

Navy Clinical Psychology Health Professions Scholarship Program



Navy Psychology HPSP is an educational support program for individuals pursuing doctoral degrees in clinical or counseling psychology, who have a desire to serve in the United States Navy following degree completion. HPSP provides financial assistance to students enrolled in APA-accredited programs (Ph.D. or Psy. D).

IMPORTANT! All scholarships are three years in length (years 2, 3, and 4 in most programs). In order to be eligible for HPSP, applicants must be able to complete three years as a full-time student on the scholarship before starting the pre-doctoral internship. For example, scholarship students selected in 2021 will be full-time students in their doctoral programs for three years, and will start their pre-doctoral internship in 2024. Likewise, those selected in 2022 will be full-time students on scholarship in their doctoral programs for three years. They will start their pre-doctoral internship in 2025. Students in their second year of study are eligible for HPSP, but they must commit to remaining in their program for three additional years prior to starting internship.

Eligibility

- Must be a United States citizen (dual citizenship not permitted)
- Must be less than 42 years of age when starting the pre-doctoral internship. (See “Coming on Active Duty: Superseding” section below)
- Must be medically qualified
- Must meet height/weight standards
- Must be able to pass a security background check (be eligible for a Secret security clearance)
- Must be a full-time student

Applications

- For guidance on the application process, contact the Head of Student Programs for HPSP at (301) 295-1594 or (301) 295-1217. You can also contact the National Director, Navy Psychology Training Programs (Dr. John Ralph) at (301) 295-2476 or john.a.ralph.civ@mail.mil.
- Students should apply for HPSP during their first (or in some cases, second) year of graduate school. Students who have not yet started graduate school should not submit an application.
- Interviews conducted as part of the application process will be scheduled during the second half of the academic year (usually in April). This is to provide the interviewers with maximum information about your graduate school performance up to that time.
- Selection of scholarship students takes place annually in May. Receipt of the scholarship is contingent on successful completion of your first year.

Benefit Start Date

Benefits start on the latest of the following three dates:

- Oath of Office
- HPSP Contract
- Academic Start Date

Example:

Oath of Office 21 July 2021
 HPSP Contract 21 July 2021
 Academic Start Date 14 August 2021
 Benefit Start Date is 14 August 2021

Tuition is backdated to the start of the semester in which the student is currently enrolled. Your stipend (see below) will start on the Benefit Start Date.



ENS Andolyn Medina, 2019 HPSP recipient from George Washington University

Benefits

- Full tuition (no upper limit) paid via contract between the Navy and your school. (If you are brought into the program prior to the last day of the term, the Navy can pay tuition for the entire term)
- Stipend: \$2,466.00 per month (as of 1 July 2020)
- All required fees with some exceptions (e.g., parking, cap and gown, student union fees, etc.)
- All required books and equipment
- Reimbursement for student's health and dental insurance, if required by school
- Full pay and allowances of an Ensign (0-1) for 45 days per year (Annual Training (AT) (~\$4,500)
- One sponsored AT per year - travel and per diem paid if AT is performed in a location other than your school (AT can also be completed at your school under "School Orders.")

HPSP Obligated Service

- Students are obligated to serve one year of active duty (not counting training years) for each year of scholarship, with a three-year minimum. For example, scholarship recipients who receive 3 years of tuition will serve three years on active duty after their pre-doctoral internship.

Entry Grade Credit (EGC) (OPNAVINST 1120.4)

- Scholarship students receive 4 years EGC and start the pre-doctoral internship as Navy Lieutenants (O-3).
- Entry Grade Credit determines Date of Rank. It does not affect pay.
- Applicants with prior commissioned service earn EGC at a rate of ½ year for every year of service.

Internship:

- Scholarship students must apply for the pre-doctoral internship at Naval Medical Center (NMC), Portsmouth, Virginia.
- Applications for the NMC Portsmouth internship are due on the 1st of November in the year prior to internship.
- Internship application results will be released by mid-November.
- Early results allow students who are not selected for the Portsmouth internship to submit an application for the national match. (In the unlikely event that an application for the national match is needed, applicants should place the Navy internships at WRNMMC, Bethesda and NMC San Diego at the top of their rank-order lists).

Coming on Active Duty: Orders

- Scholarship students attend a 5-week Navy orientation program (Officer Development School [ODS]) at some point during the three years that they are on the scholarship. ODS is a one-time training, and can be attended during the first, second, or third year of the scholarship. Students are strongly encouraged to complete this requirement in the first or second year of the scholarship if possible. ODS must be completed prior to starting internship, and there are a limited number of seats in each class.
- Arrangements to attend ODS are made through the HPSP Accessions Program office. General questions are best directed to USN.OHSTUDENT@MAIL.MIL. Requests for a specific class are best directed to USN.HPSP-ADT.Reimburse@mail.mil.
- Once orders to internship are in hand, students can arrange to have their household goods moved to the Portsmouth area.

Coming on Active Duty: Superseding

- Prior to starting the pre-doctoral internship, students supersede from Ensign, Individual Ready Reserve, to Lieutenant, USN.

- Health Records and Service Records maintained by the HPSP Accessions Office are sent to the Navy Recruiting District to be given to the student at the time they sign their new oath, or they are sent directly to Navy Medical Center Portsmouth.
- Students are not eligible for active duty pay until they report to their first active duty assignment as a Lieutenant.

For additional questions, please contact the National Training Director for Navy Psychology, Dr. John Ralph, at john.a.ralph.civ@mail.mil, or by phone at (301) 295-2476.