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NAVADMIN 114/19
PASS TO OFFICE CODES:
FM CNO WASHINGTON DC//N1//
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MSGID/GENADMIN/CNO WASHINGTON DC/N1/MAY//
SUBJ/TUITION ASSISTANCE POLICY UPDATE//
REF/A/DOC/OPNAV N1/4MAR08//
REF/B/DOC/NETC/20JAN11//
REF/C/MSG/CNO WASHINGTON DC/211448ZMAY18//
NARR/REF A IS OPNAVINST 1560.9A, VOLED FOR NAVY SAILORS. REF B IS
NETCINST 1560.3, VOLED FOR NAVY SAILORS. REF C IS NAVADMIN 127/18,
TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UPDATES.
RMKS/1. This NAVADMIN announces additional management controls for
Tuition Assistance (TA) and Navy College Program for Afloat College
Education (NCPACE) in references (a) through (c).
2. At mid-year review, FY-19 TA demand was 30% higher than the same
point in FY-18. Lifting the 16 semester hour cap in reference (c),
combined with improved access through virtual service delivery
caused an unsustainable TA spend rate. As a result, we anticipate
that TA funding will run out this month with no additional funding
to be made available for the remainder of FY-19. Sailors currently
taking classes or in receipt of a funded TA voucher are not
impacted. Affected Sailors who desire to continue taking courses
for the remainder of FY-19 should contact the Navy College Virtual
Education Center (NCVEC) to discuss other funding options, such as
GI Bill, scholarships or financial aid. Going forward, TA policy
will balance availability of finite resources and ensure continued
access to TA and NCPACE for all eligible Sailors.
3. TA is intended to elevate the academic level of Service Members.
Today, we have some Sailors pursuing multiple degrees and others who
take multiple courses without completing a degree. Use of TA must
focus on degree completion. In addition, we have many very junior
Sailors maxing out TA usage at a time in their Navy career when they
should be focused on warfighting and warfare qualifications. While
committed to allowing Sailors to pursue off-duty education,
operational readiness is the top priority. The Navy is, first and
foremost, a warfighting organization. We need qualified and
proficient warfighters.

4. Effective 1 October 2019 the following controls go into effect:

   a. All enlisted personnel and officers must have a minimum of two years of service before becoming eligible to use TA or NCPACE Instructor Led or Distance Learning (DL) courses. This may not be waived.

   b. TA and NCPACE DL funding is capped at twelve semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) per fiscal year.

   c. TA and NCPACE DL funding is capped at 120 semester hours (or equivalent quarter hours) in a career. This excludes courses taken to complete a high school diploma.

5. Commanding officers and officers in charge have the final say in approving TA and are encouraged to actively manage usage. First assignments are challenging and rigorous. Commands should establish benchmark qualifications that first-term Sailors must earn prior to using TA or NCPACE. These may include, but are not limited to damage control, maintenance, primary warfare, watch-station or other qualifications depending upon command mission. Commanding officers and officers in charge should also consider operational tempo before approving off-duty education.

6. Sailors have several additional personal and professional development opportunities available to offset this temporary non-availability of TA. They can be accessed via MyNavy Portal at https://my.navy.mil/quick-links.html.

7. For questions regarding eligibility, degree plans or other education funding options, contact Navy College Virtual Education Center at (877)838-1659/DSN 492-4684 or via MyNavy Portal at https://my.navy.mil/quick-links.html.

8. For questions concerning TA or NCPACE policy, contact Mr. Jim Johnson at (703)604-5256/DSN 664 or james.p.johnson(at)navy.mil.

9. This NAVADMIN will remain in effect until superseded or canceled, whichever occurs first.

10. Released by Vice Admiral R. P. Burke, N1.//

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<DmdsReleaser>ALEXANDER.FAITH.ELISABETH Q.1294454906</DmdsReleaser>

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