Military/HPSP Medical School & Residency Match (EM)

Kyle Couperus, EM2 Madigan (Army), Alex Eye, GMO (Navy)

- Thank You to All Those Who Contributed -
  Anna Waller, EM1 SAMMC (Air Force)
  Lisa Mack, MSIV (Army)
  Griff Curtis, MSIV (Army)
  Shawn Curry, MSIV (Army)

Additional Information Obtained From ACEP HSPS Documents and Respective Authors

Disclaimer – All dates are approximate and need verification. This document is only meant to help present the big picture. Yearly Program specifics may vary widely, and require close attention to your HPSP advisors’ guidance.
Disclaimer

This document is meant to help provide overall understanding of HPSP, and how navigate the complex Residency Match Process, most specifically for Emergency Medicine. Note, as an HPSP recipient you are required to go through the Military Match - at times this does involve using civilian match processes such as ERAS. The dates and specifics do change year to year, and the Military process occurs before the civilian match – so be diligent! Hopefully this presentation will help you along the way.

The main writer of this document is from the ARMY – thus some of the charts are from this Branch – our apologies for this slight bias. The AF/NAVY contributors had extensive input and reviewed this document, in an attempt to provide information useful for all Branches. We hope you are surviving/enjoying medical school! You are the future of Military Medicine and we hope you continue to pursue a Career in Military Emergency Medicine!

The opinions or assertions contained here in are the private views of the authors and are not to be construed as official or reflecting the views of MAMC, or the Department of the Army, NAVY, AIR FORCE, or the Department of Defence. This brief is also not a recruiting modality. For recruiting information, please refer to your local recruiting station.
Overview

• Key Differences Military Vs. Civilian
  • Medical School
  • Residency
  • Attending

• Med School Map what to do each year
• Military Residency vs. Civilian Deferred?
• What matters most to residencies?
• How to Apply?
• The Selection Process Explained
• What if I don’t match?
• Logistics of the ‘Paid Move’ to your Residency Location!
Must Know Terms

ADT = Paid Away Rotation. Non-ADT ‘Out of Pocket’ Away

MODS = Military GME Website. This is your hub to find residency programs – apply for ADT/Away Rotations, and much more.

Officer Training

ARMY: BOLC (Basic Officer Leadership Course)
NAVY: ODS (Office Development School)
Airforce: COT (Commissioned Officer Training)
Key Differences

Medical School
Residency
Attending
Key Differences: Medical School

“Am I in the Military?” YES!

Branch Specific Officer Training (Between 1\textsuperscript{st}-2\textsuperscript{nd} year)

Occasional PT(fitness) test

Early deadlines for USMLE scores, Residency Applications

‘Away Rotations’ in Military lingo (ADT) during 3\textsuperscript{rd}-4\textsuperscript{th} year almost mandatory (paid for)

Be aware for planning (weddings/etc) – Military Residencies start about 1 month earlier than Civilian.
Key Differences: Residency

Number of spots – Less in Military
- Pro: Fewer applicants, closer specialty group, some specialties may become attainable to a less competitive applicant.
- Con: Less spots to apply for, can make competitive specialties drastically ‘easier’ some years, and ‘harder’ others

Locations – Fewer locations
- Pro: Some great programs, certain specialties have considerable high grade programs, fewer interviews (the typical Civilian interview cycle varies widely but can include 20+ ($$), vs. military 4-5 at most, 2 of which are paid for).
- Con: Fewer specific geographic options

Application process – Interview rotation/away rotation MUCH more important, different application ‘process/dates’
- Pro: Paid Away rotations! You get a much better ‘evaluation/feel’ for the program you will attend. You find out where you match several months before civilian counterparts (unless deferred to a civilian program)
- Con: Requires you to choose your top ‘locations’ somewhat earlier, early dates for USMLE scores/applications/letters requires diligence

More financial comfort during residency compared with civilian
You are in the ARMY/NAVY/AIR FORCE! Working with great people, serving great people!
Key Differences: Attending

Pro’s
Practice setting and location vary widely – many opportunities to see/do things civilian doctors will most likely never experience.

