



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
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BUMEDNOTE 1520
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2 Sep 2026

BUMED NOTICE 1520

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: 2027 OPERATIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER AND GENERAL MEDICAL OFFICER
APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Ref: (a) BUMEDINST 1520.42B
(b) NAVPERS 15560D

Encl: (1) Operational Community Information

1. Purpose. To prescribe the application procedures and eligibility criteria for the fiscal year 2027 Operational Medical Officer (OMO) and General Medical Officer (GMO) selection process per reference (a).

2. Scope and Applicability

a. This notice applies to all Navy Medical Corps officers eligible for, or seeking assignment to, OMO and GMO billets. Medical Corps Officers of all specialties are authorized to apply for OMO positions.

b. Applicants must recognize that these operational billets primarily require the delivery of direct primary care and urgent care clinical support of operational forces regardless of the applicant's specialty.

3. Background

a. Serving as an OMO provides board-eligible or board-certified, residency-trained physicians with the opportunity to support operational forces. Their assignments leverage specialized residency training to enhance force health protection and clinical readiness across diverse operational environments.

b. Serving as a GMO provides internship-trained physicians who hold an unrestricted state medical license with the opportunity to directly support the operational units. GMOs deliver vital frontline medical capabilities while fulfilling primary care responsibilities for the Fleet and Marine Corps.

c. Both OMOs and GMOs serve as primary and urgent care clinicians, key medical advisors to commanding officers, and leaders within their respective medical departments. In these roles, they execute community-specific operational programs and oversee health services support.

d. Operational tours significantly enhance professional development and clinical leadership. This experience builds the foundation for future selection to senior operational assignments within the Fleet Marine Force, Surface Navy, Naval Aviation (Flight Surgery), and Undersea Medicine communities.

4. Application process

a. Applications will be submitted via the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) Officer Application Portal:

<https://esportal.med.navy.mil/bumed/Pages/OfficerApplications.aspx>.

b. Applicants must ensure all required documents are completed properly labeled with Last Name, First Name Initial prior to submission.

c. Required documents include:

(1) NAVMED 1520/21 Demographic Information

(2) Ranking of OMO and GMO opportunities

(3) Curriculum Vitae

(4) Personal statement (one page maximum)

(5) Flight Surgery and Undersea Medicine physical exam and waivers as applicable.

d. Residency-trained applicants must submit a ranked list of desired operational communities consistent with specialty requirements to their detailee.

e. Applicants are strongly encouraged to engage with specialty leaders and detailers early in the process to ensure eligibility, competitiveness, and alignment with career milestones. The points of contact for the different communities can be accessed through the links within enclosure (1).

5. Eligibility

- a. Applicants must be worldwide assignable and meet operational and permanent change of station requirements for assignment per reference (b), Naval Military Personnel Manual (MILPERSMAN), articles 1300-308 and 1301-106.
- b. Officers must meet applicable medical and community-specific standards for positions to which they apply.
- c. Officers who previously completed operational tours may apply for OMO opportunities but are not restricted to their prior operational community, provided they meet eligibility criteria.
- d. Billets coded for specific clinical specialties are not included in this process and require direct coordination with specialty leaders and detailers.

6. Selection Process

- a. Operational specialty leaders will review applications and provide recommendations.
- b. Medical Officer Assignment, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-4415) Medical Corps detailers retain final authority for OMO and GMO assignment decisions and will coordinate directly with applicants during the detailing process.
- c. OMO billets are prioritized for filling. If insufficient qualified applicants are available, residency-trained physicians may be assigned to OMO positions based on Navy requirements.

7. Important Dates

- a. 15 October 2026: Application due. Complete packets submitted via the application portal: <https://esportal.med.navy.mil/bumed/Pages/OfficerApplications.aspx>.
- b. 9 December 2026: Notification to Members
- c. 1 January 2027: Accept or Request to Decline Position

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 found on the Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-InformationManagement/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

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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 Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) Records Management Program (DNS-16).

9. Forms. The NAVMED 1520/21 Demographic Information which is available at <https://www.med.navy.mil/Directives/NAVMED-Forms/>.


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Releasability and distribution:

This notice is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via the Navy Medicine Web site, <http://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Pages/BUMEDInstructions.aspx>

OPERATIONAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION

1. OMO positions support Fleet Marine Force, Surface Navy, Aviation, and Undersea communities. Community-specific information can be accessed at the Web site links provided in subparagraphs 2a through 2e of this enclosure for each operational community.

- a. Aviation Medicine: <https://esportal.med.navy.mil/bumed/Pages/AeromedicalOfficer.aspx>.
- b. Fleet Marine Force: <https://esportal.med.navy.mil/bumed/Pages/Fleet-Marine-Medical-Officer.aspx>.
- c. Surface Medicine: <https://esportal.med.navy.mil/bumed/Pages/Surface-Force-Medical-Officer.aspx>.
- d. Undersea Medicine: <https://esportal.med.navy.mil/bumed/Pages/UMO-and-UME.aspx>.
- e. Detailers: <https://esportal.med.navy.mil/bumed/Pages/OfficerApplications.aspx>.