

**2024 Navy JGMESB
Residency Selection Following an Operational Tour Pilot
Frequently Asked Questions**

Background: Prior to this pilot program, medical students and incumbent interns who desired early operational experience as a General Medical Officer (GMO), Flight Surgeon, or Undersea Medical Officer had to opt out of straight-through training and apply for a categorical residency during the last year of their operational tour. In this pilot program, medical students and incumbent interns who want early operational experience can opt out of straight-through training and request consideration for selection to a categorical residency spot following a three-year operational tour.

Q1: What specialties are included in the pilot program?

A: The 2024 BUMEDNOTE 1524, enclosure (4), lists the specialties participating in the pilot program. These specialties include **Aerospace Medicine**, Anesthesiology, Dermatology, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, General Surgery, Gynecologic Surgery and Obstetrics, Internal Medicine, **Neurology**, **Occupational and Environmental Medicine**, **Pathology**, Pediatrics, **Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**, **Preventive Medicine**, Psychiatry, Radiology, and **Urology**. The seven specialties in bold are new to the pilot program for the 2024 JGMESB.

Q2: What locations are included in the pilot program?

A: The pilot program includes all locations with Navy training programs for the 17 specialties listed in the 2024 BUMEDNOTE 1524, enclosure (4).

Q3: How many applicants will be selected for each residency participating in the pilot?

A: There is no set goal for each specialty. However, up to 20 total applicants will be selected for the pilot program for the 2024 JGMESB year.

Q4: Who can be considered for the pilot program?

A: Medical Students and incumbent interns are eligible for the pilot.

Q5: How do I apply?

A: Medical Students (PGY-1 applicants) who desire consideration for the pilot would follow the application process listed in the 2024 BUMEDNOTE 1524. In MODS or the PDF application, select one of the participating specialties as a first choice selection, select a second choice specialty, click the pilot participation box, select a desired training locations for both specialties, and notify the Navy Graduate Medical Education (GME) office via email at usn.bethesda.navmedleadprodevcmd.mbx.gme-sb@health.mil, by October 15, 2024.

Incumbent interns who desire consideration for the pilot would follow the application process listed in the 2024 BUMEDNOTE 1524, select one of the participating specialties, click the pilot participation box, select their desired training locations, and notify the Navy GME office via email at usn.bethesda.navmedleadprodevcmd.mbx.gme-sb@health.mil, by October 15, 2024.

The MODS electronic application will not list the start year of 2028 or 2029 in the drop- down list of selections. Applicants should leave the start year as 2025. The GME Office will modify the start date on the application upon receipt of your request for participation in the pilot program.

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Q6: What if I participate in the pilot and am not selected for a categorical residency starting in 2028 or 2029?

A. Medical students who requested participation in the pilot and were not selected for a categorical residency in 2029 will be selected for a preliminary year only (PGY1 only) in a full time in-service (FTIS) program or a one-year delayed deferment in the Navy Active Duty Delay for Specialists (NADDS) program. Those applicants can apply in 2025 for an operational assignment, straight-through training to categorical residency, or the pilot program again if offered. Incumbent interns who are not selected would apply for residency training when eligible during their operational tour.

Q7: If I am selected for a categorical residency starting in 2028 or 2029, can I decline it later?

A: Applicants can decline their selections in writing to the GME Office at any time prior to the start of their training program. Also, applicants selected for a GME program by a previous GME Selection Board (GMESB) will forfeit their selection from the previous board upon applying to any future selection boards.

Q8: If I am selected for a categorical residency starting in 2028 or 2029, can I change my mind and apply for a different residency?

A. Yes. GME selection is a competitive process. You would have to compete for the new residency spot. Your application to a future GMESB would forfeit your prior selection.

Q9: Can I be considered for straight-through training and this pilot program?

A: No. The pilot program is limited to applicants who desire early operational experience and want to opt out of consideration for straight-through training.

Q10: How will participation in the pilot program effect my Active Duty Service Obligation?

A: The rules for accruing and fulfilling Active Duty Service Obligation as outlined in DODI 6000.13 of December 2015 do not change with participation in the pilot program. The three years participants spend in an operational tour will fulfill or “pay back” previously accrued service obligation in the order that it was accrued.