



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO
OPNAVINST 1520.18G
N7
17 March 1995

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1520.18G

Subj: JUNIOR LINE OFFICER ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
(BURKE PROGRAM)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 1520.23B

1. Purpose. To issue procedures and policies for the Junior Line Officer Advanced Educational Program (Burke Program) under the guidelines contained in reference (a).

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 1520.18F.

3. Background. The Junior Line Officer Advanced Educational Program, more commonly known as the "Burke Program," was implemented in 1959 as a supplement to Navy's regular graduate education efforts. The Burke Program identifies a small group of carefully selected officers who demonstrated leadership potential as midshipmen and officer candidates and are well qualified academically for advanced education in scientific and engineering fields, and ensures they receive the opportunity for graduate education early in their careers. (R)

4. Objective. The Burke Program's objective is to provide the opportunity for graduate education early in their careers to a small group of highly selected unrestricted line officers in scientific and engineering disciplines for ultimate assignment to validated subspecialty billets under reference (a). Upon completion of graduate education, Burke Program graduates will receive duty assignments compatible with respective career paths. The intent of this program is not to educate officers for restricted line or staff corps; however, Burke Program graduates will not be precluded from requesting transfer to restricted line or staff corps after at least one warfare development tour following the education tour. (D)

5. Scope. The Burke Program includes aviation, subsurface, and surface oriented midshipmen and officer candidates enrolled in the Enlisted Commissioning Program and Enlisted Commissioning Program (Nuclear Option). (D)



17 MAR 1995

6. Action

a. Selection of candidates

(1) Naval Academy midshipmen. The Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy will select 15 midshipmen first class annually who are academically qualified and highly motivated toward a Navy career. Names of selected candidates will be sent to the Chief of Naval Personnel (CHNAVPERS) (Pers-440) by 1 May each year, with a copy to the Superintendent, Naval Postgraduate School (NAVPGSCOL) (Code 031).

(2) Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) midshipmen/officer candidates. The Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) (N-2/083) will select 15 senior NROTC midshipmen/officer candidates who are academically qualified and highly motivated toward a Navy career. CNET (N-2/083) will notify selectees by 1 May each year, with a copy to CHNAVPERS (Pers-440) and the Superintendent, NAVPGSCOL (Code 031).

b. Program administration. The Burke Program will be administered under reference (a), except for provisions regarding student selection and assignment. The program and enrolled officers will be under direct administration and academic supervision of the Superintendent, NAVPGSCOL. Officers enrolled in this program will count against the annual input quota approved by Congress for fully funded graduate education.

c. Assignment upon commissioning. Upon graduation and commissioning warfare designator candidates will be assigned to post-accession training then to a normal operational assignment. Warfare designated Burke Program selectees will qualify in their warfare specialties during initial operational tours of 30-36 months before commencing graduate studies. While attaining warfare specialty, officers should concurrently plan for their initial duty-under-instruction (DUINS) assignment. The annual OPNAVNOTE 1520, Subj: Fully Funded Graduate Education Programs, should be utilized to identify curricula consistent with the individual's designator and Navy's needs. Guidance on selection of a curriculum will be available for candidates through NAVPGSCOL (Code 031 for programs at civilian universities or Code 62 for programs at NAVPGSCOL).

d. Assignment to school. Upon completion of the initial operational/leadership tour, officers will be assigned DUINS at an educational institution listed in the annual OPNAVNOTE 1520. Officers will not be assigned to curricula at civilian institutions if those curricula are available at NAVPGSCOL. Assignment to an educational tour is not automatic for Burke selectees, but is contingent upon continued outstanding performance. This first shore tour will normally conclude upon achievement of a master's degree and is limited to 2 years. Applications for continuing to a Ph.D. degree level should be submitted under reference (a).

17 MAR 1995

e. Subsequent educational tour. After a follow-on tour in their warfare/leadership specialties or subspecialty utilization tour, Burke Program officers demonstrating superior academic capability and potential while pursuing a master's degree and continued outstanding professional performance may be permitted to resume studies for a Ph.D. degree, consistent with Navy requirements. A letter application for a Burke Program educational assignment should be submitted under reference (a). Tour length for Ph.D. studies will be determined on a case-by-case basis commensurate with Navy needs and the individual's career, but will not exceed 3 years. (R)

f. Counseling of candidates. NAVPGSCOL will counsel officers planning their initial educational tour regarding refresher and preparatory study and curriculum requirements. Inquiries may be addressed to the Superintendent, Naval Postgraduate School (Code 031), Monterey, CA 93943-5000 or telephone (408) 656-2319, DSN 878-2319. Communication is also encouraged with respective CHNAVPERS assignment officers to discuss career requirements.

g. Reimbursement of educational costs. The Superintendent, NAVPGSCOL will fund tuition costs for officers enrolled at institutions other than NAVPGSCOL through normal fiscal procedures necessary to meet curricular requirements. (D)

7. Obligated service. Upon completion or termination of graduate education under the Burke Program, selectees will serve on active duty for a period of 3 years for the first year of education, and will serve 1 year for each additional year of education calculated on a month-for-month basis. This obligation will be served consecutively with any other obligated service consistent with policies delineated in reference (a). (A)



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