OLMSTED FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Who is eligible for the Olmsted Program?
A. (a) Active duty list regular officers with the designators 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1810, 1820, 1830, and 3100 with at least 3 years of commissioned service but not more than 11 years of total active federal military service as prescribed by the Olmsted Foundation.
(b) Active duty list regular officers with the designators 1310 and 1320 with have at least 3 years of commissioned service but not more than 13.5 years of total active federal military service as prescribed by the Olmsted Foundation.
*The extended years of total active federal military service is a pilot that ends unless adopted, by the Foundation after the selection of the FY21 Olmsted Scholars.

Q. Is the Olmsted program open to Reservists?
A. Olmsted Scholar eligibility is limited to active duty regular or Full Time Support (FTS) commissioned line officers with at least three years but not more than 11 years of total active federal service as prescribed by the Olmsted Foundation.

Q. Is a service obligation required upon completion of the Olmsted program? If so, what is its duration?
A. Yes...service obligation for Olmsted Scholars will be calculated based on the number of months the officer is assigned overseas. The program is a 24-month program for every month the Scholar is overseas...he/she is obligated 3 months for every month starting with the Scholar's rotation to his/her overseas location -- usually three years for each year (typically a 6-year obligation). The obligation is to be served currently with any other obligation. Defense Language Institution (language) is not included in this calculation.

Q: I already have a master's degree. Does this make me ineligible?
A: No, you are still eligible even if you already have a graduate degree.

Q: How does an officer arrange a Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB)?
A: DLAB testing can be arranged through your command, usually by your command's Education Services Officer (ESO). DLAB testing information can be obtained by your command from:
-Commanding Officer Center for Information Dominance (CLREC-NFLTO Code N01L)
Pensacola FL 32511-5138; (850)452-6177 or DSN 459-6177 or send an email to languagetesting@navy.mil.

Q: If I already took the DLAB, but I do not have a copy of my score report, what can I do?
A: Contact - (850) 452.6177 or DSN 459-6177 or send an email to languagetesting@navy.mil.

Q: How can I find information on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)?
A: Information on the Graduate Record Examination may be obtained on the GRE website at www.gre.org.

Q: What should I do if I receive a FITREP between the time I apply and when either of the selection boards meet?
A: Submit it to the Navy Olmsted Scholar Program Manager (NETPDC VOLED (OLMSTED)) for inclusion in your application package.

Q: How do I submit addendum items after the deadlines have passed?
A: Follow the directions on the Navy Personnel Command (NPC) website at http://www.npc.navy.mil for submitting correspondence to a selection board. Select the Boards tab, next General Board Info, and then under “topics” select Promotion Board Correspondence. The directions are the same for administrative boards as it is for promotion or statutory boards.
Q: Why does the Olmsted Foundation website mention required items that are not listed in the NAVADMIN, instruction, or in the sample application letter?
A: If you are selected as an Olmsted nominee by the Navy Olmsted Selection Board, you will be required to submit additional items and information within a week of your selection, but this information should not be sent until you have been notified of your selection as a Navy Olmsted nominee.

Q: How many officers may be selected to the program each year?
A: The Olmsted Foundation selects officers from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. The Navy Selection Board may select up to 12 Navy nominees whose packages will be forwarded to the Olmsted Board of Directors for consideration. The Olmsted Foundation may select up to 10 Navy Olmsted Scholars, but historically has only selected around five Navy officers to participate.

Q: Where can I find guidance on compiling my University Preference List?
A: This information is normally found on the Olmsted Foundation website at www.olmstedfoundation.org under the overseas study section. However, the Olmsted website is undergoing reconstruction, and the Foundation is unsure when this section will be completed. In the meantime, if you will email the Navy Olmsted Scholar Manager, she will provide you with this guidance.

Q. How will I know if I have been selected as a candidate from the Navy Selection Board?
A. Applicants will be notified via email of Navy nominee selection.

Q. How will I know if I have been selected as a Navy Olmsted nominee?
A. Navy nominees selected to be an Olmsted Scholar by the Olmsted Scholar Foundation Board of Directors will be contacted via email and a list of selectees will be posted on the Navy Personnel Command website at https://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/officer/Detailing/educationplacement/Pages/default.aspx.

Q. Where can I find information on what countries and universities of past scholars?
A. Please use this link - http://scholars.olmstedfoundation.org/olmsted/web/index.cfm?view=scholarsProgram/vwScholarsListing&clatf=102 – this link will provide you with past and present Scholars in the program. The information will provide you with information on: Olmsted Scholars Class Listing dating from 1960-2016, of Participants, Universities, Languages, and Services. The information allows you an opportunity to send any of the scholars an email and ask them about their experiences.

Q. I have heard that the Olmsted Foundation have “closed” study locations. What is a closed location and where do I find additional information about closed locations?
A. To view current locations not open to the next Olmsted class use this link that will provide you with “closed” Study Locations http://www.olmstedfoundation.org/what-we-do/2019%20Study%20Locations.pdf
The Olmsted generally does not assign two Scholars to the same city at the same time. There are however, some exceptions for location with very large population or those location of strategic importance to US international relations and policy.