No Loans to pay back!

Con’s
There are some less than desirable locations/positions.

Lower salary
Typical Army/Air Force Path

Medical School + Training

Transitional Year
- No Match

Graduate Medical Officer (GMO)
- No Match
- Match

Residency
- Match

Multiple Career Paths
- Operational
- Academic
- Etc

Fellowship - Depends on Need
Typical Navy Path (2 Common Paths)

Medical School

Internship

Residency
“Straight Through”

Fellowship
Based on need

Multiple Career Paths
- Operational
- Academic
- Etc

GMO

Graduate Medical Officer (GMO),
Several Types
- Dive/Flight 3 years
- Surface FMF 2 years
Medical School Timelines

By Branch
ARMY
Navy
AIR FORCE
(ARMY) Med School → Residency Timeline

Disclaimer
-The year was arbitrary (made in 2016)
-Dates are approximated – but close – verify your year
-*ERAS/Civilian Match only for selected applicants

First Day Med School!
8/15/2001

Schedule BOLC
1/8/2002

1st Year  |  2nd Year  |  3rd Year  |  4th Year

Schedule Away Rotations
1/1/2004

6/18/2003
STEP 1

6/18/2002
BOLC
8/4/2002

*ERAS App Due
9/15/2004

Programs Rank Students
11/5/2004

Rank List Due
10/15/2004

Match Results
12/16/2004

*Civilian Match
3/17/2005

First Day Military Residency!
6/1/2005

11/1/2004
CS Exam

8/18/2004
STEP 2

3/3/2004
Away Rotations
10/31/2004

Civilian Interviews
12/27/2004
3/1/2005

Moving/PCS
5/10/2005
6/1/2005

Disclaimer
-The year was arbitrary (made in 2016)
-Dates are approximated – but close – verify your year
-*ERAS/Civilian Match only for selected applicants
(Air Force) Med School → Residency Timeline

Disclaimer
-The year was arbitrary (made in 2016)
-Dates are approximated – but close – verify your year
-*ERAS/Civilian Match for ALL Air Force (limited ARMY)
(NAVY) Med School ➔ Residency Timeline

Disclaimer
-The year was arbitrary (made in 2016)
-Dates are approximated – but close – verify your year
-*ERAS/Civilian Match – Most Complete – Verify Your Year

First Day Med School!
8/15/2001

Schedule ODS
1/8/2002

Schedule Away Rotations
1/1/2004

Programs Rank Students
11/5/2004

Mil Rank List Due
10/15/2004

Mil Match Results
12/16/2004

*Civilian Match
3/17/2005

First Day Military Residency!
6/1/2005

6/18/2003
STEP 1

6/18/2002
ODS

11/1/2004
CS Exam

*Civilian App Due
9/15/2004

STEP 2

7/15/2004
Application Site Active

3/3/2004
Away Rotations
10/31/2004

Civilian Interviews
12/27/2004
3/1/2005

Moving/PCS
5/10/2005
6/1/2005
Year 1-4

Overall Military Related Goals Each Year

Branch Specific as Indicated
Year 1

• All Branches
  – Research?
    • Added points on some Military residency application ‘score sheets’

• ARMY
  – Start preparations to take BOLC between First and Second Year (During Summer Break) - see following slides.

• NAVY
  – Start preparations to take ODS between First and Second Year (During Summer Break) - see following slides.

• AIR FORCE
  – Start Preparation to take COT (+/-) AMP 101 between Frist and Second Year (During Summer Break) – see following slides.
Year 1: BOLC - ARMY

1. BOLC (Basic Officer Leadership Course)
   – Attempt to complete summer break between 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} year
   – 6 Week course (I had a lot of fun – most do!)
     • Try talking with somebody else who has already gone (Lots of practical advice)
   – VERY hard to take later – but can be done
   – Some recruiters pro-active, but sadly, this sort of falls on you – ask them or your HPSP adviser how to set it up.
Year 1: BOLC - ARMY

