

Navy Clinical Psychology



Doctoral Program
Uniformed Services University of the Health
Sciences (USUHS)





What does the Navy pay for?

All academic expenses, including tuition, books, and fees.

In addition, USUHS students serve as active duty commissioned officers, and therefore receive the following:

- Health and dental benefits for themselves and their dependents, Thrift Savings Plan, military retirement plan, life insurance, 30 days paid vacation, and access to commissaries and other military facilities.
- Annual Compensation (FY 2021): Approx. \$79,000 for first-year medical students with no dependents (includes both pay and non-taxable allowances).

The U.S. Navy Medical Service Corps accepts two students annually for positions in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) in Bethesda, Maryland. This Ph.D. program is accredited by the American Psychological Association.



1. The USUHS Ph.D. program seeks to train highly-skilled psychologists in the practice of evidence-based clinical psychology in military settings, preparing them to serve the men and women of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, as well as their families.
2. Training includes 4 years at USUHS and 1 Year in the APA-accredited internship at Navy Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia.
3. All applicants must attend the 5-week Officer Development School in Newport, Rhode Island before commencing their predoctoral internship.
4. Applications for the USUHS Ph.D. program are accepted from individuals already serving in the military, as well as from those who have never served. Prior experience with the military is neither required nor expected.
5. For those applying from the military, applications are accepted from line and staff corps officers, and enlisted members from both the active duty and reserve communities. NROTC/MECEP students may also apply pending written approval.
6. Students have all academic expenses paid by the Navy and receive the full salary and benefits commensurate with their military rank.
7. Applicants do not incur any service obligation unless they are selected for, and accept, a student position at USUHS.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Must be less than 42 –years-old when classes begin
2. Must be a U.S. citizen
3. Must meet all medical, height/weight, and security requirements for commissioning
4. Must have a Bachelor's or Master's Degree
5. Active duty and Reserve applicants must obtain written approval from their military community to apply to USUHS. This must be submitted with the online application.
6. Civilian selectees and military enlisted personnel must attend a 5-week Officer Development School (ODS) in Newport, Rhode Island prior to starting classes.



APPLICATION PROCESS

There are two parts to the USUHS application. Applicants must apply for, and gain acceptance to the University, and they must also qualify for commissioning as officers in the United States Navy.

The USUHS application has two stages. Stage I is an online application, submitted directly to the Graduate Education Office at the University. This is due by mid November of each year.

Stage 1 is used to identify “best qualified” applicants. Only those identified as “best qualified” will be invited to proceed with Stage 2 of the application, which consists of in-person interviews at USUHS. These typically occur in February of each year.

Those selected for interviews will then commence with the Navy commissioning portion of the application. The USUHS staff, in coordination with Navy Recruiting Command, will help determine each candidate’s eligibility for appointment as an officer in the Navy Medical Service Corps.

Entry into the USUHS program is ultimately contingent on being selected by the USUHS faculty and Navy Psychology representatives, and on being deemed eligible for appointment as an officer in the Navy Medical Service Corps.



Helpful links:

USUHS Psychology:

<http://www.usuhs.mil/mps/>

Navy Psychology Accessions Page (USUHS):

<https://tricare.mil/mtf/WalterReed/About-Us/Navy-Psychology-Training/USUHS-Dept-of-Psychology>

Navy Recruiting Web Site:

<https://www.navy.com/careers/clinical-psychology>

Navy Psychology Recruiting Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/navypsychologyrecruitment/>

Officer Development School:

<https://www.netc.navy.mil/Commands/Naval-Service-Training-Command/OTCN/ODS/>



For additional information, please contact:

John A. Ralph, Ph.D., ABPP

CAPT, MSC, USN (ret)

National Director, Navy Psychology Training Programs

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

(301) 295-2476

John.A.Ralph.civ@mail.mil