



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
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MCO 1542.1H
ASM-52
7 Nov 2003

MARINE CORPS ORDER 1542.1H

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: FIELD ACCESSION OF NAVAL AVIATORS AND NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICERS

Ref: (a) MCO 1331.2J
(b) ManMed, chap. 15 (NOTAL)
(c) BUMEDINST 1532.1K (NOTAL)
(d) SECNAVINST 1920.6B (NOTAL)

Encl: (1) STUDENT NAVAL AVIATOR TRAINING AGREEMENT
(2) STUDENT NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER TRAINING AGREEMENT

1. Purpose. To revise procedures for active duty commissioned officers to apply for the Naval Aviator and Naval Flight Officer programs. This order combines MCO 1542.1G and MCO 1040.22J. Procedures for Naval Flight Officers applying for naval aviator conversion training are contained in reference (a).

2. Cancellation. MCO 1542.1G and MCO 1040.22J

3. Background. The Operating Forces have a continuing requirement for naval aviators (NA) and naval flight officers (NFO). This Order applies to both Student Naval Aviator (SNA) and Student Naval Flight Officer (SNFO) training and applicants are selected via the Field Accession Board (FAB) process.

a. Upon successful completion of flight training in the Naval Air Training Command (NATC), SNA's will be designated as naval aviators and assigned an MOS specialty as fixed-wing, tilt-rotor, or rotary-wing qualified pilots.

b. Upon successful completion of flight training in the NATC, SNFO's will be designated as an NFO. The NFO provides the Marine Corps with requisite technical skills

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required for in-flight operation of present day aircraft weapons systems and sensors.

4. Policy. Assignments to the SNA and SNFO programs are restricted to active duty commissioned officers.

5. SNA Eligibility

a. The following categories of commissioned officers are eligible for assignment to SNA training.

(1) Unrestricted Regular officers on active duty.

(2) Unrestricted Reserve officers on active duty who have a minimum of one year remaining on active duty service obligation upon assignment to SNA training.

b. The following officers are ineligible for the SNA program.

(1) Commissioned officers with more than five years commissioned service (YCS).

(2) Appointed warrant Officers, limited duty officers, and temporary officers. These programs were established for certain highly qualified personnel on the basis of their previously acquired technical skill and demonstrated leadership ability. Personnel so selected are therefore ineligible for SNA training.

(3) Officers who have been assigned to SNFO training.

(4) Officers who have been previously separated for any reason (except medical) from any Army, Navy, or Air Force pilot or flight officer training programs.

6. SNFO Eligibility

a. The following categories of commissioned officers are eligible for assignment to SNFO training.

(1) Unrestricted Regular officers on active duty.

(2) Unrestricted Reserve officers on active duty who have a minimum of one year remaining active duty service obligation upon assignment to SNFO training.

b. The following officers are ineligible for the SNFO program.

(1) Commissioned officers with more than four YCS.

(2) Appointed warrant officers, limited duty officers, and temporary officers are ineligible for SNA and FO training. These officers are ineligible because they possess unique technical skills for which they were appointed.

(3) Officers who have been previously separated for any reason (except medical) from any Army, Navy, or Air Force pilot or flight officer training programs.

7. Requirements. Applicants must be physically qualified and aeronautically adaptable for duty involving flying in accordance with the standards set forth in references (b) and (c). In addition, all applicants must:

a. Be less than 29 years of age on the date in which the selection board convenes.

b. Satisfactorily complete the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps Aviation Selection Test Battery (ASTB). All applicants must obtain the following minimum scores:

(1) Academic Qualifications Rating (AQR) 4

(2) Flight Aptitude Rating (FAR) 6

c. The ASTB may be administered by either a Marine Officer Selection Officer or personnel designated in reference (c).

(1) Applicants at an activity having an aviation examination facility designated or authorized by the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute (NAMI) as an approved satellite facility will be administered the ASTB in accordance with references (b) and (c).

