



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SERVICE TRAINING COMMAND
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NSTCINST 1550.1F
N3
21 May 2020

NSTC INSTRUCTION 1550.1F

From: Commander, Naval Service Training Command

Subj: LANGUAGE SKILLS, REGIONAL EXPERTISE, AND CULTURE ACADEMIC
MAJOR POLICY FOR NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS NAVY
OPTION MIDSHIPMEN

Ref: (a) U.S. Navy Language Skills, Regional Expertise, and Cultural Awareness Strategy of
Jan 08
(b) SECNAV Memo of 30 Jun 15
(c) NSTCINST 1533.3A CH-1
(d) 10 U.S.C. §2101
(e) DoD Instruction 1215.08 of 19 January 2017
(f) Navy Strategic Language List (FOUO)
(g) NSTCINST 1533.10B
(h) NSTC M-1533.2C, CH-2
(i) ASN (M&RA) Memo of 21 Apr 15

Encl: (1) NROTC Regional/Cultural Areas and Foreign Languages
(2) Guidance for Existing LREC Scholarship Midshipmen

1. Purpose. To prescribe a Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NROTC) Language Skills, Regional Expertise, and Culture (LREC) academic major policy for select Navy Option midshipmen and ensure as commissioned officers, they possess LREC attributes desired by the Navy. Per reference (a), the Navy acknowledges the importance of LREC skills and seeks to enhance its LREC capability and capacity by encouraging undergraduate education in LREC studies. Per reference (b), the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) establishes the NROTC academic major policy for NROTC Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen. Until SECNAV provides further guidance, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) shall use reference (c) for its academic major policy for NROTC scholarship midshipmen. NSTC incorporates its NROTC LREC academic major policy into reference (c) and assigns LREC program students as Tier 3 academic majors.

2. Cancellation. NSTCINST 1550.1E.

3. Background. In accordance with reference (d), Public Law 109-163, section 535, and (e), the Secretary of Defense requires all military branches develop and implement scholarship programs to increase enrollment in regional studies and language training.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

a. SECNAV establishes policy regarding selection of academic majors by NROTC scholarship midshipman participating in their respective Service options.

b. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education (DCNO MPT&E) (OPNAV N1), establishes requirements for NROTC commissioned officers and provides production guidance and necessary resources.

c. Commander, Naval Education and Training Command supports NROTC production requirements through establishing policy and oversight of execution.

d. Commander, Naval Service Training Command (CNSTC) executes and achieves the requirements by implementing and sustaining an NROTC LREC program. NSTC shall:

(1) Update strategic foreign language and cultural/regional listings;

(2) Monitor program progress;

(3) Direct student designation in the Officer Program Management Information System (OPMIS);

(4) Review and approve academic major changes;

(5) Enforce midshipmen contract agreements, to include recoupment and service obligations;

(6) Prescribe LREC policy and procedures to NROTC units; and

(7) Monitor LREC midshipmen trends and overall applicant metrics.

e. NROTC units provide operational program support and unit level management of the NROTC LREC scholarship students. NROTC units shall:

(1) Maintain a current NSTC listing of approved LREC academic majors;

(2) Update NSTC on changes to LREC academic major curricula;

(3) Counsel and mentor midshipmen about LREC applicable academic major requirements and policies;

(4) Evaluate and recommend LREC academic major change requests;

(5) Maintain accurate records regarding student academic majors; and

(6) Establish and maintain student support programs.

5. Requirements

a. Recruiting and Tracking

(1) NSTC NROTC Operations Department, N9, ensures NROTC Program websites and publications include statements promoting the LREC academic majors.

(2) NSTC coordinates with the staff of the Commander, Navy Recruiting Command and Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Command ensuring exchange and accuracy of information and guidance related to this policy.

(3) NSTC N9 ensures NROTC units document the approved degree plan in the automated record (OPMIS); the midshipman student file; and the scholarship service agreement.

(4) NSTC tracks NROTC LREC program information and reports data to the Navy Foreign Language Office (OPNAV N13F) as required.

b. Academic

(1) NSTC N9 staff reviews NROTC academic institution course catalogs annually to ensure academic requirements support the NROTC LREC program.

(2) NSTC N9 shall count all NROTC midshipmen with majors associated with Navy-approved region, cultures and/or languages listed in enclosure (1) as LREC Program majors.

c. Production

(1) Total production. NSTC N9 tracks the total number of Navy Option graduates commissioned with LREC academic major degrees. No annual total LREC production requirement exists for the NROTC program.

(2) Categorical production. NSTC promotes variance in designation of LREC academic majors to encompass the regions, cultures, and languages of naval strategic interest. No regional, cultural, or language allocation goal exists for the NROTC program.

d. LREC Scholarship.

(1) Discontinuation of LREC Scholarships. The NROTC Program stopped offering LREC specific scholarships through the Continuous National Selection Board (CNSB) process beginning FY19. Discontinuation of LREC specific scholarships shall not:

(a) Negate a Navy Option Scholarship midshipman from pursuing an approved LREC academic major; or

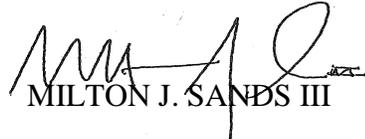
(b) Cause previously selected midshipmen to forfeit their NROTC LREC scholarship. Designated LREC scholarship midshipmen shall remain enrolled in the NROTC Program

through their designated commission date unless a midshipman requests an extension or violates compliance requirements or other applicable guidance.

(2) Management of existing LREC Scholarship midshipmen. See enclosure (2).

6. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

7. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, N3 will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its effective date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, DoD, SECNAV, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will automatically expire 5 years after effective date unless reissued or canceled prior to the 5-year anniversary date, or an extension has been granted.



