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RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN solicits applications and provides guidance for the FY-20 Olmsted Scholar Program.
2. The Olmsted Scholar Program provides outstanding young military leaders an unsurpassed opportunity to achieve fluency in a foreign language, pursue graduate study at an overseas university, and acquire an in-depth understanding of foreign cultures, thereby further equipping them to serve in positions of great responsibility as senior leaders in the United States Armed Forces. Applicants should be available to commence language training in summer/fall 2019, begin 2 years of study at a foreign university in 2020, and complete in 2022. A Navy selection board will convene in November 2018 to select up to 12 nominees from which the Olmsted Foundation Board of Directors will consider and select Navy scholars in March 2019.
3. This unique scholarship opportunity supports the Secretary of Defense emphasis on developing language skills and regional cultural knowledge across the force. Global affairs require language proficiency/regional expertise within the Navy. Although this scholarship program is open to all regions of the world, priority will be given to those whose language choice would fill a current or projected critical need of the Navy.
4. To utilize these scholarship opportunities, the Navy is looking for young leaders who display all the qualities of dedicated career officers who aspire to command. In particular, fitness reports must demonstrate strong leadership qualities, solid overall performance, and strong promotion potential. Additionally, while a minimum grade point average is not specified, all applicants must have demonstrated scholastic ability in their undergraduate transcript. Factors such as academic major, participation in varsity sports, steady scholastic improvement, class ranking, etc., are taken into consideration when reviewing transcripts. Applicants must also have a strong desire to live, study, and travel abroad, as well as learn a foreign language. Finalists may be interviewed by the Olmsted Foundation.
5. Active duty list regular officers with the designators 111X, 112X, 113X, 114X, 131X, 132X, 181X, 182X, 183X, and 310X with the following qualifications may apply for the program.
a. Designators 111x, 112x, 113x, 114x, 181x, 182x, 183x, and 310x must have at least 3 years of commissioned service but not more than 11 years of total active federal service as of 1 April 2019.

b. Designators 131x and 132x will have the opportunity to participate in the second year of a 3-year trial program that expands the service eligibility requirement from no more than 11 years to no more than 13.5 years. Given the compressed career timeline for aviators through department head, this trial program is intended to evaluate whether this change would enable greater participation during a timeframe that does not jeopardize career viability. For the duration of the trial program, which will last through the FY-21 Olmsted cycle, officers with designators 131x and 132x must have at least 3 years of commissioned service but not more than 13.5 years of total active federal service as of 1 April 2019.

c. Superior scholastic ability as demonstrated in an official undergraduate transcript.

d. Foreign language aptitude as demonstrated on the Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB), although language background or proficiency is not required.

e. Exceptional military professional performance.

6. Applications should be prepared pursuant to enclosure (3) of reference (a). Detailed information on application requirements is located on the Navy College website at: www.navycollege.navy.mil/resources/olmsted.htm. Applications should be addressed to:

   Naval Education and Training Professional Development Center (NETPDC) Voluntary Education (VOLED)
   Attn: Code N221B, Officer Special Education Program (OSEP)-Olmsted
   6490 Saufley Field Road
   Pensacola, FL 32509-5204

7. To support submission of DLAB scores, commands may obtain DLAB testing information by calling (850) 452-4579/DSN 459, or via e-mail at language testing(at)navy.mil. Information on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) may be obtained at www.gre.org.

8. This is a 3-year program for which career timing is an important consideration. All applicants must contact their detailer for counseling on the career impact of participation in the Olmsted Scholar Program. In order to be considered by the Navy selection board, a detailer written/signed statement as stated by enclosure (3) of reference (a), must be included in the nomination package.

9. Complete application packages, with command endorsement and detailer statement, must reach NETPDC VOLED, (OSEP-Olmsted), no later than 24 August 2018. Required DLAB/GRE scores and official college transcripts may be submitted by separate correspondence to reach NETPDC (OSEP-Olmsted) no later than 7 September 2018.

10. This prestigious program is key to preparing young officers for future leadership roles as the Navy faces the ever-increasing challenges and complexities in the international environment of today. Olmsted Scholars achieve fluency in a foreign language, gain a deep appreciation for foreign cultures, acquire regional expertise by studying and traveling overseas, and may earn a Liberal Arts Master’s Degree. All eligible and interested officers are urged to consider this important program and visit the Olmsted Foundation website at www.OlmstedFoundation.org for additional details.

11. Points of contact:

   a. For program specific and application procedures contact Ms. Elise McGuire, NETPDC, at (850) 473-6064/DSN 753, or via e-mail at elise.mcguire(at)navy.mil.

   b. For Olmsted Scholar experience inquires contact CAPT David Sauve, a graduate of the Olmsted Scholar Program, via e-mail at david.sauve(at)navy.mil.

12. This message will remain in effect until superseded or canceled, whichever occurs first.

13. Released by Vice Admiral R. P. Burke, N1.//