

NOAA Corps Policy Update

Officers are encouraged to email the NOAA Corps Policy Program Manager with any NOAA Corps Directive clarification needs or questions that they may have at noaacorps.policy@noaa.gov.

Once policies have been completed, it takes an average of 60 days for the review and clearance process. Policies and amendments are not posted until approved by the Department of Commerce. The approval process for the Department of Commerce can take up to a year.

The allotted time for review and clearance may vary depending of a number of variables including the urgency of the policy.

Below is a snapshot of directives that are currently being routed for review and/or approval. Current status for each directive will be updated as the status changes.

NCD Chapter 1, Administration

NOAA Corps Directive Chapter 1, Administration, Part 1-5, Administration has been amended in accordance with changes to legislation. Other updates include minor revisions and editorial changes.

Current Status	Next Course of Action	Target Implementation Date
As of 2/3/16 – NOAA WFMO for clearance	DOC, Director, Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM) will have final review/approval. Process can take up to 3-4 months.	Implementation date August 2016.

NCD Chapter 2, Part 1-9, Entitlements

NOAA Corps Directive Chapter 2, Entitlements, is currently being completely revised/updated to document and define entitlements and related legislation governing the pay and allowances of NOAA Corps officers.

Current Status	Next Course of Action	Target Implementation Date
CPC, NOAA Corps Policy Program Manager currently reviewing/updating complete chapter.	CPC Leadership, DOC OGC; Director, NOAA Corps, Director, NOAA WFMO for clearance and then Director, OHRM for review/approval.	CPC completion target date for routing for review is March 1, 2016.

NCD Chapter 4, Part 1-3, and 5, Career Development, Promotions, Qualifications for Promotion and Refresher Training

NOAA Corps Directive Chapter 4, Parts 1-3 and 5, is currently being reviewed/updated to reflect new approved training/educational requirements for NOAA Corps officers. Other updates include minor revisions and changes due to related legislation.

Current Status	Next Course of Action	Target Implementation Date
CPC, NOAA Corps Policy Program Manager is currently working with Chief, Learning Officer and Chief, Officer Career Management Division.	CPC Leadership, DOC OGC; Director, NOAA Corps, Director, NOAA WFMO for clearance and then Director, OHRM for review/approval.	CPC completion target date for routing for review is April 1, 2016.

NCD Chapter 4, Part 4, Officer Evaluation System

NOAA Corps Directive Chapter 4, Officer Evaluation System, Part 4, Officer Evaluation System (OES) has been amended to include a new section “Admiral Evaluation Report”, since there is currently no mechanism for evaluating NOAA Corps flag officers. This tool would assist with formally evaluating the officers and providing assistance for professional development. In addition, the policy adds a section on the proposed new one-page OER for Ensigns. Other updates include minor revisions and editorial changes.

Current Status	Next Course of Action	Target Implementation Date
As of 2/4/16 – received DOC OGC comments/approval.	Forward to Director, NOAA Corps for approval. After receiving Director’s approval, chapter is forwarded to WFMO for clearance.	TBD; Director, OHRM will have final review/approval. Process can take up to 3-4 months.

NCD Chapter 10, Part 1, Medical Review Board

NOAA Corps Directive Chapter 10, Medical Review Board, Part 1, Medical Review Board (MRB) has been amended to include minor revisions for comprising the Board membership.

Current Status	Next Course of Action	Target Implementation Date
As of 2/3/16 – Director, NOAA Corps for approval	After receiving Director’s approval, chapter is forwarded to WFMO for clearance.	DOC, Director, OHRM will have final review/approval. Process can take up to 1-2 months

NCD Chapter 12, Part 7, Awards

NOAA Corps Directive Chapter 12, Awards, Part 7, Awards has been amended to update the regulations addressing wearing of decorations and awards earned while in a civilian status, prior to entering the NOAA Corps and keeping in line with the USN and USCG uniform and awards policy.

Current Status	Next Course of Action	Target Implementation Date
As of 2/3/16 – NOAA WFMO for clearance	DOC, Director, Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM) will have final review/approval. Process can take up to 1-2 months.	Implementation date May 2016