(2) Applicants at an activity not having an activity with a aviation examination facility, the applicant will be issued orders by the applicant's command to report to the nearest Navy or Marine Corps facility having an approved satellite facility for the administration of the ASTB per references (b) and (c).

d. Applicants who fail to attain the required minimum score may not be retested for 30 days from the date the last test was administered. Test scores remain valid for a period of four years from the date the test was administered. The ASTB can only be administered twice (single re-test). Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) will not consider any subsequent test scores dated after two tests have been completed.

e. Satisfactorily meet the minimum medical/physical requirements for SNA and SNFO training per references (b) and (c).

(1) Applicants at an activity having an aviation examination facility designated by NAMI as an approved satellite facility will be administered the requisite medical examinations.

(2) Applicants at an activity having an aviation examination facility authorized to administer flight physicals, but not designated by NAMI as an approved satellite facility, will be administered a candidate-type flight physical. If the applicant is selected for SNA or SNFO training, the applicant will be required to successfully complete a second candidate-type flight physical upon reporting to NATC.

(3) Applicants at an activity not having a flight surgeon will be administered a physical examination. Upon determining that an applicant meets the basic physical requirements for SNA or SNFO training, the applicant will be issued orders by the applicant's command to report to the nearest Navy or Marine Corps facility having an approved satellite facility for the administration of the candidate-type flight physical.

f. Complete minimum time on station requirements as published in the Field Accession Board (FAB) announcement message.

g. Satisfactorily meet the minimum requirements for First Class, Combat Water Survival (CSW 1).

8. Waivers

a. Requests for medical waivers will be considered on a case-by-case basis when an individual is found not physically qualified for duty as a NA or NFO, but the disqualifying condition would not prevent the individual from qualifying for Medical Service Group I (SNA) and Medical Service Group II (SNFO). Requests for medical waivers will be submitted by the medical examining authority to Commandant of the Marine Corps (ASM-53), via the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute (NAMI-42) and the appropriate chain of command.

b. Applications containing requests for waiver of non-medical eligibility requirements may be considered. However, such waivers are not normally approved. Commanding officers shall specifically address an applicant's request for waiver of non-medical eligibility requirements and provide their rationale recommending approval or denial of the waiver request.

9. Application

a. Requests for assignment to training as a SNA or SNFO may be made in standard naval letter format or Administrative Action Form ([NAVMC 10274](#)). Applications will be addressed to CMC (ASM-52) via the applicant's chain of command. The request correspondence will include:

(1) Date ASTB was administered, answer sheet serial number, testing organization, and scores for AQR and FAR.

(2) A brief history of previous NA or NFO Program applications, assignments or training.

(3) Date first commissioned an officer.

(4) Date current tour began (DCTB).

(5) Current EAS (if applicable).

(6) Date of Birth (DOB).

(7) A DSN, commercial telephone number and email address where the applicant can be reached.

b. The following forms or documents will be forwarded as enclosures to the basic application.

(1) A copy of Report of Medical Examination (SF 88).

(2) A copy of the Report of Medical History (SF 93).

(3) The original medical reports listed above are to be sent to NAMI (Code 42). Applicants should ensure that the examination is in accordance with paragraph 7e of this order. These exams must be conducted per references (b) and (c).

(4) One of the two training agreements:

(a) For SNAs, sign and date the SNA training agreement contained in enclosure (1). Agreement in Enclosure (1) should be reproduced locally.

(b) For SNFOs, sign and date the SNFO training agreement contained in enclosure (2). Agreement in enclosure (2) should be reproduced locally.

c. Commanding officers will include in their forwarding endorsement a recommendation concerning the individual's potential for aviation duties. Applications will not be processed for consideration without their commanding officer's endorsement.

d. Should withdrawal of an application be desired, a request for withdrawal will be forwarded to CMC (ASM-52) via the appropriate chain of command, indicating the reason(s) for the request.

10. Selection Process. Applications for SNA and SNFO training will be considered by the FAB composed of officers from HQMC. This board will be convened, as necessary, to consider applicants for SNA or SNFO training.

