

Subject: CPC CyberFlash
From: Director CPC <Director.CPC@noaa.gov>
Date: Fri, 16 Apr 2004 16:27:17 -0400

From the Director's Desk

Great News – Public Law 108-219 was signed by the President on April 13, 2004 which provides for the ratification of certain NOAA commissioned corps officers' appointments and promotions and authorizes the President to appoint or promote such de facto officers temporarily. This means all officers who were in a de facto status are now temporarily promoted to the grade they currently occupy. The Secretary has also forwarded his recommendations to the President requesting those same temporarily promoted officers be permanently promoted to the grades they currently occupy. The President will then forward the list of officers to the Senate for confirmation. CPC has prepared the temporary promotion certificates (evidencing an officer's temporary promotion) and will forward those certificates to the Secretary so he may sign them for the President. Commissions (evidencing permanent promotion) are also being prepared for the same group of officers and will be forwarded to the Secretary after the Senate gives its advice and consent.

The two flag nominations accompanied the temporary and permanent promotion packages and they too, reside at the White House. Once these packages have cleared the White House, CPC will begin the "normal" promotion process. A nomination list with approximately 92 officer's names will be sent to the Secretary 30 days after the other packages clear the White House.

With the flurry of activity associated with promotions and upcoming OPB promotion selections, I have been receiving inquiries concerning the process and qualifications for promotion. I will attempt to answer the questions received to date, however, if officers have additional questions, please contact CPC for an answer.

- * Physical Readiness Test (PRT) – suspended, under review, may be instituted in FY 05
- * Body fat measurement – suspended, under review
- * Not having failed for selection for promotion policy (when an officer has not been selected for promotion but no officer below that officer was selected, then the officer is not considered to have failed selection for promotion) – still in effect, will be reviewed by OPB for continuance and will be appended to the Directives if the policy is approved by Director, NC
- * Officers in the grade of lieutenant must have all professional qualifications completed before the OPB convenes for selection, otherwise the officer will be omitted from the zone and considered to have failed selection for promotion NCD 04303

Chapters 5 and 6 of the NOAA Corps Directives are now available on the CPC web site.

Officers are asked to be cognizant of the date their physical and dental examinations lapse. Once again, officers must be mentally and physically qualified (physical and dental) at the time of nomination and promotion. A considerable amount of time can lapse between the date of nomination and actual promotion date. If your physical or dental examination lapses between those dates, you must receive another examination to be qualified for promotion. This is your responsibility, please be ready so we may nominate and promote you.

The Oath of Office may be administered by an individual authorized by the laws of the United States or local law to administer oaths in the State, District, or territory or possession of the United States where the oath is administered. Department of Commerce Administrative Order (DAO) 202-250 - Delegation of Authority for Human Resource Management, prescribes the officials within the Department of Commerce who have been delegated this authority. Currently only the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Chief Administration Officer in NOAA have been granted authority to administer the oath of office.

Commander Jonathan W. Bailey, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

NOAA CORPS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

May 22nd marks the 87th anniversary of the establishment of the NOAA Corps. The celebration is planned at the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) Headquarters, Washington, DC on May 8, 2004. This is an outstanding facility offering a spectacular view of the Washington skyline. The cost for the evening's celebration is \$75 for LCDR and above and \$65 for LT and below. Electronic and formal written invitations have been sent. Each of you are encouraged to join us on this special evening.

Tip of the Day

R.S.V.P. stands for the French phrase "Répondez s'il vous plaît" ("reply, if you please"). Few people seem to know its literal meaning, and fewer still take it seriously. And for those of you receiving such an invitation: yes, you have to let the host know whether you are coming or not. In other words, a reply is mandatory.

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN (TSP) OPEN SEASON 15 April through 30 June 2004

The TSP open season is your chance to start or change your contributions to your TSP account. Ask your service TSP representative for Form TSP-U-1 or download a copy from the TSP Web site, www.tsp.gov. Your contributions will be made automatically from your pay. This open season, you can elect to contribute up to 9% of your basic pay each month. If you elect to contribute from basic pay, you may also elect to contribute

up to 100% of incentive pay and special pay, but your total contributions from taxable pay for the year may not exceed the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limit of \$13,000 for 2004.

Reminders about TSP accounts: fund allocations of established payroll contributions may be changed at any time using the TSP web site; interfund transfers may be made at any time using the TSP web site; open seasons, scheduled twice per year, are opportunities to open new accounts, and to change the percentages of deferrals of Basic, Special and Incentive pay. New account contributions default to the TSP "G" fund, a risk-free government securities fund. Once a PIN is established by TSP, account owners may log on and change fund allocations and effect interfund transfers among five TSP funds. In addition to the "G" fund, there are four index funds, all of which carry investment risk. See the TSP web site for complete index details.

Open season changes to existing account deferrals may be made by e-mail, or by form TSP-U-1 (faxed or mailed) to the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit. For questions, or to direct account changes via e-mail, contact J.Thompson or Carol Holley at (785) 339-3497/3499;

Jerome.Thompson@noaa.gov/Carol.Holley@noaa.gov. TSP-U-1 forms (when used) should be faxed to (785) 339-3773. If mailing the form, please send it to the NOAA Corps Payroll Unit, PO BOX 397, Topeka, KS 66601-0397.

MARKETING YOURSELF FOR A SECOND CAREER

Attention Officers in the Washington, DC metropolitan area: The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is providing a free two and one half hour professional lecture for officers who plan to leave the service in the next one to five years. The lecture is scheduled on Tuesday, May 18, 2004 at the Pentagon, Room 5A 1070. No reservations are required and spouses are cordially invited. Additional information may be obtained at the MOAA website www.moaa.org/tops.

UNIFORM AND AWARDS BOARD

A new form (NF 56-63) for recommending awards for NOAA Corps officers has been approved. This form is to be used for the NOAA Corps Commendation Medal, NOAA Corps Achievement Medal and NOAA Corps Director's Ribbon. The form is attached to this CyberFlash and is available on-line at the CPC website. This form should be used beginning April 19, 2004.

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PROMOTION QUALIFICATIONS

Complete qualifications for promotion are in the NOAA Corps Directives, Chapter 4, Part 3.

- * Mental Qualifications - includes traits such as mental stability and moral fitness. The Director, CPC will request that the Commanding Officer or Supervisor of each officer nominated for promotion provide input for the determination of his or her mental and moral fitness.

- * Physical Qualifications - officers physically fit for retention are physically fit for promotion. You must have current, approved physical and dental examinations on file in CPC.

- * Professional Qualifications - Promotion to lieutenant (jg) - completion of a minimum 3.0 CEU (Continuing Education Unit) of introductory supervision training.

Promotion to lieutenant - completion of 2.4 CEU of introductory financial management training and 2.4 CEU of management skills training and qualification as a NOAA Officer of the Deck (OOD) Underway or qualification as a NOAA Aviator (Pilot or Navigator).

Promotion to lieutenant commander - completion of 15 CEU of supervisory/management training.

Promotion to commander and captain - four broad criteria will be evaluated for selection: leadership ability, management ability, professional development and breadth of experience.

Completion of Course Requirements - Qualified officers may be selected, or if selected, promoted, at any time on or after completing the minimum time-in-grade requirements for promotion. Each officer shall complete course requirements by the date of eligibility for promotion. It is your responsibility to furnish documentation to the Director, CPC in a timely manner.

This message was generated for the Director of Commissioned Personnel