• Setting up/Logistics
  1. Recruiters sometimes assist – they are the best place to start
  2. HPSP Counselor Wright/Simmons - they will help get you ‘Orders’ to BOLC (Apply on MODS)
  3. Recruiters can help obtain uniforms/ect from a nearby base, if not available can consider
     • USAmilitarymedals.com or Marlowwhite.com/
Year 1: COT - Air Force

1. Commissioned Officer Training
   – 5 Week course in Montgomery Alabama at Maxwell Air Force Base
   – Timing?
     • Early Option: Can complete before medical school
     • Or Between First and Second Year (Summer Break)

2. Aerospace Medicine Primary (AMP 101)
   – 2 Week Course at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio
   – 2 Week introduction course to aerospace medicine (1\textsuperscript{st} of three courses flight surgeons complete)
   – Timing?
     • Reportedly similar to COT, before medical school or between 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} year.
Year 1: COT - Air Force

• Logistics
  – Please contact Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT)
Year 1: ODS - NAVY

• Officer Development School (ODS)
  – 5 Week Course in Newport, RI
  – Timing?
    • Early Option: Some people take before medical school
    • Or Between First and Second Year (Summer Break)
    • Or After medical school before starting Residency

• Logistics
  – Contact your Recruiter or HPSP Advisor
Year 2

• All Branches
  – USMILE Step 1 (end of second year)
    • Score to HPSP office by ~September 15 of 3rd year
    • Note: Some schools (Such as Columbia) have off cycle Step 1 testing, in this case a brief signed letter from the school will secure a deferment
  – Research?
Year 3

• All Branches
  – Core Clinical Rotations
    • Starting time varies by school
    • Can complete ‘required’ rotations as a military ‘ADT’ i.e. away rotation
  – Letters of Recommendation (3 min – 4 max)
    • Start to ask: EM specific, consider SLOE/SLOR, EM standardized letters
  – Start planning 4th Year Interview Rotations/ADTs (Army Away Rotations – more details later)
    • December/Jan of 3rd year
    • Contact information for programs on MODs/Online
Year 4

• Away rotations/ADTs/Interview Rotations
  – Very important
  – Usually for the first parts of 4th year (June-October)…Can start earlier
  – Logistics Described Later

• Residency Application
  1. Military Specific: Initial App due by mid Sept, Rank List due by ~October 15th Through MODS website
  2. Civilian through ERAS (Civilian application site) ~Sept 15th
     • See Branch Specifics on who needs both in ‘How To Apply’
What Do Residencies Look At?

1. Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours)
2. Board Scores
3. Grades (AOA)
4. Interview
5. Letters of Recommendation
6. Deans Letter
7. Personal Statements
8. Research
9. Volunteering/Interest Groups/AMA
10. Make Weight/Past PT test – Limited (GME requirement to advance through residency)

In Relative order for E.M. though likely varies widely.
What Do Residencies Look At?

- **Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours), “Interview” rotations**
- Board Scores
- Grades (AOA)
- Interview
- Letters of Recommendation
- Deans Letter
- Personal Statements
- Research
- Volunteering/Interest Groups/AMA
- Make Weight/Past PT test – Limited (GME requirement to advance through residency)
ADT/Away Rotations/Interview Rotations

• ADTs in General
  – Paid Away Rotations! You pay up front – with reimbursement
  – Request Through MODS
  – Number will depend on length of scholarship (1 per year of scholarship)
  – Options
    • Away rotations/audition rotations/Interview rotations
      – Most people have ‘2’ for these one for 3rd and 4th year
    • BOLC counts as 1
    • At school ADT (extra pay – but uses a paid Away)
Away Rotations – Logistics

Easier for us than Civilian!

