RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN announces additional management controls for Tuition Assistance (TA) and Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE) in references (a) through (c).

2. At mid-year review, FY-19 TA demand was 30% higher than the same point in FY-18. Lifting the 16 semester hour cap in reference (c), combined with improved access through virtual service delivery caused an unsustainable TA spend rate. As a result, we anticipate that TA funding will run out this month with no additional funding to be made available for the remainder of FY-19. Sailors currently taking classes or in receipt of a funded TA voucher are not impacted. Affected Sailors who desire to continue taking courses for the remainder of FY-19 should contact the Navy College Virtual Education Center (NCVEC) to discuss other funding options, such as GI Bill, scholarships or financial aid. Going forward, TA policy will balance availability of finite resources and ensure continued access to TA and NCPACE for all eligible Sailors.

3. TA is intended to elevate the academic level of Service Members. Today, we have some Sailors pursuing multiple degrees and others who take multiple courses without completing a degree. Use of TA must focus on degree completion. In addition, we have many very junior Sailors maxing out TA usage at a time in their Navy career when they should be focused on warfighting and warfare qualifications. While committed to allowing Sailors to pursue off-duty education, operational readiness is the top priority. The Navy is, first and foremost, a warfighting organization. We need qualified and proficient warfighters.
4. Effective 1 October 2019 the following controls go into effect:
   a. All enlisted personnel and officers must have a minimum of 
two years of service before becoming eligible to use TA or NCPACE 
Instructor Led or Distance Learning (DL) courses. This may not be 
waived.
   b. TA and NCPACE DL funding is capped at twelve semester hours 
(or equivalent quarter hours) per fiscal year.
   c. TA and NCPACE DL funding is capped at 120 semester hours (or 
equivalent quarter hours) in a career. This excludes courses taken 
to complete a high school diploma.
5. Commanding officers and officers in charge have the final say in 
approving TA and are encouraged to actively manage usage. First 
assignments are challenging and rigorous. Commands should establish 
benchmark qualifications that first-term Sailors must earn prior to 
using TA or NCPACE. These may include, but are not limited to 
damage control, maintenance, primary warfare, watch-station or other 
qualifications depending upon command mission. Commanding officers 
and officers in charge should also consider operational tempo before 
approving off-duty education.
6. Sailors have several additional personal and professional 
development opportunities available to offset this temporary non-
availability of TA. They can be accessed via MyNavy Portal at 
7. For questions regarding eligibility, degree plans or other 
education funding options, contact Navy College Virtual Education 
Center at (877)838-1659/DSN 492-4684 or via MyNavy Portal at 
8. For questions concerning TA or NCPACE policy, contact Mr. Jim 
Johnson at (703)604-5256/DSN 664 or james.p.johnson(at)navy.mil.
9. This NAVADMIN will remain in effect until superseded or 
canceled, whichever occurs first.
10. Released by Vice Admiral R. P. Burke, N1.//
    BT
    #0001
    NNNN
    <DmdsSecurity>UNCLASSIFIED//</DmdsSecurity>
    <DmdsReleaser>ALEXANDER.FAITH.ELISABETH Q.1294454906</DmdsReleaser>
    CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED//