

THE NAVY CHAPLAIN CORPS

Navy Chaplains enjoy unparalleled opportunities to serve God and country while ministering to people of diverse and dynamic settings. Chaplains provide spiritual guidance:

- Ministering to those in need anywhere, any time;
- On beaches conducting service from the back of a truck;
- In Navy chapels worldwide;
- At sea conducting classes on the most modern ships afloat;



Opportunities to Serve

Navy Chaplains serve with all members of the Sea Services:



- Navy
- Marine Corps
- Coast Guard
- Merchant Marines

Because the Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines do not have their own Chaplain Corps, Navy chaplains find themselves assigned in many different duty stations, including: ship, shore, air wing and infantry, from arctic regions to the equator.

How to Become a Navy Chaplain

Clergy can become Navy chaplains:

- Active Duty- Commissioned with a minimum of three years of Active service.
- Reserve Duty- Commissioned with a commitment to attend two-day monthly drills plus two weeks of annual training for a minimum of three years Reserve service, while remaining in their civilian careers.
- Chaplain Candidates- After completing the requirements in the CCPO program, the Chaplain Candidate may apply to become an Active or Reserve Chaplain.



Requirements to be a Navy Chaplain:

- Possess a Bachelor's Degree of not less than 120 semester hours from an accredited institution (The school is considered accredited if listed in the database at www.chea.org.);
- Have a graduate degree of at least 72 semester hours in general religion, theology, religious philosophy, ethics, and/or the foundational writings from one's religious tradition, for example a Masters of Divinity. If the graduate degree is not in religion, then the applicant must have at least 36 semester graduate hours in religion, theology, or some related study. Accredited distance-education graduate programs are acceptable;
- Endorsement by your faith group/denomination;

INTERESTED?

Contact:

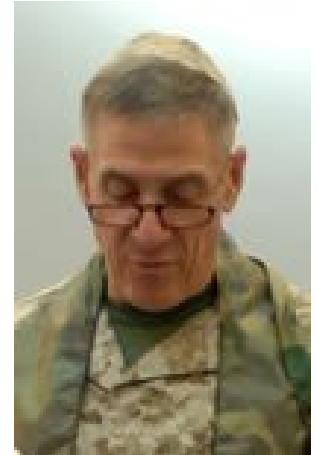
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- At least two years full-time professional ministerial/leadership experience;
- Be a citizen of the U.S.;
- Be at least 21 and under 42 years of age at the time of appointment;
- Be able to receive a national security clearance;
- Must meet the physical readiness standards established by the Navy (body fat percentage, sit-ups, pushups, and a 1.5 mile run.).

Benefits for a Navy Chaplain

As commissioned officers, Navy chaplains:

- Provide love, care, and hope to those valiant men and women who protect and defend our nation;
- Receive generous pay and allowances;
- Receive comprehensive medical and dental care;
- Travel to interesting places worldwide;
- Enjoy shopping privileges at military commissaries and exchanges;
- Receive tax-free allowances for housing and meals;
- Earn 30 days vacation with pay each year;
- GI Bill benefits after just a few years of Active Duty service;
- Enjoy opportunities for promotion and career advancement;
- Qualify for retirement after 20 or more years of service.



Chaplain Candidate Program Officer (CCPO) – Graduate Student:

Individuals interested in the Navy Chaplaincy who are working on a ministerial degree can be a Chaplain Candidate Program Officer. CCPOs are Navy Reserve Officers who are exposed to the diverse and demanding ministry of Navy chaplains serving sea service personnel, wear Navy uniforms, and receive pay and other benefits while on annual training. Upon graduation and meeting the requirements, CCPOs apply to become a chaplain- Active or Reserve. No service obligation is incurred until acceptance of the chaplain appointment. CCPO requirements:



- Receive a letter of approval from a recognized religious faith group;
- Have a baccalaureate degree of not less than 120 semester hours from an accredited institution;
- Be in an accredited graduate theological school working on a multi-year degree in theology or related subjects, e.g.- a Masters of Divinity degree or its equivalent. (The school is considered accredited if listed in the database at www.chea.org.);



- Maintain a full-time student status in the graduate school and in any training program prescribed by their religious faith group.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How old do you have to be to join? What's the oldest you can be to still join?