1. Figure out what specialty, Look at programs on MODS (Or search website for contact info)
2. Rotate where you want to go – and where a program exists
   o If no spots available, can complete a rotation with an alternative specialty and try to pick up shifts/etc.
3. Arrange Rotation Dates with program coordinator at site
4. Request orders in MODS (If an ADT rotation vs. a Non-ADT)
Away Rotations – Logistics

• ADT vs. Non-ADT
  – ADT. Two Step. (1) Arrange with program. (2) Request Orders through MODS
    • Reimbursed Lodging, per diem pay, travel, rental car (all varies)
      Via travel voucher – keep receipts – contact Counselor way before going to discuss arranging flights/ect
  – Non-ADT. One Step. (1) Arrange with program
    • Can complete unpaid rotations for almost any length of time (A few shifts or a whole month) allows face time and ability to see the program
    • Arrange the same way – just tell program it is a ‘Non-ADT’
    • Gives you a chance to ‘audition’ at more locations
    • It will all be out-of-pocket cost
Away Rotations – Logistics

• Start Requesting December – January of 3\textsuperscript{rd} year (Scheduling EARLIER than Civilian)
  – Spots fill up FAST

• Schedule into 4\textsuperscript{th} year Rotation Dates
  – I recommend scheduling even if you don’t have your school schedule yet – i.e. can reschedule if you really need to.

• Cannot have ‘ADT’ scheduled over Oct 1-15\textsuperscript{th}
  – Okay for Non-ADT during this time frame
Away/ADT – How To Set Up
Away/ADT – How To Set Up

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Audition Rotations Are Very Important!

– The **entire rotation is an audition**. Residents and Attendings you work with => all have input.
  - Go to the social events
  - Work Hard, no phone, ask questions – be engaged – but don’t be mean to other students – it gets noticed
– You will usually formally interview during the rotation (Schedule during ADT)
  - Often request via email prior to arrival
– Interview at all the places you did not rotate. In competitive specialties, face-to-face is a preferred. Less competitive might do with a phone interview
– If your specialty is a designated pre-select, you must also interview with all transitional programs linked to the site. (phone is fine)
What Do Residencies Look At?

- Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours), “Interview” rotations
- **Board Scores**
- Grades (AOA)
- Interview
- Letters of Recommendation
- Deans Letter
- Personal Statements
- Research
- Volunteering/Interest Groups/AMA
- Make Weight/Past PT test – Limited (GME requirement to advance through residency)
Board Scores

- Importance depends on specialty – and where you want to go
- Can get a ballpark estimate of what you need based on Military GME data (On MODS after match/Google for the current year/ask recruiter)
- Following slides are examples from 2011
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 national means for matched US students (step 1/step 2)</th>
<th>USMLE Step 1 Mean/Min</th>
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<th>COMLEX Lvl 1 Mean/Min</th>
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<td>2011 national means for matched US students (step 1/step 2)</td>
<td>USMLE Step 1 Mean/Min</td>
<td>USMLE Step 2 Mean/Min</td>
<td>COMLEX Lvl 1 Mean/Min</td>
<td>COMLEX Lvl 2 Mean/Min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathology (227/230)</td>
<td>231/207</td>
<td>237/223</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurosurgery (239/237)</td>
<td>252/241</td>
<td>244/219</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medicine (222/230)</td>
<td>234/211</td>
<td>245/220</td>
<td>559/440</td>
<td>623/482</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Data restricted to protect student privacy
What Do Residencies Look At?

- Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours), “Interview” rotations
- Board Scores
- Grades (AOA)
- Interview
- Letters of Recommendation
- Deans Letter
- Personal Statements
- Research
- Volunteering/Interest Groups/AMA
- Make Weight/Past PT test – Limited (GME requirement to advance through residency)
Grades/AOA

• Doing well helps – but not an end all
What Do Residencies Look At?

- Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours), “Interview” rotations
- Board Scores
- Grades (AOA)
- **Interview**
- Letters of Recommendation
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Interview

• Format Varies
  – Usually complete during your ‘Away Rotation’ at that location
  – Often meet with program directors, assistant program directors. Some are very formal, some by surprise
  – “Tell me about yourself” some places have odd questions “who would you save if you were on a sinking ship”
  – Review typical interview questions online
  – Interview at all the places you did not rotate. Face to face is highly preferred but if unable - a phone interview is still better than nothing.
What Do Residencies Look At?

- Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours), “Interview” rotations
- USMLE Board Scores
- Grades (AOA)
- Interview
- **Letters of Recommendation**
- Deans Letter
- Personal Statements
- Research
- Volunteering/Interest Groups/AMA
- Make Weight/Past PT test – Limited (GME requirement to advance through residency)
Letters or Recommendation

• Get Letters during 3rd year, and during all away/ADT rotations.
  – EM Specific SLOE/SLOR best, standardized letter from the whole department
  – How to get a letter
    • Initially just ask for a ‘good’ letter - they will expect you to contact them again in the future because it cannot be sent in until you start your residency application.
    • Everybody will apply through MODS (+/-) ERAS(civilian residency application). In which case the site will open sometime 4th year Summer (Often Mid July), letters are Emailed to your HPSP advisor, or some Attendings can direct upload.
    • ERAS applicants, FYGME Letter of Instruction (LOI) and Fact Sheet released to 4th year students in July (allows those letter to get sent in)
    • For either – when an upload system is open, Re-contact those individuals ‘reminding’ them of some of the patients you saw/cases/etc and they can send your letter in with the appropriate form.
What Do Residencies Look At?

- Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours), “Interview” rotations
- Board Scores
- Grades (AOA)
- Interview
- Letters of Recommendation
- **Deans Letter**
- **Personal Statements**
- Research
- Volunteering/Interest Groups/AMA
- Make Weight/Past PT test – Limited (GME requirement to advance through residency)
Deans Letter/Personal Statement

• **Deans Letter**
  – Meeting usually in 3\textsuperscript{rd} year
  – Review CV
  – Compilation of comments from rotations
    • Do well on rotations = good deans letter

• **Personal Statement**
  – Matters to varying degrees
What Do Residencies Look At?

- Away Rotations, ADTs (Active Duty Tours), “Interview” rotations
- Board Scores
- Grades (AOA)
- Interviews
- Letters of Recommendation
- Deans Letter
- Personal Statements
- **Research**
- **Volunteering/Interest Groups/AMA**
- **Make Weight/Past PT test – Limited (GME requirement to advance through residency)**
Research/Volunteering/Interest Groups

• Dependent on specialty: Optho, Ortho, Derm – research may be the normal

• For most
  – Can help cover for less than optimal grades/board scores.
  – I.e. If not as strong a candidate – these things can help.

• PT Test
  – Minimal effect – but helps to look the part, and will have a PT test during every ADT.
Military Residency Vs. Civilian Deferred/Sponsored

Civilian Deferred = Residency at Civilian Location.
Civilian Sponsored = Paid Military Wage, Residency at Civilian Location
Programs – Military Vs. Civilian Deferral

• Over the Summer you will get an email detailing whether or not civilian deferrals will be granted and in what specialties. This may or may not be set in stone.

• The likelihood of this varies by Branch, specialty, and swings widely year to year.

• General: Some competitive residencies with limited spots will occasionally offer Civilian deferral based on army needs

• *Important* every HPSP applicant must go through the Military Match Process – even if seeking deferment!
Civilian Deferral: EM Specific

• EM Specific
  – ARMY: Very unlikely to occur, in fact the ARMY has now indicated (as of 2016) ERAS (the hub of the civilian match) no longer needs to completed by any applicant except for Plastics and General Surgery. Follow the requirements of this closely.
  – Air Force: Probably the most likely of the Branches to get a deferral, still seems best not to count on it. In addition, this MUST be completed concurrently THROUGH the Military Match process! The Program Directors help guide this process.
  – Navy: Varies by year
How to Apply
How To Apply

• A letter with detailed instructions is usually sent during your 3rd year. Follow that for specifics.

•Currently
  – The website known as “MODS” is the HUB for your application (ARMY, Air Force, & Navy)
  – Application usually opens July of your 4th year
  – All documents are sent/uploaded to MODS, endless also applying civilian (must also upload to ERAS)
  – All documents are usually due around October 15th (including your rank list)
Branch Specifics – ERAS?

• ARMY
  – As of 2016, only those applying to Plastics and General Surgery ‘Had’ to complete MODS \textbf{and} ERAS
  – Most applied for ‘specialty’ + a transitional year for last ranking

• NAVY
  – Depending on needs/direction may require ERAS

• Air Force
  – Applied to both MODS and ERAS
  – Most applied for ‘Choice specialty’ (+/-) second specialty, plus a medicine year, a surgery year, and a transitional year for last ranking

- Important to check you year -
The Selection Process
EM Specific
Who are you ‘Competing’ with?

