



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

SECNAVINST 1531.1A  
OP-114C2  
13 March 1989

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1531.1A

From: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY MIDSHIPMEN DISENROLLMENT

Ref: (a) DoD Directive 1332.23 of 19 Feb 88 (NOTAL)  
(b) Title 10, United States Code, Section 6959  
(c) Title 10, United States Code, Section 2005  
(d) Title 10, United States Code, Section 6963  
(e) Title 10, United States Code, Section 6962  
(f) Title 10, United States Code, Section 6961  
(g) Title 10, United States Code, Section 651

1. Purpose. To prescribe regulations for disenrollment from the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) per statutory requirements, to implement reference (a) for the Department of the Navy, and to provide policy and procedures for the USNA Midshipman Reevaluation/Reappointment Program.
2. Cancellation. SECNAVINSTs 1531.1 and 1531.3. SECNAVINST 1531.1 formerly established policy and procedures for the USNA Midshipman Reevaluation/Reappointment (R&R) Program. SECNAVINST 1531.3 formerly provided regulations governing USNA Midshipman's Agreement to Serve per reference (b). SECNAVINSTs 1531.1 and 1531.3 have been combined in this instruction. This is a complete revision and should be read in its entirety.
3. Applicability. This instruction applies to all USNA midshipmen on the date of this instruction and all individuals who sign an agreement to serve per reference (b) on or after the date of this instruction.
4. Background. Reference (a) clarifies the Secretary of the Navy's (SECNAV) authority to require and enforce midshipmen service agreements. The R&R Program offers an alternative to final separation, whereby selected individuals may be readmitted to USNA after successful completion of a specified evaluation period in an enlisted status in the U.S. Naval Reserve (USNR) or U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (USMCR).
5. Policy. USNA midshipmen shall execute agreements to serve per reference (b). Midshipmen determined to have breached this agreement by SECNAV shall be ordered to active duty, unless SECNAV determines a midshipman unsuitable for active duty service. Per references (b) and (c), SECNAV shall retain authority to require midshipmen separated from USNA to reimburse the U.S. Government for the cost of advanced education received, in lieu of active duty service.

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6. Breach of Agreement. A midshipman shall be considered to have breached an agreement to serve if disenrolled from USNA under one or more of the following actions:

- a. Deficiency at any examination
- b. Insufficient aptitude
- c. Unsatisfactory conduct
- d. Dismissal in the best interests of the naval service
- e. Resignation
- f. Failure to accept a commission.

7. Procedures for Determining Breaches of Agreement. The following procedures shall be used for determining whether such a breach has occurred:

a. Deficiency at any Examination. A midshipman who is found to be academically deficient, including deficiency in physical education, may be disenrolled from USNA by the Academic Board per reference (d).

b. Insufficient Aptitude. Pursuant to reference (e), if an Academic Board unanimously determines that a midshipman possesses insufficient aptitude to become a commissioned officer in the naval service, the Superintendent shall report the findings to SECNAV, providing the midshipman an opportunity to examine the report and attach a written statement. Based on the report and statement, SECNAV may disenroll the midshipman from USNA.

c. Unsatisfactory Conduct. Pursuant to reference (e), if the Superintendent determines that the conduct of a midshipman is unsatisfactory, he shall submit a written report to SECNAV, providing the midshipman with an opportunity to examine the report and attach a written statement. Based on the report and statement, SECNAV may disenroll the midshipman from USNA.

d. Dismissal in the Best Interests of the Naval Service. Pursuant to reference (f), if the Superintendent, USNA believes the continued presence of a midshipman at USNA is contrary to the best interests of the naval service, he shall submit a written report, with full justification, to SECNAV. If SECNAV determines the Superintendent's belief is well-founded, he shall serve a copy of the report on the midshipman and prescribe a time which he considers reasonable, under the circumstances, for the midshipman to show cause in writing why he or she should not be dismissed from USNA. After consideration of any cause so shown, and with the written approval of the Secretary of Defense acting for the President, SECNAV may disenroll the midshipman from USNA.

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e. Resignation. Unqualified resignations shall be submitted to Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP) for approval. Qualified resignations shall be submitted to SECNAV for approval. All resignations must be submitted via Superintendent, USNA stating a specific reason for such action. Once submitted to Superintendent, a resignation may not be withdrawn without approval of the Superintendent. Once approved by SECNAV/CNP, a resignation may not be withdrawn unless SECNAV/CNP considers the midshipman's retention to be in the best interests of the naval service.

f. Failure to Accept a Commission. If a midshipman fails to accept a commission offered, Superintendent, USNA shall forward a written report to SECNAV, providing the midshipman with an opportunity to examine the report and attach a written statement.

8. Active Duty Service Obligation. The service obligation for midshipmen who have breached the agreement to serve will be determined under this paragraph without regard to the requirement of reference (g). Midshipmen shall be transferred to the USNR or USMCR in an appropriate enlisted grade or rating, as determined by SECNAV.

a. Fourth and Third Class Midshipmen. Midshipmen who are disenrolled from USNA before starting the second class academic year will have no active duty obligation under reference (b).

b. Second and First Class Midshipmen. Except in those cases where the midshipman is physically disqualified, unfit or unsuited for enlisted military service, a midshipman who is disenrolled from USNA after starting the second class academic year, may be ordered to active duty as follows:

(1) Two years, when disenrolled before starting the first class academic year.