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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via Department of the Navy Issuances Web site,
https://www.public.navy.mil/netc/nstc/NSTC_Directives/directives.aspx

Distribution:

List 3 & 4

**NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS REGIONAL/CULTURAL AREAS
AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

1. Regional/Cultural Areas. The Navy approved the following regional/cultural areas for study under the Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NROTC) Language Skills, Regional Expertise, and Culture (LREC) Program. Midshipmen shall focus their LREC academic majors on one of the below regions/cultures.

a. Middle East, Africa, and South Asia

(1) Middle East

(2) Africa

(a) Sub-Saharan

(b) North Africa

(3) South Asia

b. Far East and Pacific

(1) East Asia/China

(2) Southeast Asia

(3) Southwest Asia

c. Western Hemisphere

(1) Central America

(2) South America

(3) Latin America

d. Europe, Russia and Associated States

(1) Russia/Eastern Europe

(2) Central Asia

2. Language Courses. The Navy Strategic Language List, reference (f), provides the approved Navy languages for study under the NROTC LREC Program. Midshipmen shall focus their LREC academic majors in languages listed in reference (f) or languages otherwise approved by CNSTC as LREC Program major

GUIDANCE FOR EXISTING LREC SCHOLARSHIP MIDSHIPMEN

1. LREC Scholarship midshipmen must comply with the educational institution's academic major program requirements respective to their NROTC LREC program. LREC scholarship midshipmen shall major in Navy-approved regions, cultures and/or languages as listed in enclosure (1). Modifications to the LREC academic major list or the NROTC institution curricular shall not cause midshipmen previously enrolled in an LREC academic major to forfeit their NROTC scholarship.

a. Midshipmen who major in a region/culture will pass a minimum of four academic courses equaling a minimum of twelve credit hours in a single specific foreign language associated with the selected region/culture.

b. Midshipmen who major in a foreign language will pass a minimum of four academic courses equaling a minimum of twelve credit hours in a region/culture associated with the selected language. Midshipmen will enroll in progressively more difficult courses until they meet the requirement.

c. Fulfilling the educational institution's academic major and the above respective LREC requirements constitutes program completion. No Navy specified level of language proficiency exists, including the attainment of a specified score on Defense Language Proficiency Test

2. Academic Major Transfer Requests.

a. For LREC Tier 3 to Tier 1 or 2 and Non-LREC Tier 3 to LREC Tier 3 transfer requests:

(1) NSTC shall apply the most recently approved LREC or academic major list to transfer requests.

(2) Midshipman shall incur the additional costs or gain additional financial assistance per reference (g) by the addition of terms (semester or quarter as appropriate) beyond the original four years by transferring academic majors.

(3) Transfer determination resides with the Professor of Naval Science (PNS) when the request is in the best interest of the Navy.

(4) Process:

(a) The midshipman submits an academic major change request to the PNS a minimum of one term in advance of the desired change to facilitate its approval before the midshipman executes a new degree plan.

(b) The PNS reviews the transfer submission, approves or disapproves the request, and notifies NSTC N9 of the final decision.

b. For LREC Tier 3 to non-LREC Tier 3 and Tier 1 or 2 to LREC Tier 3 transfer requests

(1) NSTC shall apply the most recently approved LREC or academic major list to transfer requests.

(2) Midshipmen shall incur the additional costs or gain additional financial assistance per reference (g) by the addition of terms (semester or quarter as appropriate) beyond the original four years by transferring academic majors.

(3) Transfer determination resides with Commander, Naval Service Training Command (CNSTC). When applicable, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) N9 shall convene a panel to review midshipmen requests to transfer to Tier 3 academic majors. The panel shall utilize a CNSTC approved slate. The panel membership will consist of no fewer than three military officers or federal civilians and will include representation from three of the following NSTC N9 departments: Nuclear Programs, Professional Development, Selection and Placement, Unit Operations, and Student Operations. NSTC Professional Development will chair the panel.

(4) Midshipmen not recommended for a tier change remain eligible for other options such as College Program, Nurse Corps Program, or Marine Corps Program.

(5) Process:

(a) The midshipman submits an academic major change request package a minimum of one term in advance of the desired change for initial evaluation by the NROTC unit staff and final review by an NSTC academic major change panel. The midshipman package must include:

1. Reasons for the desired change;
2. Copies of transcripts;
3. Additional information as articulated in the implementing OPMIS Official Mail Message; and
4. Current proposed degree plans.

(b) The PNS reviews and forwards the package to the NSTC N9 for evaluation. Each package must include a PNS endorsement related to the reasons for the academic major change and applicant's performance (e.g. character, academic performance and course load, aptitude, etc.).

(c) NSTC N9 conducts panel (if applicable), reviews transfer packages, and forwards the results to CNSTC or a designee for review and approval or disapproval. Upon deliberation, CNSTC or a designee notifies the PNS(s) of the results and tasks the PNS(s) to take the appropriate actions.

c. For failure to enroll in specified courses

(1) Midshipmen failing to enroll or remain enrolled in appropriate courses for the assigned LREC academic major violate compliance requirements for the LREC scholarship. The NROTC unit shall take the following appropriate actions per reference (h) when a violation occurs:

(a) Offer non-compliant NROTC LREC scholarship midshipmen not redesignated into another academic major tier, the following three options:

1. College Program option
2. Transfer to the Marine Corps or Nurse Corps option; or
3. NROTC Program disenrollment.

(b) Recommend disenrollment for a midshipman who declines the College Program option or disapproved for transfer to the Marine Corps or Nurse Corps programs. Disenrolled NROTC LREC scholarship students will either incur an obligation for active enlisted service or reimburse the United States for educational costs expended on the student's behalf, unless waived by the Secretary of the Navy as outlined in reference (i)