11. Approval and Disapproval of Application. Individual applicants will be notified via MARADMIN at the earliest practicable date after the FAB adjourns.

12. Administrative Instructions

a. Applicants serving overseas tours (to include Hawaii) should submit applications prior to their rotation tour date (RTD).

b. Applications will not be considered if the applicant executes permanent change of duty station (PCS) orders, and fails to meet the minimum time on station requirements as defined in the FAB announcement MARADMIN.

c. Applicants who apply for the NA or NFO programs after receipt of PCS orders will execute their original orders.

d. Officers will not normally be ordered from overseas billets to SNA or SNFO training prior to completion of their current overseas tour.

e. Should injury or illness occur subsequent to submission of an application that might affect the individual's physical qualifications for assignment to aviation duties, the applicant will obtain a medical consultation and immediately forward the results CMC (ASM-52).

13. Obligated Service Upon Successful Completion of Naval Aviator Training and Designation as a Naval Aviator

a. Fixed wing jet naval aviators will incur a 96-month active duty service obligation. The obligation commences on the date of designation as a naval aviator.

b. Fixed wing maritime naval aviators will incur a 96-month active duty service obligation. The obligation commences on the date of designation as a naval aviator.

c. Tiltrotor naval aviators will incur a 72-month active duty service obligation. The obligation commences on the date of designation as a naval aviator.

d. Rotary wing naval aviators will incur a 72-month active duty service obligation. The obligation commences on the date of designation as a naval aviator.

e. NFO's will incur a 72-month active duty service obligation. The obligation commences on the date of designation as an NFO.


14. Assignment Upon Separation from SNA or SNFO Training

a. Commissioned officers separated from SNA or SNFO training by reason of their own, "Drop On Request" (DOR) or academic failure will be reclassified and assigned a new Primary Military Occupational Specialty (PMOS), returned to duty in the PMOS to which they were previously assigned, or administratively discharged per reference (d).

b. Commissioned officers, if assigned a new PMOS, may incur an additional period of obligated active duty service equal to the time spent in SNA or SNFO training, which will be added to any obligated service incurred prior to assignment to flight training. Incurring an additional service obligation does not guarantee further active duty service.

15. Action. Commanding officers will ensure the widest possible dissemination of this order.

16. Applicability. This order is applicable to the Total Force.


M. A. HOUGH
Deputy Commandant
for Aviation

Distribution: PCN 10201830000

Copy to: 7000110 (55)
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STUDENT NAVAL AVIATOR
TRAINING AGREEMENT

1. In connection with my request for assignment to aviation training in the Naval Aviator Program, I understand that designation as a Fixed-Wing Jet and Maritime Naval Aviator carries a minimum active duty obligation of 96 months and that designation to fly rotary-wing or tilt-rotor type aircraft carries a minimum active duty obligation of 72 months. I also understand that any resignation submitted prior to completion of that minimum period will normally be denied.

2. I further agree, in the event I am separated from naval aviator training, either as a result of my own request or by reason of academic failure, to an extension of active service obligation equal to the time spent in flight training. I understand that this extension of active service obligation will be added to any period of obligated service incurred prior to assignment to flight training and that any additional service obligation incurred hereunder is not a guarantee of further active service.

Signature of Applicant

Date

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STUDENT NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER
TRAINING AGREEMENT

1. In connection with my request for assignment to aviation training in the Naval Flight Officer (NFO) Program, I understand that designation as a Naval Flight Officer carries a minimum active duty obligation of 72 months. I also understand that any resignation submitted prior to completion of that minimum period will normally be denied.

2. I further agree, that in the event I am separated from NFO training, either as a result of my own request or by reason of academic failure, to an extension of active service obligation equal to the time spent in aviation training. I understand that this extension of active service obligation will be added to any period of obligated service incurred prior to flight training assignment and that any additional service obligation incurred hereunder is not a guarantee of further active service.

Signature of Applicant

Date