



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 1414.2A  
N889H  
10 Aug 98

**OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1414.2A**

From: Chief of Naval Operations  
To: All Ships and Stations (less Marine Corps field  
addressees not having Navy personnel attached)  
Subj: ENLISTED AVIATION WARFARE SPECIALIST (EAWS)  
QUALIFICATION PROGRAM  
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3541.1E (NOTAM)  
(b) NAVEDTRA 43100-1D (NOTAM)

1. **Purpose**

a. To incorporate changes mandated by CNO Washington DC 222208Z AUG 97 (NAVOP 008/97) and CNO Washington DC 081329Z SEP 97 (NAVADMIN 219/97).

b. To revise and refocus the requirements for qualification and designation of Navy enlisted personnel as EAWS on warfighting, mission enhancement, command survivability, and pride. This instruction should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. **Cancellation.** OPNAVINST 1414.2.

3. **Discussion.** Attainment of the EAWS designation signifies that enlisted members achieved a level of significant professional skills, knowledge, and experience in the direct support of the Naval Air Warfare Mission and the specific unit they are currently serving. Wearers of the Air Warfare pin stand out as significant contributors to the Aviation Force. EAWS may only be obtained through the formal qualification program set forth in this instruction. Under normal circumstances, the command master chief shall be designated as the unit's EAWS coordinator. Commanding officers and command master chiefs shall ensure that the standards and procedures required to initially qualify and requalify as an EAWS are meticulously maintained.

4. **Eligibility.** EAWS qualification recognizes the efforts of enlisted individuals trained in Naval Air Warfare Operations.

10 AUG 1998

Therefore, eligibility to attain the EAWS designation is limited to the following:

a. Enlisted personnel, (both USN and Training and Administration of Reserve currently assigned to type 2 and 4 sea duty commands as defined in the Enlisted Transfer manual (NAVPERS 15909F) which have a qualifying program. If a type 2 or 4 command does not have an established EAWS program, the commanding officer or officer in charge, may enroll members in the EAWS program of another type 2 or 4 activity of the same type/specific unit. Sea Operation Detachments (SEAOPDETS) shall enroll their personnel in their assigned CV/CVN EAWS program. Specifically, the following personnel/commands are eligible to have or participate in EAWS programs:

(1) Deployable aviation squadrons and their detachments.

(2) Aviation capable ships (limited to CV, CVN, LPH, LHA, LHD, and MCS).

(3) Aviation staffs afloat (CVW), staffs other than CVW, or detachment personnel, i.e., CCG, EOD, Seal Team, etc., who have completed all other eligibility requirements, may participate if they are making a deployment of at least 180 continuous days embarked in an aviation capable ship (CV, CVN, LPH, LHA, LHD, and MCS). Additionally, staff or detachment personnel shall only use the EAWS program of the ship in which they are embarked.

(4) SEAOPDETS personnel may participate in the program of the ship in which they are embarked but may not establish a program of their own.

b. All personnel assigned to Pre-Commissioning Units (PCUs) may complete those portions of the EAWS qualification program which do not require the ship to be underway; however, prospective commanding officers of these PCUs may not award final EAWS qualification to PCU crew members until after commissioning.

c. Enlisted Selected Reservists (SELRES)

(1) Participation in the EAWS program for Selected Reservists assigned to type 2 or 4 duty will be under the direct cognizance of Commander Naval Reserve Force (COMNAVRESFOR). A feasibility study period of 18 months from the date of release of the final unit specific Personnel Qualification Standards

10 AUG 1990

(PQS) book will determine time lines for both initial qualifications and requalifications. Until such time as the feasibility study is completed, time lines for completion of initial qualification and re-qualification as EAWS will be issued via separate correspondence from COMNAVRESFOR. Once the feasibility study is complete and timeline is established, that timeline for SELRES personnel shall be incorporated into this instruction.

(2) SELRES must be assigned to a Commissioned Reserve Force squadron (RESFORON) or Naval Reserve Force (NRF) aviation capable ship and:

(a) Be in a satisfactory drill status.

(b) Complete at least two periods of Reserve Annual Training.

(3) Only periods during which the member is assigned to a deployable squadron or to a commissioned U. S. Navy aviation capable ship shall count toward the 12-month sea duty requirement, stated in paragraph 5a. SELRES personnel who did not accumulate sufficient sea duty during active duty may apply the time served in commissioned RESFORON or aboard NRF aviation capable ships to satisfy this requirement.