• ARMY: Two Applicant Pools
  1. Medical Student
  2. Transitional Year + GMO

• NAVY/AIR FORCE:
  1. All applicants in same group
EM Selection Process: ARMY

• Slots
  – Augusta: 6 MS (Varies), 2 TY/GMO
  – Darnell: 8 MS, 2 TY/GMO
  – Madigan: 10 MS, 2 TY/GMO
  – San Antonio 6 MS, 2 TY/GMO
  – Total: 30 MS, 8 TY/GMO
EM Selection Process: ARMY

Medical Students (MS)
1. Students Rank 5 Programs on MODS (Typically 4 EM and 1 TY Program)
2. Program Director Ranks Medical Students 1 to X through MODs
3. Computer matches Student to Programs
4. Office of the Surgeon General will review and certify the match.

GMO/TY
1. Application graded by tri-service panel (score sheet following slide) = numerical value
2. Top 8 Packets based on numerical value will be selected for residency – distributed amongst the 4 programs based on applicant preference, program preference, and ARMY cost.
Air Force/Navy

• JSGMEB
  – Meets the last week in November
  – Each applicant is rated by corresponding board in each service
    • That means that an army applicant also gets rated by the Navy and AF counterparts
    • Composite rating, Order of Merit List
    • Then the “match” happens, based on your preferences and where you fit on that list
  – Results posted on MODS in mid December
Profile of a Competitive Applicant

• Above average grades in years 1 and 2.
• Step 1 at or above national average
• Step 2 is more important in military match. Be at or above national average, OR show significant improvement from Step 1
• CS—Pass
• Great Letters
• Good evaluations on ADTs
• Look the part
  – Uniform, hair, ht/wt
• Research/presentations*
• Prior Service*
• Ultra competitive specialties have higher board averages and minimum accepted scores* (Urology, ENT, Ortho etc.)
What If I Don’t Match?

• Sadly this happens to people every year. Good news – the Military has more options than civilian!
  – Transitional Year (TY)
    • Many people recommend ranking your ‘final spot’ as a Transitional Year – often at your ‘Number 1’ location. This allows you to interact with people there and try applying the following cycle.
  – GMO Tour
    • If you don’t match into a residency – you often complete a Transitional Year, and then a 2-3 year rotation. With ability to re-apply afterwards
  – Alternative Specialty?
    • There are often positions in varying specialties that are not filled, thus there is usually a message sent after the match seeking re-applicants for these spots (Similar to the Scramble after Civilian match)
Paid Move/PCS Logistics

• Three Options
  – PPM, Personally Procured Move or Do it yourself (DITY)
    • You do it all yourself and get paid 95% of what it would cost the Government
    • Requires pre-post weights on your goods
    • Read the instructions carefully
  – Partial Do it yourself (Partial DITY)
    • Most of your goods are packed/trucked out. You fill up your car, and do a pre-post weight
  – Shipment of household goods
    • Government moves all of your goods
    • Pro – no hassle! Con – can take longer to get your household goods.

• Start process once you have Residency Orders. Talk to your HPSP Counselor. Your recruiter may also be able to help initiate.
Additional Information

This ends the formal presentation – Unformatted but possibly useful information follows
• Military HPSP facebook page – huge group that helps answer lots of questions
The ARMY/Military Deal

- BOLC (ARMY) or the respective branch school, teaches you the ‘Military Culture’ saluting/uniform/ect. I was worried about Away Rotations in this aspect – you can do them without Officer School, but it helps. Either way feel free to ask residents questions, other students, or use the HPSP facebook site. There are lots of military culture specifics that you will learn with time. We were all there once.
Odds and Ends