(2) Three years, when disenrolled after starting the first class academic year, but before completing the course of instruction.

c. Failure to Accept a Commission. A first class midshipman who completes the course of instruction and declines appointment as a commissioned officer may be ordered to active duty for four years.

9. Waivers. The Superintendent shall recommend a required period of active enlisted service or recommend that the service obligation be waived. Waivers may be granted if the Superintendent determines that the midshipman is physically disqualified, unfit or unsuited for military service in an enlisted status, or, in cases of disenrollment for academic deficiency, the Academic Board has not recommended active enlisted service, having determined the academic deficiency occurred despite determined efforts by the midshipman.

10. Reimbursement for Cost of Education. Disenrolled first and second class midshipmen not ordered to active duty may be required by SECNAV to reimburse the government for the cost of their advanced

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education. Reimbursement shall be in an amount that bears the same ratio to the total cost of advanced education received as the unserved portion of active duty bears to the total period of active duty such person agreed to serve, per reference (a).

11. Reevaluation/Reappointment Program. This program is tendered only in unusual circumstances to those midshipmen whose overall academic and military performance was significantly above average prior to the event leading to a recommendation for separation.

a. Consideration. Under unusual circumstances, midshipmen being processed for disenrollment for unsatisfactory conduct under reference (e) will be considered for the R&R Program by the Superintendent. In unique circumstances, midshipmen who have violated the Honor Concept also may be considered eligible.

(1) Eligibility will be based on the candidate's overall record, including superior academic achievement, superior military and professional performance, proven leadership ability, and nature and seriousness of the offense(s) which precipitated processing for disenrollment in order to determine an individual's potential for future commissioned service.

(2) Midshipmen recommended for the R&R Program by the Superintendent will be advised in writing and must agree to participate in the program, subject to SECNAV approval. The Superintendent will forward a recommendation, with disenrollment proceedings, to SECNAV via the Chief of Naval Personnel or the Commandant, USMC (MRRO-6), as appropriate.

b. Discharge and Transfer. Midshipmen who voluntarily agree to participate in this program, and whose participation is approved by SECNAV, will be disenrolled as midshipmen and either revert to their former enlisted status to complete an existing active duty obligation, or be transferred to the USNR or USMCR.

(1) Participants will serve in the USNR unless they either entered USNA from the USMC or requested, and received approval for, reevaluation in the USMC. Midshipmen with no prior enlisted service may request reevaluation in either the USNR or USMCR.

(2) Participants will be ordered to active duty in an enlisted status for four years in the case of first class midshipmen who have completed all academic requirements for graduation, three years in the case of first class midshipmen who have not completed all academic requirements for graduation, and two years in the case of second class midshipmen.

(3) Midshipmen subject to a preexisting enlisted active duty obligation which is greater than the active duty period prescribed in paragraph (2) will revert to their previous enlisted status to complete the period of enlistment.

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(4) USMC evaluatees who have not previously completed USMC recruit training will initially be ordered to a recruit depot.

(5) Fourth and third class midshipmen will be disenrolled from USNA and required to enlist in the USNR or USMCR in order to participate in the program.

c. Reevaluation. Participants shall be ordered to a fleet unit or a unit designated by the Commandant, USMC for a specified period of not less than six months or longer than one year.

(1) During the reevaluation period, the Superintendent shall contact the unit commander of program participants to advise them of specific program requirements, and maintain active case files on all participants.

(2) Commanding officers will closely monitor participant performance and prepare periodic enlisted evaluations every 90 days during the reevaluation period.

d. Reappointment. Upon completion of the reevaluation period, participants may submit an application for readmission to USNA to SECNAV, via the unit commanding officer and the Superintendent.

(1) The commanding officer will forward completed enlisted evaluations to the Superintendent.

(2) Participants must have demonstrated the highest standards of character, patriotism, sense of duty, and personal conduct, and have no record of conviction by court-martial or non-judicial punishment and no record of civil conviction and they must be recommended for readmission by the commanding officer.

(3) Upon application for readmission, the Superintendent will forward the entire case file and a recommendation to SECNAV for final decision.

(4) For readmission, participants must meet all USNA eligibility requirements as of the time of readmission and they must have demonstrated a real potential for commissioned service.

(5) Participants will be readmitted to USNA to a class consistent with their academic qualifications at the time of readmission, or if they have completed all academic requirements for graduation, they will be graduated from USNA and commissioned.

(6) Participants who fail to meet the standards for reappointment, will complete the period of active duty to which ordered under references (a) and (b). Former fourth and third class midshipmen will be discharged from the USNR or USMCR if enlisted for the sole purpose of participating in this program.

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12. Reports. The reporting requirements contained in this instruction are exempt from reports control by OPNAVINST 5214.7.



William L. Ball, III  
Secretary of the Navy

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