SPECIAL DUTY – INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL (DESIG 1820)

Community Overview: The Information Professional (IP) Community is a small Restricted Line community of just over 545 officers (1% of the Navy's Officer Corps). IPs are in the Navy’s corps of Information Dominance Warriors with expertise in information systems, command and control and space systems.

Vision: IPs harness technology, information and knowledge to ensure battlespace dominance and mission success.

Mission: IPs operate, maintain, secure, plan and acquire the Naval network and the systems that support Navy operations and business processes.

Guiding Principles:
(1) IPs lead the Navy’s network warfare missions developing tactics, techniques and procedures to realize tactical, strategic and business advantages afloat and ashore.

(2) IPs drive interoperability with Joint, Allied and Coalition partners.

(3) IPs build professional excellence through a career-long continuum of education, training and certification and achievement of successive milestone qualifications and experience.

(4) IPs optimize Naval organizational effectiveness through cutting edge technologies, Knowledge Management techniques and a culture of innovation.

Training Pipeline: New IP Officers typically attend IP Basic course, 5 weeks, in Pensacola, FL optimally before but nominally during initial assignment, depending on availability.

Special pay/bonuses. None.

Academic/professional expertise.
(1) Required. Baccalaureate degree in a technical field. Minimum 2.20 or higher GPA in science, math or engineering curricula recommended. Recommend classwork with C+ average or higher in calculus series (minimum Calculus I and II) and calculus-based physics series (minimum Physics I and II).

(2) Desired. Baccalaureate degree in Information Systems, Electrical or Computer Engineering, Information Operations or Computer Science, Systems Engineering or General Engineering.

Basic eligibility requirements: All candidates must be qualified for sea duty.

Accession Options.
(1) A limited Direct Accession path is currently available.

(2) Information Professional Option. Officers are commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) Student, designator 1160. These officers are assigned to Division Officer Afloat duties on a fleet unit where they will complete two URL experience tours and qualify as a Surface Warfare Officer. Officers will be redesignated in the restricted line, designated Special Duty Officer Information Professional, designator 1820 without board action and will be assigned to future duties as a Special Duty Officer (Information Professional).

Web sites: https://www.npc.navy.mil/Officer/Intelligence_Information/IPO/
IDC Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/IDCsync

Career Path:
(1) IP Officers serve in challenging billets of ever increasing scope and responsibility both afloat and ashore. IPs are assigned to sea billets on Battle Group Staffs and Ships at each grade. Shore tours include C4I/Space/Surveillance billets on major Navy and Joint staffs as well as command of key communication and surveillance facilities around the globe.

(2) Advanced education: Postgraduate education is very important to the success of the IP community. Most IP Officers will attend the Naval Postgraduate School to complete a Masters Degree in C4I, Space, Information Systems, Computer Science or Modeling and Simulation.

(3) Qualification. IP officers are required to complete the IPQP, the new IDC Warfare Qualification and are encouraged to complete warfare qualifications during Fleet tours.

(4) Overseas duty. The IP community is well represented throughout the world from Europe to the Caribbean to Hawaii to Asia to the Middle East.

(5) Promotion opportunities. The IP community is competitive with the Unrestricted Line (URL) communities for promotion to LCDR and higher (promotion to LTJG and LT occur at 2 and 4 years of commissioned service respectively). IP Officers typically promote to LCDR between 9 and 10 years of commissioned service, to CDR between 15 and 16 years of commissioned service and to CAPT at approximately 22 years of service. The IP community has five Flag Officers.

Point of Contact
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