• Research the programs and find contact information early
• Clean, crisp CV
• Don’t embellish your accomplishments
• Value of original research/publications
• Be a team player on your ADTs
Applications For PGY-1 Positions:
Applicants Per Approved Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIALTY (Positions Offered)</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td>Emergency Medicine (30)</td>
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<td>1.76</td>
<td>1.40</td>
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<td>Family Medicine (47)</td>
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<td>0.72</td>
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<td>1.02</td>
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<td>General Surgery (27)</td>
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<td>1.26</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>1.59</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Surgery: Neurosurgery (4)</td>
<td>1.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Surgery: Urology (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neurology (4)</td>
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<td>0.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>OB-GYN (19)</td>
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<td>Orthopaedics (19)</td>
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<td>Otolaryngology (7)</td>
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<td>Pathology (9)</td>
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<td>Pediatrics (28)</td>
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</table>
## Applications For PGY-1 Positions: Applicants Per Approved Positions (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIALTY (Positions Offered)</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Prelim: Anesthesiology (12)</td>
<td>1.25</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prelim: Dermatology (7)</td>
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<td>0.63</td>
<td>1.43</td>
<td>1.71</td>
<td>1.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prelim: Ophthalmology (7)</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>1.71</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prelim: Physical Medicine (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prelim: Preventive Medicine (2)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Prelim: Radiology (13)</td>
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<td>Psychiatry (17)</td>
<td>0.88</td>
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<td>1.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychiatry/Internal Medicine (1)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NAVY Specifics

US Navy HPSP as experienced by a Navy physician/HPSP Graduate

The views within this brief are solely the views of the writer. Though this brief may contain tables and statistics released by the US Navy it does not represent the policy/views of the US Navy or Navy Medicine. For official policies and views, please refer to official US Navy documentation. This brief is also not a recruiting modality. For recruiting information, please refer to your local recruiting station.

Background: I am currently a US Navy physician. I graduated from The University of Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences with a Medical Degree in 2015. I completed my internship at Naval Medical Center San Diego. Currently, I am a General Medical Officer stationed with the US Marines.

The program: At its core, the HPSP program is the same for all services. The scholarship portion pays for medical school, provides a stipend for living expenses and provides a $20,000 signing bonus. As a prospective member, you may apply for the program following acceptance to medical school. In the US Navy, if accepted, you will commission as an Ensign in the Medical Corps in a Special Reserves status. The Medical Corps falls under the Staff Corps, an officer branch of the US Navy designed to support the Navy/Unrestricted Line Officers in the completion of assigned missions. Following graduation, you will commission to Active Duty as a Lieutenant.

Timeline: The US Navy expects your focus to be on your school work. The standard requirements of the Active Duty population do not apply during your time in the program, but there is a mandatory component of Officer Development School (ODS) that must be completed prior to arrival at your first duty station. The preferred time for this training is in the summer break between 1st and 2nd year, though the training may be completed during any of the four annual training periods during school or following graduation from medical school. It is expected that you follow the progression of USMLE examinations: USMLE Step 1 following 2nd year, USMLE Step 2 CK/CS in 3rd-4th year. In order to do your audition rotations you will need to use your 45 days of annual training time. You want to schedule your first rotation in the beginning of 4th year but before SEP of that year in order to avoid the end of the fiscal year. Your second rotation should closely follow, around October of that year to have the rotation/interview associated with it prior to submitting your rank list.

Residency application: The US Navy does not use the civilian program for its residency application process. The US Navy uses an internal program and has different dates for requirements:

- 15 JUL – Application site is activated
- 30 JUL – Internship application submission deadline
- 19 OCT – Application changes and submission of supporting documentation deadline (Rank List Due)
- 12 DEC – Selection board convenes
- 27 DEC – Match results released

*Note: these dates are subject to change every year; refer to the information passed by your command for official dates.

US Navy Medicine allows you to apply to two specialties. The majority of the internship programs, excluding Family Medicine, are in Bethesda, MD, Portsmouth, VA and San Diego, CA. Your geographic preferences are also considered. This process guarantees you interviews at each program you apply to, either in person or by phone.

