

# How to Apply to USUHS Clinical Psychology



## OVERVIEW

Applying to the USU program is a multi-step process that has two primary parts. You must gain acceptance to the graduate program itself, and you must qualify for appointment as an officer in the Navy Medical Services Corps (MSC). There are also additional requirements for current active duty applicants.

All applicants must submit their packages through a Navy Medical Programs Officer recruiter in order to ensure that the documents required for commissioning purposes are completed. To locate the Medical Programs Officer Recruiter nearest you, go to <http://www.navy.com/careers/healthcare/> - Click on "Find a Recruiter" at the bottom of the page. Type in the zip code where you will be located at the time you would like to speak to a recruiter, then click on "Officer Recruiter." When contacting the recruiting office, ask specifically to speak with a Medical Programs Officer Recruiter. Small recruiting offices may not have Medical Programs Officer Recruiters, but they can easily direct you to the nearest one.

Your recruiter will help you process your entire application package, which will include both the USUHS portion of the application and the documents required for commissioning in the Navy.

This application process can be confusing! For additional assistance at any time, you are invited to contact Dr. John Ralph, (National Director for Navy Psychology Training Programs) at [john.a.ralph.civ@mail.mil](mailto:john.a.ralph.civ@mail.mil).

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete application information is available at <https://www.usuhs.edu/mps/applicants>.

**APPLY EARLY:** You are advised to start your application with a Medical Programs Officer recruiter by August or earlier in order to complete all requirements by the required deadline. The USUHS portion of the application is typically due at the beginning of December of each year. All applicants are required to take the [GRE](#) general test within two years of their application.

**In addition to the two parts of your application (USUHS application and Navy commissioning documents) your USUHS Application consists of two phases. Phase I is your on-line application. Phase II is a required interview.**

## Phase I: Online Application

Applicants must complete the Graduate Education Office's ONLINE application for Admission to Graduate Study. The application includes a personal statement, as well as the submission of transcripts, GRE scores, and letters of recommendation. Please refer to the applicant checklist (<https://www.usuhs.edu/mps/applicants>) for a complete description of the application requirements.

## Phase II: The Interview Process

Once all applications are received, USUHS faculty members will select a portion of applicants for the second phase of the selection process. This consists of a series of interviews with USUHS faculty members and with members of the Navy Psychology community. While USUHS faculty members are primarily interested in an applicant's academic history, Navy psychologists will assess applicants' aptitude for success as a military psychologist.

If you are selected for an interview, you will be invited to visit USUHS for interviews sometime in February. The department DOES NOT FUND any travel or expenses related to this visit. If you cannot attend an on-site interview, you may elect to do a telephone interview.

There are two Navy openings per year for the USUHS Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program.

## Additional Application Requirements for Prior-Service/Current Active Duty Applicants

In addition to completing all the above steps, there are several other requirements for those applicants who are already serving on active duty. Most importantly, current military members must submit proof that they will be released by their operational community to attend graduate school if accepted into the program. **Documentation of this "conditional release" must be included in your initial USUHS application.** In addition:

**Active duty Navy Officers:** Must submit a Contingent Resignation to accept attendance at USU to the Navy Bureau of Personnel (BUPERS).

**Active duty officers in the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard:** Must submit an Interservice Transfer request through your parent service to the Secretary of the Navy. Requests are subject to the appropriate directives of your respective branch of service.

**Active duty enlisted personnel:** Submit a package for a regular commissioning appointment in the Medical Service Corps via your local Navy Medical Programs Officer recruiter.

Questions? Please contact Dr. John Ralph at [john.a.ralph.civ@mail.mil](mailto:john.a.ralph.civ@mail.mil) or (301) 295-2476.