5. **Standards**. Members who meet the eligibility requirements of paragraph 4 may be enrolled in a formal EAWS qualification program. Candidates for initial EAWS qualification will have 18 months from date of enrollment to complete all requirements. Official enrollment in EAWS shall be entered on Page 13 of the enlisted service record as follows:

"(Date): Enrolled this date in the Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialists EAWS) Program for (platform type)."

If the member has not qualified as EAWS within 18 months following enrollment, the member shall be disenrolled from the EAWS program. Disenrollment shall be documented by service record Page 13 entry.

a. Candidates for EAWS shall:

(1) Meet the eligibility requirements of paragraph 4.

(2) Have at least 12 months accumulated sea duty upon final qualification.

10 AUG 1990

(3) Be in a promotable status on the most recent evaluation/fitness report.

(4) Have attained the grade of E3 or above.

(5) Be recommended for EAWS qualification by the chain of command.

(6) Complete the following academic prerequisites prior to enrollment:

(a) Aviation Maintenance Requirements Fundamental Course.

(b) Aviation Maintenance Requirements Supervisor Course.

(c) All PQS and qualification for those watchstations to which the member's particular rating, Navy Enlisted Classification, and/or pay grade would normally be assigned.

(d) All requirements for advancement to the next higher pay grade (with the exception of time in rate and time in service).

(e) Where applicable, be qualified in basic damage control prior to final qualification, in accordance with reference (a).

(f) Where applicable, have completed aircraft/shipboard fire fighting prior to final qualification, in accordance with reference (a).

(7) Successfully complete the common core (NAVEDTRA 43902) and unit specific PQS with 18 months of entry into the program.

b. Once all requirements in paragraph 5a are completed, EAWS candidates will attain final qualifications by demonstrating a comprehensive knowledge of the Naval Air Warfare mission and their current unit's mission. Candidates' knowledge will be assessed by:

(1) passing a 100-question written examination. If a member fails the written test, another test may be administered

10 AUG 1999

within a prescribed timeframe, normally 30 days, at the discretion of the command master chief. The command master chief will maintain the question/answer bank.

(2) a hands-on demonstration of knowledge.

(3) a comprehensive oral examination by the command's Qualification Review Board (QRB). The command QRB shall consist of a minimum of three senior enlisted members who are EAWS qualified. The chairperson shall be the command master chief and designated in writing by the commanding officer. If a member fails the oral review board, another board may be conducted within a prescribed timeframe, normally 30 days, at the discretion of the command master chief.

c. EAWS candidates should achieve EAWS qualification prior to a permanent change of station (PCS). If EAWS qualification is not attained prior to the PCS transfer, the EAWS program coordinator shall place a "Memorandum for the Record" in the member's enlisted service record field jacket certifying those PQS sections completed, and a brief statement about why the member failed to qualify. If the gaining command is type 2 or 4 duty and has an authorized EAWS program, the gaining command should recognize the PQS attainment to date. However, the receiving command may require a demonstration of knowledge in these areas prior to that recognition. Regardless of PCS transfer prior to completion of the qualification process, total time for completion of common core and unit specific PQS cannot exceed 18 months.

d. SEAOPDET personnel who enroll in and successfully complete the program on the ship in which deployed, will be designated EAWS by the commanding officer of the ship in which their detachment was deployed.

e. Management of EAWS Qualification Program integrity:

(1) Commanding officers shall approve EAWS designation for only those enlisted personnel permanently assigned to their command, with the exception of SEAOPDET personnel designated in paragraph 5a. Additionally, they will ensure that all PQS qualifiers are properly selected, trained, re-qualified in accordance with the re-qualification requirements of this instruction, and designated in writing in accordance with reference (b).

10 AUG 1990

(2) Command master chiefs shall function as the command EAWS Coordinator. They will establish and be responsible for the operation of the command's Quality Review Board (QRB). As EAWS coordinators, they must ensure the spirit and intent of this instruction are being followed by members of their command. This should be accomplished by direct involvement in the EAWS qualification process, monitoring of candidates' progress, and evaluation of the professional performance of personnel qualified as EAWS within their command. Additionally, the command master chief will maintain the EAWS question/answer bank.