It is important to note that this program does not submit your application to any civilian programs. How many students are deferred to a civilian program is decided by the needs of the Navy and the number of applicants in a given year. As a general rule, US Navy internship positions will be filled before students are deferred to a civilian program. For further guidance, please talk to your command as they will have a better idea of the number of students in your graduating class and they can offer guidance as to whether you should submit civilian applications. If an internship program is competitive in civilian training, it will be competitive in military training as well. It is good to note that the Navy may pull you from civilian training programs early should the need for General Medical Officers in the Fleet exceed supply and capacity. Your command will be the best source of the latest information on policies and procedures for these types of situations. Another consideration in civilian programs is that though you will be paid as a civilian resident during your training, you will not receive credit towards your time in the Navy for pay, retirement and benefits or service time obligations.
NAVY Specifics

Internship and beyond: With US Navy Medicine you will only match for one year of training, a big difference from the other two military programs. During this year, you are required to pass USMLE Step 3 and near the completion of that year you are also required to apply for a medical license. Internship training is regulated by the GME so - military or civilian - the training will be the same.

During your internship year, should you desire, you will apply for a PGY-2 year; the dates are similar to the ones above but again, please confirm with your command for exact dates for your application. The difference is that US Navy Medicine has billets for physicians who are licensed but have not yet finished a residency and become board certified in their field of study. These billets are very diverse and allow for a breadth of experiences within the Fleet. The billets are located wherever the US Navy operates.

General Medical Officer billets: In general, the MO will act in a primary care capacity. The MO reports to the Commanding Officer of the unit they are attached to. The medical readiness and health of the unit is the responsibility of the MO. Typically, the MO will be the Officer In Charge of a group of Navy Corpsmen, enlisted medical personnel, and a Physician Assistant; with the number of Corpsmen/PAs varying based on the unit. The MO is also expected to provide medical force protection/preparedness for any deployments that the unit is tasked with and will likely deploy with the unit depending on the mission and requirements of the unit. Generally, there is a senior MO at the battalion/group level to provide guidance and support.

Surface GMO: MOs are attached to a ship and serve as the ship’s medical officer - the number of officers depend on the size of the vessel and the size of the company attached to that vessel.

Fleet Marine Force GMO: MOs are attached to a Marine unit, generally at the battalion level, and provide medical services to the unit to which they are attached.

Flight Surgeons: The MOs will go through Medical Officer flight training and then will be attached to a flight wing and provide care to the members of the flight group that they are attached to. This program must be applied for through the GME application process.

Underseas Medical Officer: The MOs will attend training to become proficient in undersea medicine. During that process, they attend the US Navy diving school and receive their qualification as a US Navy Diver. This program must be applied for through the GME application process.

The billets for each different GMO subtype vary from year to year depending on the availability of billets. The detailer will release a list for Surface and FMF billets before a decision needs to be made. Flight Surgery and Undersea Medicine billets will be released with each graduating class from the respective trainings; again, the billets vary based upon what is expected to be vacated at that time. Again, please contact your command for further guidance.

*Note: the time spent in a GMO billet counts towards the time that you owe from the HPSP scholarship.

“Straight Through” GME training: This is similar to civilian programs. Should you be selected for training, you will be allowed to finish that program before you are sent to the Fleet as an MO. Programs will have positions for interns and for MOs returning from the Fleet. The number of interns selected varies from year to year - what happened the year prior does not dictate what will happen for your year. These programs need to be applied for through the GME application process. As with applying for internship, the programs that are competitive in the civilian sector are competitive in the US Navy match. It is best to talk with your command and the program you are interested in for their thoughts on the prospects of going straight through.

*Note: The time spent training does not count towards the time you owe from the HPSP scholarship.

*Note: If you plan to remain in the US Navy, you will need to complete a residency and become board certified in your field of study. This is a requirement to promote to O-5, Commander.

Below are examples of PGY 1 positions and PGY 2+ positions available. Please note that this is an estimate and numbers are subject to change at any time without notice. The PGY 2+ positions are spread across all of the training sites that offer that training program.
## PGY 1 Sample

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<th>SPECIALTY</th>
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### PGY 2+ Example
(*FITS = Full time in service*)

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Good Luck with Medical School and Your Military Medicine Career!