



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

BUMEDINST 1551.5A
BUMED-N10
14 May 2026

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1551.5A

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: NAVAL AVIATION SURVIVAL TRAINING PROGRAM GOVERNANCE AND CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT

Ref: (a) CNAF M-3710.7 of May 2016
(b) NAVMED P-117

1. Purpose. This instruction outlines the policy and procedure for effective lifecycle management of Naval Aviation Survival Training Program (NASTP) curricula. It establishes a clear chain of responsibility and reporting requirements for oversight, standardization, and management actions. This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 1551.5.

3. Scope and Applicability. This instruction supports agile NASTP governance and curriculum management. It aligns with applicable Navy Medicine (NAVMED) education and training standards by establishing policy and procedure tailored specifically to NASTP curricula. It applies to all courses listed in chapter 8 and appendix E of reference (a) and shall be used to develop, update, manage, and integrate training content. The facilities management and defense acquisition programs that directly support NASTP implementation are outside of scope of this instruction.

4. Background. Reference (a) establishes the requirement for NASTP curricula and designates the Commander, Naval Air Forces (CNAF-N45) as the requirements sponsor, the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) as resource sponsor with the responsibility to assign the curriculum control authority, the Naval Survival Training Institute as course curriculum model manager (CCMM), and Aviation Survival Training Centers (ASTC) as learning sites. Unlike other BUMED sponsored courses that are administered directly to NAVMED personnel, the main purpose of the NASTP is to train aeronautically designated personnel and other personnel authorized to fly in naval aircraft on a reoccurring basis in the aeromedical aspects of flight and survival. Reference (b), Manual of the Medical Department, chapter 14, section III, article 14-10 notes the Chief of Naval Operations appointed BUMED as the NASTP training agent with NASTP management under the responsibility of the Director, Aerospace Medicine and Operational Physiology (BUMED-N10F1) as the overall manager of the naval aerospace and operational physiology program.

5. Policy. All NASTP curricula changes and revisions shall follow the process identified in this instruction. It is imperative that NASTP training keep pace with changes to operational requirements, data-driven safety data, and emerging research findings. Due to this unique and time-sensitive relationship, subparagraphs 5a through 5c of this instruction provides guidelines for curricula changes and revisions.

a. Curriculum changes are modifications to training materials that do not affect course mission, increase course length, or require additional resources. Changes do not require training project plan (TPP) update and can be approved and promulgated by the CCMM.

b. Curriculum revisions are modifications to the course mission statement or adjust resourcing, which includes funding, personnel, facilities, or training duration. Revisions require update to the TPP and must be approved by CNAF-N45 prior to promulgation by BUMED-N10F1.

c. New courses require final approval from CNAF-N45 prior to promulgation by BUMED-N10F1.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

a. Director, Education and Training (BUMED-N7) shall provide administrative oversight and advisement, ensuring NASTP adherence to established NAVMED education and training standards where applicable.

b. BUMED Naval Aerospace and Operational Physiology Program Manager shall:

(1) Serve as the designated NASTP training agent.

(2) Act as the curriculum control authority for NASTP courses identified in reference (a).

(3) Approve revisions, changes, and updates to the NASTP standard operating procedure (SOP).

(4) Attend NASTP curriculum review and advisory board meetings.

(5) Serve as the approval authority for NASTP curriculum revisions as defined in subparagraph 5b of this instruction.

(a) Coordinate with CNAF-N45 to determine whether an update constitutes curriculum change or revision.

(b) Initiate training requirements analysis (TRA), front end analysis (FEA), or business case analysis (BCA) actions.

- (c) Coordinate with the CCMM on TRA, FEA, and BCA preparation and completion.
 - (d) Review TPPs received from the CCMM for approval.
 - (e) Review training course control documents from the CCMM for approval.
 - (f) Review all instructional material and courseware from the CCMM for approval.
 - (g) Obtain CNAF-N45 approval prior to curriculum release.
 - (h) Authorize the use of revised curriculum through a letter of promulgation.
- c. Officer in Charge, Naval Survival Training Institute shall:
- (1) Act as the NASTP CCMM as designated in references (a) and (b).
 - (2) Manage curricula as required by this instruction and NAVMED education and training policy.
 - (3) Oversee ASTC execution of approved curricula as prescribed in the NASTP SOP.
 - (4) Conduct annual review and revise the NASTP SOP every 5 years at minimum.
 - (5) Review and process all requests for curriculum modification with BUMED-N10F1.
 - (6) Serve as the developer and approver for curriculum changes as defined in subparagraph 5a of this instruction.
 - (a) Review changes to technical directives for impact on existing training course control documents and curricula.
 - (b) Review training course control document for currency, adequacy, and accuracy prior to approving any change.
 - (c) Liaison with each ASTC to determine site specific requirements.
 - (d) Conduct an annual curriculum review and a curriculum advisory board.
 - (e) Authorize the use of changed curriculum through a letter of promulgation.
 - (7) When directed, conduct TRAs, FEAs, and BCAs for curriculum revision determination.

(8) When directed, develop TPPs, training course control documents, and instructional material for curriculum revision.

(9) Conduct and report on at least one pilot trial for all newly prepared instructional material.


7. 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 found on the Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/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).

8. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, Director, Clinical Operations, Policy, and Standards (BUMED-N10) will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of War, 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.

9. Information Management Control. Reports required in paragraph 6 of this instruction are exempt from reports control per SECNAV Manual 5214.1 of December 2005, part IV, subparagraph 7k.



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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/>