ACADEMIC DEAN AND PROVOST NOTICE 1531.4

From: Academic Dean and Provost

Subj: BOWMAN SCHOLAR PROGRAM: ANNOUNCEMENT AND SOLICITATION OF APPLICANTS FROM MIDSHIPMEN IN THE CLASS OF 2021

Ref: (a) ACDEANINST 1531.69

1. Purpose

   a. To solicit applications from Midshipmen of the Class of 2021 for appointment to and participation in the Academic Year 2020-2021 Bowman Scholar Program.

   b. To announce Academic Year 2019-2020 deadlines for actions relevant to Bowman Scholar Program applications of Class of 2021 Midshipmen.

2. Background

The Admiral Frank Bowman Scholar Program began in 2003 to provide enhanced undergraduate academic opportunities and some graduate education opportunities to a select group of Midshipmen who are seeking initial service assignment in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

Each year the Bowman Scholar Program will select approximately twenty-five 2/C midshipmen applicants who show significant academic, leadership and research potential in their undergraduate work to date, who are willing to commit to nuclear service during their 2/C year, and who subsequently pass a nuclear service entrance interview with the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

In addition to early selection to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, Bowman Scholars will participate in a USNA-approved summer internship during their 1/C summer and a research course project, guided by a faculty member of their choice, during their 1/C year. Qualified Bowman Scholars will also have an opportunity for immediate graduate education at the Naval Postgraduate School (one-year technical Master's Degree program) after commissioning.
Reference (a) gives a detailed explanation of the Bowman Scholar Program and eligibility requirements. Prospective applicants and advisers are invited to study this reference. Additional information can be found on-line at: https://www.usna.edu/BowmanProgram/

Eligibility: Initial application to the Bowman Scholar Program is open to 2/C midshipmen with a CQPR of 3.2 or better, and who are in the top 50% by Military Order of Merit (MOM) after the end of the fall semester of 2/C Year.

3. Bowman Scholar Selection Committee

Members of the Naval Academy Yard-Wide Bowman Scholar Selection Committee for the 2019-2020 Academic Year are:

Professor Maria Schroeder  Chair, Associate Director of Midshipman Research
CAPT David Ruth  Graduate Education Office Representative
Professor Paul Trulove  Division of Math and Science
CDR John Stevens  Division of Engineering and Weapons
Professor William McBride  Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor Mark Murray  Division of Engineering and Weapons
CAPT Eric Woelper  Director, Division of Math and Science
CDR Kelly Laing  Nuclear Accessions Officer
LT Anthony Testino  Assistant Nuclear Accessions Officer

4. Action

a. Bowman applicants will take the following actions, meeting program schedule requirements as listed for each action:

(1) Submit his/her initial Bowman application electronically using the USNA Programs section of MIDS. Submitting an electronic application will initiate screening to determine if the applicant meets the basic program requirements. The MIDS electronic application program will be available no later than 4 October 2019 and must be completed by 15 January 2020. Applications will not be accepted after this date. Midshipman credentials will be reviewed after the application deadline.

(2) After Bowman Scholar Committee review of all applicants, the Associate Director of Midshipman Research (ADMR) will inform the top 25-35 candidates that they are Bowman “finalists”. For further consideration, each finalist will need to submit a white paper to the Bowman Scholar Committee that outlines the candidate’s proposed research topic, proposed internship and graduate study plans. The white paper will be reviewed, along with electronic application data, by the Bowman Scholar Committee to determine those candidates who will be recommended to receive a nuclear propulsion program interview as a Bowman Scholar candidate. When requested, white papers (in PDF format) must be received by the Associate Director of Midshipman Research no later than 7 February 2020. Format and content guidelines for white papers may be found at the Bowman Scholar Program webpage.
(3) When scheduled, interview with the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

b. The Bowman Scholar Committee will:

(1) Conduct an initial screening review of candidates’ electronic applications after the 15 January deadline. As a result of this screening, candidates will be notified of approval/non-approval to proceed with the submission of a white paper. This notification will be no later than 24 January.

(2) Evaluate candidate white papers, recommend approval/non-approval for further nuclear interview as a Bowman Scholar candidate, and rank candidates during the weeks of 10 February to 2 March 2020. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Academic Dean and Provost for his decision no later than Friday, 6 March 2020.

c. Bancroft Hall nuclear accessions representatives will:

(1) Arrange interviews with the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program for all candidates that are approved by the Academic Dean and Provost. These interviews should be conducted in April. Names of candidates who have a successful interview will be subsequently forwarded to the Superintendent for designation as Bowman Scholars.

A. T. PHILLIPS

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