse Corps Option). Ensure the two Naval Science courses, and calculus and calculus-based physics courses are included in your degree plan. You are required to carry a full academic load at all times unless otherwise authorized by the Professor of Naval Science (PNS). A full academic load is considered to be a minimum of 15 semester hours, or the quarter system equivalent, during regular sessions, and 6 semester hours, or the quarter system equivalent, during summer sessions.

d. Submit HIV test results from a test taken on or after 1 January 2003.

2. Items Requiring Your Immediate Attention

a. You are to contact by mail the Commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC OD2/STA-21) 250 Dallas Street, Suite A, Pensacola, FL 32508, FAX DSN 922-2486 or commercial (850) 452-2486, or e-mail sta21@cnet.navy.mil if any of the following has changed or will change prior to program participation. **This information will not be accepted by phone.**

1. Your duty station. Provide new complete mailing address, UIC and date of change.

2. Your telephone number. Provide commercial and DSN work phone number and home phone number.

3. Your physical status.

4. STA-21 eligibility.

5. Name changes.

3. Physical Examination. You must submit to NSTC/OD2 a complete physical examination for commissioning in the designator in which you were selected. Those chosen for the Core Option must meet commissioning standards for the Unrestricted Line (URL). Once received by NSTC/OD2, your physical examination will be forwarded to the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) (or the Naval Operational Medical Institute (NOMI) for pilots and NFOs) for certification. **Do not mail your physical examination directly to BUMED or NOMI.**

Physical forms must be from an examination completed after 1 January 2003. Note that DD Form 2807-1 and 2808 have replaced the SF88 and SF93. Since not all medical facilities have replaced these forms, NSTC/OD2 and BUMED will accept either for the purposes of this program. Aviation options selectees/alternates must submit physicals (FORM SF93, SF88, SF507, NAVMED 6410.9, EKG Printout and HIV results from a test taken after 1 January 2003. Physical Forms can be downloaded from the STA-21 website. BUMED will notify NSTC/OD2 that you are either "qualified," "waiverable," "disqualified," or "pending" (pending requires additional information). If you receive notification that your physical status is "pending," you and your command must take immediate action to furnish the requested information/documents. Keep in mind that your transfer orders cannot be requested from Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) until NSTC/OD2 receives the "qualified" or "waiverable" stamp on your physical. Furthermore, no orders will be issued unless you have forwarded to NSTC/OD2 an HIV test result from a test taken after 1 January 2003.

Please note that physical examination forms may list your HIV drawn date without results. Therefore, if results are not listed on your examination, ensure that you send them in when they become available.

4. Area of Study. You are expected to complete baccalaureate degree requirements in a discipline that has direct application to the designator in which you have been selected.

Although not required, you are strongly encouraged to pursue a technical degree program. If you were selected for a Target Option, please note the specific degree requirements for your assigned option as delineated in OPNAVINST 1420.1A of 02 May 03. Additionally, you must complete your degree within 36 months and within the age limit for the designator in which you have been selected. If you are unable to meet these

requirements, you will be withdrawn from this program.

5. NROTC Colleges and Universities. Assignments will be made by NSTC/OD2 based primarily on the information that you provide in conditions (b) and (c) of paragraph one. Note that your preferred college and degree choices may require modification in order to meet those conditions (i.e.; you may not get accepted at your number one choice of school, different schools accept different credits, especially non-traditional credits, so you may have to attend a different school in order to complete your degree within time and age limits). Now is the time to ensure you are making the right decisions regarding degree and school choice. Changes in degree and/or college choices from what you originally submitted in your application package are authorized and do not require prior approval. Changes after assignments have been made by NSTC/OD2 (based on degree program and college acceptance information received) will require a written request for approval.

a. You must keep the 36-month time limit in mind. There is a difference between the number of credits the Admissions Office will accept in transfer, and the number of credits that will transfer to your particular degree program. Many previous selectees to officer accession programs made that unfortunate discovery too late, particularly those desiring an Engineering degree. (Note: One officer candidate was told by Admissions they would accept 90 credits in transfer, but after reporting found that the School of Engineering would accept only 27 toward an Engineering degree. He was forced by the time limitations to switch to a degree program that would accept more credits.) Advise NSTC/OD2 immediately if you have a problem in this area.

b. It is recommended that you contact the NROTC unit of the universities to which you are applying. They can answer university specific questions and perhaps assist in processing your application through university admissions offices.

c. If you reach your age limit prior to earning your degree despite prior planning, your time in STA-21 ends and you will be returned to the fleet to serve the time remaining on your enlistment contract. Waivers will not be considered.

d. It must be understood that STA-21 officer candidates are not authorized to transfer between universities and colleges.

6. BOOST. A limited number of selected STA-21 participants will be chosen by NSTC/OD2 to attend BOOST before attending NSI to improve academic skills. BOOST will consist of a 3 or 6-month college preparation program located at Officer Training Command, Newport, RI.

7. NSI. All STA-21 selectees will attend the NSI at Officer Training Command Newport, RI for approximately 8 weeks. At

NSI you will complete your freshman, sophomore, and junior Naval Science courses. You will be required to complete senior Naval Science leadership courses on campus as electives.

8. Physical Fitness. While at Newport and your NROTC unit, you will be required to complete a rigorous physical fitness program. You must start "getting in shape" now. Upon reporting to NSI, you must be able to exceed the minimum PRT standards. You must obtain a score of GOOD-LOW to graduate from NSI. THIS IS IMPORTANT - START NOW!

