



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD
FALLS CHURCH VA 22042

BUMEDINST 1500.23D
BUMED-N7
10 Mar 2025

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1500.23D

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: ACCREDITATION OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ENLISTED TECHNICAL
EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Ref: (a) Council on Occupational Education Handbook of Accreditation
(b) NETCINST 1500.3F

1. Purpose. To establish policy for the accreditation of technical training commands and specialized allied health and dental programs of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) that provide enlisted technical training. This revision provides updated references, sources of data, and access links. This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 1500.23C.

3. Scope and Applicability. Applies to all Navy Medical Department technical education and training commands.

4. Policy

a. All BUMED technical training commands providing education and technical training must meet the standards and requirements of, and be institutionally accredited by, the Council on Occupational Education (COE). In this regard, adherence to the standards and requirements of the COE, reference (a), is required. Reference (a) may be accessed via the COE Web site, <http://www.council.org/handbooks/>.

b. All BUMED technical training commands providing education and technical training that are affiliated with the Uniformed Services University-College of Allied Health Sciences must meet the standards and requirements of, and be regionally and institutionally accredited by, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in addition to the COE institutional accreditation.

c. Deviation from the standards in references (a) requires Commander, Naval Medical Forces Development Command (NAVMEDFORDEVCMO) approval.

5. Definitions

a. Accreditation. An extensive process of peer review by an external group or council recognized by the U.S. Department of Education whereby public recognition is granted to the entire institution or to a specialized educational program for meeting predetermined standards and requirements. Reference (b) contains additional guidance on the accreditation process.

b. Institutional Accreditation. A process of peer review by an external group or council whereby the entire institution meets predetermined standards and requirements for all its programs.

c. Programmatic Accreditation. A process of peer review by an external group or council, whereby a specific allied medical or dental program meets predetermined standards and requirements.

6. Action. NAVMEDFORDEVCMD echelon 3 and 4 commands conducting education and training under BUMED cognizance must:

a. Ensure standards and requirements for full institutional accreditation are met.

b. Ensure standards and requirements for programmatic accreditation are met for those accredited programs offered by the training commands.

c. Maintain direct liaison with NAVMEDFORDEVCMD, Education and Training, (BUMED-N7) and provide copies of all correspondence, self-studies, and accreditation agency evaluation reports and institutional responses generated because of activities associated with both institutional and programmatic accreditation efforts. The accreditation manager must maintain all such written documentation, cognizance of all institutional and programmatic accreditation requirements, and liaise with universities, colleges, COE, American Council on Education, Middle States Commission on higher education, and all appropriate programmatic accrediting groups.

7. Accreditation Funding. NAVMEDFORDEVCMD echelon 4 commands will individually fund the services listed in subparagraphs 7a through 7c with the appropriate accrediting association:

a. The COE annual membership dues.

b. Temporary additional duty expenses for a command-appointed representative to attend the COE annual meeting.

c. Costs of the COE representatives or COE evaluation team member's visit to the command for preliminary, initial accreditation or reaffirmation.

8. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the DON Assistant for Administration, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnave.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-InformationManagement/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the OPNAV Records Management Program (DNS-16).

9. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, BUMED-N7 will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense (DoD), Secretary of the Navy and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.

10. Information Management Control. Reports required in subparagraphs 6c of this instruction are exempt from reports control, per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5214.1 of December 2005, part IV, subparagraph 7k.



D. K. VIA

Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via the Navy Medicine Web site, <https://www.med.navy.mil/Directives/>