You must be at least 21 years old and no older than 42 years of age for our programs. Waivers may be available based on current needs of the Navy. Applicants with prior service may request a waiver at a year-for-year rate up to age 44. Exceptions to these standards will be considered on a case by case basis.

What qualifications do I need to join the Navy?

You'll need to meet your own religious ordination requirements, possess a Master's degree (either the M.Div. or the equivalent of 72 semester hours of graduate theological study at an accredited school), the Navy's physical fitness requirements, and be a U.S. citizen.

Other than having a good job, what are the benefits of joining the Navy?

Plenty! Here's the short list:

- Outstanding educational opportunities.
- Exceptional training in a specialized field.
- Competitive salary. Excellent promotion prospects.
- Great sports and leisure programs.
- Worldwide travel and duty assignment preferences.
- Plus the Navy offers you non-taxable benefits and excellent medical and dental care for you and your family.
- Earn 30 days vacation with pay each year.

Will the Navy help me get further graduate education?

Absolutely. While you're in the Navy there's the tuition Assistance Program, where the Navy pays tuition costs -- up to \$4,500 each year. The Navy also offers programs such as Navy Postgraduate School, which allows you to complete an advanced theological degree with a full scholarship and pay. It is a great opportunity to hone your skills during a mid-point in your Navy career. One can also use the GI Bill to fund further education also.

How do I qualify for these programs?

Simply apply. Once you're on Active duty in the Navy, you can request to pay for school. If eligible for the Postgraduate School Scholarship Program, you can receive tuition and other financial benefits worth up to \$80,000 at one of more than 60 leading colleges and universities.

Can I serve with the Marine Corps?

The Navy encourages chaplains to serve with the Marine Corps and the U.S. Coast Guard. A diverse ministry awaits you both at chapels, hospitals, overseas locations, ships, squadrons, battalions, and technical training centers, and more. And while you are enjoying this diversity, you'll be working with clergy of different denominations and religious organizations. It all adds up to a wealth of enriching ministry experiences.

Will I get to travel in the Navy?

There are plenty of opportunities! Ships explore waters all over the world and often dock in foreign ports. There are also opportunities to serve ashore in places like Italy, Spain, and Japan.

How much time will I spend at sea?

It depends. Normally ships will go to sea for 10 days to two weeks each month for training operations. Extended operations away from homeport can last up to six or seven months. This varies depending on the mission and type of ships.

What things are there for me to do on a ship?

There are plenty of fun activities available to help you spend your off time. Depending on the size of the ship, you'll have exercise rooms, libraries, sports programs, theatres, computer rooms and stores.

What's the starting salary and what about raises?

You'll start earning a basic salary of \$2,929.50- \$3,339.90 a month, along with additional non-taxable benefits. You'll also receive additional salary increases throughout your time in the Navy, as well as annual cost of living allowance raises. Promotion also means more money. Also, you will be eligible to earn more money by serving in certain locations, using your foreign language skills, and accumulating sea duty service.

How long is the normal workday?

A normal day in the Navy is usually 8 hours. However, the time to report to work varies from command to command. A general guideline is from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

How often will I get promoted?

Under normal circumstances, you can expect a promotion from Lieutenant Junior Grade to Lieutenant in less than a year. Your initial rank is determined by the years of professional, ordained service prior to your appointment as a chaplain, so some will enter as a Lieutenant. Promotions can occur as you gain seniority and greater responsibility.

How often will I have to move? Will the Navy also move my spouse?

Initially, once you have completed training at the Navy Chaplain School, you will move just once to your first permanent duty station. Moving your family to your new duty station is among the many benefits the Navy provides for your spouse.

For more information

Visit our website at www.navy.com/careers/officer/clergy/ .

1,000,000 men, women and children are seeking spiritual guidance and religious accommodation. Does impacting the lives of young leaders strike a tender chord in your soul? Are you up to the challenge? Your ministry will have a profound and enduring effect on the men and women of the Sea Services.