9. Your Service Record. Make sure your service record is complete and up to date prior to your transfer. Check such items as evaluations as well as entries for completion of correspondence courses and requirements for advancement, etc. As a STA-21 officer candidate, you will be eligible to participate in examinations for advancement in accordance with established procedures. Completion of the Navy Leadership Training Continuum Course (LTC), Personal Advancement Requirements (PARs) and performance tests for advancement are waived. In the event you are promoted based on a waiver of the LTC requirement, and disenroll from STA-21 prior to completing the Naval Science Leadership and Management I and II courses, orders will be requested to assign you to a one-week LTC course en route to your next duty station. Eligibility for longevity increases in pay still applies, as you do retain active duty status.

10. Obligated Service. Prior to execution of orders to NSI or BOOST, you must sign a 6-year active service obligation. You can do this by either extending or reenlisting, as necessary. DO NOT reenlist/extend prior to having PCS orders in hand. See paragraph 14 for information regarding Selective Reenlistment Bonuses (SRB). Upon commissioning, you are obligated to serve a minimum of 5 years active commissioned service dependent upon designator. NOTE: If you drop from the program, either at BOOST, NSI or at the university, you will be made available for general reassignment for your remaining obligated enlisted service.

11. Reporting to the University or College. You should plan to report to your NROTC unit as soon as possible after the completion of NSI in order to get settled before class registration and enrollment begins.

12. Finances. As a STA-21 Officer Candidate, you will continue to draw full pay and allowances, including BAH and BAS, for your current pay grade. Proficiency pay, flight pay, and submarine pay (even if submarine qualified) ceases upon transfer from your present command. Some special pays may continue for those individuals selected for and participating in the STA-21 Special Warfare or Special Operations Option programs, if specific program qualifications are maintained as directed by the officer community managers (N131H and N131X respectively). You will be well advised to have at least

\$2,000.00 when you arrive on the campus. You will probably find that living expenses are somewhat greater around the university than those in the vicinity of most military installations. You will be able to survive economically if you exercise prudence and good judgment in your budget. DON'T accumulate debts.

13. Tuition, Books, and Fees. NSTC/OD2 will provide up to \$10K per academic year to cover tuition, books, and academic fees. Tuition and fees will be paid directly to the university using a STA-21 Tuition Authorization Form. You are authorized \$4K for the Fall and Spring semester and \$2K for the Summer semester. If you will attend a quarter school you are authorized \$2.5K per quarter. All textbooks must be purchased up front and you will receive an electronic funds transfer (EFT) for reimbursement. It is your responsibility to cover any additional expenses beyond the \$10K provided. Therefore, if your tuition and fees exceed the \$10K maximum, you will not be eligible for textbook reimbursement. (See Addendum II at end of this package for information on financial assistance available to STA-21 officer candidates.)

14. Selective Reenlistment Bonus (SRB). Entitlement to SRB is suspended upon application to any commissioning program, including STA-21. If you reenlisted for SRB after applying for STA-21, you can expect to be required to repay the unearned portion of your SRB. Entitlement to additional unpaid bonus will be reinstated and paid pro-rata if dropped from the program and returned to the same bonus skill. OPNAVINST 1160.6 series is the governing instruction for SRB.

15. Military Status. Upon reporting to NSI, you will be in an officer candidate status and will be referred to as a STA-21 Officer Candidate. Your privileges and status as an officer candidate will be the same as NROTC or Naval Academy midshipmen and officer candidates at OCS.

16. Length of Instruction. OPNAVINST 1420.1A of 02 May 03 prescribes a maximum of 36 months for completion of your requirements for a Bachelor's degree. This maximum period of study includes summer school sessions. There are no provisions or waivers for extending this period. You must plan your program accordingly.

17. Your Commanding Officer. The "Professor of Naval Science" at the university will be your commanding officer. As such, he/she may require you to perform various military duties on a not-to-interfere basis with your academic responsibilities. Such duties will be identical to those that might be required of NROTC midshipmen, and are intended to increase your understanding and preparation to assume commissioned status.

18. Uniforms. STA-21 Officer Candidates are authorized to wear officer candidate uniforms. Officer candidate uniforms will be issued to you at NSI. Your commanding officer will prescribe uniform items required at the NROTC unit and will prescribe periods in which uniforms will be worn. Normally, uniforms are worn on campus one day per week; appropriate civilian clothing is usually authorized on other days.

19. Medical Care. If available, once at your NROTC unit, you will be expected to use the military treatment facilities. However, many of the universities are not located in the proximity of military installations where you or your family members might receive outpatient care. While at your present duty station, review the rules and regulations concerning medical benefits; be sure you understand reimbursement provisions for civilian medical care of your family members, and ensure your Page 2 is up to date. It would be wise to set aside a bit of your budget at the university for medical expenses. Additionally, ensure that all your dental work is accomplished prior to departing from your present duty station.

DEGREE PLAN
Sample

Student Name: _____

SSN: _____

College/University: _____

Degree Major: _____

Estimated Graduation Date: _____

Suggested arrangement of courses to satisfy degree requirements within 36 month timeframe.

Semester: Fall	Year: 200_
Course Title and #	# of Credit Hours
	Total Hours:

Semester: Spring	Year: 200_
Course Title and #	# of Credit Hours
	Total Hours:

Semester: Summer	Year: 200_
Course Title and #	# of Credit Hours
	Total Hours:

Academic Counselor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

SCHOLARSHIPS/AID

There are a great variety of scholarships, grants, and loans available for college students. However, STA-21 participants are ineligible to use NROTC scholarships, Navy tuition assistance and/or the Montgomery G.I. Bill (MGIB). Information on Federal Student Financial Aid programs can be accessed at: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/students> and <http://www.ed.gov/directloan>. Additional information can be obtained from the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society website at: <http://www.nmcrs.org/education>.

GI BILL/VEAP

Questions regarding use of these benefits should be directed to the Navy Education Office at 1-800-962-1425. BUPERSINST 1780.1 delineates eligibility requirements for MGIB educational benefits.