## 6. Qualification/Requalification

a. All personnel will have 18 months to complete the EAWS qualification after official enrollment. This time limit will be adjusted to compensate for time lost through official Temporary Additional Duty (TAD) assignment during the qualification time period that require the member to be out of the parent command, such as assignments to schools, and will be appropriately documented utilizing service record page 13 entries as required. Once all requirements sets forth in this instruction are met, initial qualification shall be documented and recognized as follows:

(1) Appropriate entry for completion of PQS on service record page 4.

(2) Service record page 13 entry as follows:

"(Date): Qualified as an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist (EAWS) (platform type) this date and assigned the Enlisted Aviation Warfare (AW) designator."

(3) The cognizant personnel office from the qualifying command will submit the appropriate Diary Message Reporting System (DMRS) entry at the time of qualification.

(4) Commanding officers will recognize EAWS designation at an appropriate ceremony awarding the EAWS breast insignia, (and optional certificate, (OPNAV 1414/1)), and include attainment of qualification in the member's next evaluation/fitness report.

10 AUG 1998

b. Once qualification has been achieved, transfer to another type 2 or 4 duty command will require requalification as follows:

(1) Transfer between same type platforms/units.

(a) When an individual transfers between units of the same type, the individual must requalify by demonstrating general knowledge of the new unit's overall mission through an oral examination administered by the QRB. Upon satisfactory demonstration of knowledge, a recommendation will be made to the commanding officer for final requalification.

(b) An individual renewing qualification on same type platform/unit will not be required to complete the entire platform/unit specific PQS previously completed. However, in accordance with reference (b), tailored unit specific PQS may be used to facilitate requalification.

(c) All personnel will have 12 months to requalify in a new unit. This 12-month period will begin on the date the member is received for duty, as entered on the service record page 5. Commencement and completion of the re-qualification process will also be documented by service record page 13 entry. This time limit will be adjusted to compensate for time loss through official TAD assignment away from the parent command during the first 12 months. Adjustments will be documented by service record page 13 entry as required.

(2) Transfer between different platform/unit types.

(a) When an individual transfers between units of differing types, the individual shall demonstrate general knowledge of the unit's overall mission through completion of the platform/unit specific PQS, pass a 100-question written examination, hands-on demonstrations of knowledge, and an oral examination administered by the QRB.

(b) All personnel will have 12 months to requalify in a new unit. This 12-month period will begin on the date the member is received for duty, as entered on the service record page 5. Commencement and completion of the re-qualification process will also be documented by service record page 13 entry. This time limit will be adjusted to compensate for time loss through official TAD assignment away from the parent command during the first 12 months. Adjustments will be documented by service record page 13 entry as required.

10 AUG 1998

c. Once all requirements have been satisfactorily completed in accordance with this instruction, re-qualification shall be annotated in the enlisted service record field jacket as follows:

(1) Appropriate entry for completion of PQS on page 4.

(2) Page 13 entry as follows:

"(Date): Requalified as an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist (EAWS) (platform type) this date."

(3) The cognizant personnel office from the qualifying command will submit the appropriate Diary Message Reporting System (DMRS) entry at the time of requalification.

#### 7. Disqualification

a. Members previously qualified may be disqualified by the commanding officer if any of the following conditions exists:

(1) Failure to maintain an advancement recommendation of Promotable within the same paygrade.

(2) Failure to complete EAWS requalification within prescribed time limits.

b. Formal notice of disqualification shall be recorded in the member's enlisted service record field jacket as follows:

"(Date): Failed to maintained qualification as an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist (EAWS) by (include specific rationale for disqualification). Member has been informed that as of this date he/she is disqualified and is no longer authorized to wear the EAWS insignia or use the (AW) designator as part of his/her rating."

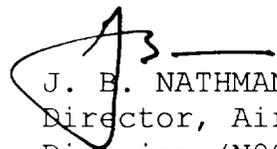
c. Upon disqualification a special evaluation/fitness report shall be submitted for the purpose of documenting disqualification. The evaluation/fitness report should specify the reason for disqualification.

10 AUG 1998

d. After receiving approval from the commanding officer, requalification attempts after disqualification shall follow the initial qualification process.

8. **Waivers.** In the interest of standardization, waiver request for any part of this instruction must be submitted to the respective Force Master Chief.

9. **Forms.** Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist certificates, OPNAV 1414/1(6-96), S/N 0107-LF-113-5100 may be ordered through Navy Supply channels per CD ROM NAVSUP PUB 600 (NLL).

  
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Distribution:  
SNDL PARTS 1 & 2