From:   Commander, Naval Service Training Command
To:     NJROTC Area Managers
        NJROTC Units
        NNDCC Units

Subj:   2019-2020 NROTC SCHOLARSHIP GUIDANCE FOR NJROTC/NNDCC CADETS

Encl:   (1) NJROTC Cadet Nomination Form
        (2) Scholarship Timelines

1. The NROTC 4-year scholarship program is designed to train qualified young men and women for service as commissioned officers in the Navy. The NROTC Scholarship pays full tuition and educational fees at any of the NROTC affiliated colleges or universities, a monthly subsistence allowance, and will also provide a stipend for text books. The most accurate information is available at the NROTC web site <https://www.nrotc.navy.mil/>.

2. NJROTC/NNDCC cadets should include a letter of recommendation (LOR) from the SNSI/Lead NNDCCI with their application packages.  Enclosure (1) provides an outline of information that might be provided in this LOR.  NSTC N9 has changed its requirements for officer interviews indicating that they require interviews to be conducted by a staff officer at an NROTC Unit.  SNSI/NSI/NNDCCIs are NOT authorized to conduct the cadet applicant's officer interview; however, they may complete the "other teacher" recommendation called for in the NROTC application package (this is not the same as the LOR referred to above).

3. Minimum college testing scores are SAT EBRW 550, Math 540 with a combined minimum of 1200; and, for the ACT English 22, Math 21 and combined 47. Only tests taken from December 2017 thru December 2019 will be considered for this year's NROTC scholarship selection.  Applicants must have BOTH the minimum individual scores in the SAT/ACT Math and Verbal and a minimum Combined (Math plus Verbal) score in order to be eligible to apply for the scholarship.  Tests can be super scored, meaning some combination of two of the SAME TYPE of test can be used to achieve the minimum required combined score and will be utilized in determining the highest individual test scores.  Web sites of interest for the SAT and ACT are:

        <https://www.collegeboard.org/>

        <http://www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html>

4. If you are unable to acquire an NROTC scholarship bulletin right away, here are some of the requirements to be aware of when advising your cadets to apply for the program:

    a. An applicant must have graduated from high school before August 1 of the year they intend to start college.

    b. Awards are based primarily on the level of the candidate's high school overall GPA, math and science grades, military potential, extracurricular activities, leadership qualities and college entrance test scores.

    c. The scholarship pays tuition, fees, provides a stipend for textbooks ($375/semester) and a subsistence allowance between $250 and $400 per month for a maximum of 40 academic months. See following link for details of NROTC scholarship details:

        <https://www.nrotc.navy.mil/scholarship_benefits.html>

    d. Individuals will need to have additional funding each year to meet other expenses (e.g. room & board, health care, etc.) depending on the college and the student's individual needs. Other sources of financial assistance may be available depending on the college chosen for attendance.

    e. The latest date an applicant's electronic application can be submitted is 31 December 2019.

5. In addition to having the qualifying SAT/ACT scores, candidates wishing to qualify for an NROTC scholarship must pass a stringent physical examination. The physical qualification process is independent of the scholarship qualification process and will not begin until/unless the applicant is offered an NROTC scholarship. Applicants must receive a favorable response in the area of general physical requirements before receiving final acceptance for the NROTC Scholarship Program. The Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB) schedules and reviews all physical examinations for NROTC scholarship recipients. Some of the more frequent potentially disqualifying physical conditions include variances from Navy requirements of visual acuity, defects in hearing, poor dental health, abnormal heartbeat, severe allergies, chronic skin conditions, asthma, and neuropsychiatric disorders. Alcohol or drug abuse is also cause for disqualification. NJROTC cadets should remember that a favorable response in both the scholarship qualification and the physical qualification is required for the award of an NROTC scholarship.

6. Other requirements that all applicants must meet include: (1) being a US citizen, (2) being 17 and not yet 23 years old by 1 September of the year starting college, (3) not reaching his/her 27th birthday upon graduation and commissioning, (4) complete a Candidate Fitness Assessment, and (4) applying for and gaining admission to the NROTC college in which he/she intends to enroll. Note that it is the applicant's responsibility to gain admission to the selected host university. Selection as a scholarship winner does not connote automatic entry into the university.

7. When advising students to apply for the NROTC scholarship, please keep in mind the typical "profile" for those individuals who were selected for the 4-year NROTC scholarship this past year. This profile was: (1) the average combined SAT score was 1400; (2) the average SAT math score was 708; (3) the average SAT verbal score was 695; (4) 71% had special academic recognition; (5) 12% were Eagle Scouts; (6) 81% were varsity athletes; (7) 47% were ranked in the top 10% of their graduating class; and (8) 61% are in the top 20% of their graduating class.

8. NURSE CORPS NROTC SCHOLARSHIPS. The Navy also offers the Nurse Corps NROTC Scholarship Program. Four-year NROTC scholarships are available to cadets interested in pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN). Upon graduation from the BSN program, midshipmen will be commissioned as officers in the Navy Nurse Corps. Nurse NROTC eligibility, academic and military training requirements, and selection procedures differ slightly from the regular program. Nurse Corps option students must meet NROTC age requirements, and their physical requirements will be consistent with restricted line accession standards. Nurse Corps option students are excused from NROTC program requirements for calculus, calculus-based physics, American military history/national security policy, naval ship systems, and navigation courses. Nurse Corps option students will participate in two summer cruise training evolutions. Selectees for the Nurse Corps will, in their sophomore year, acknowledge in writing that they will accept an appointment as a commissioned officer in the grade of Ensign, Nurse Corps, U.S. Naval Reserve, and incur a 4-year active duty obligation. SNSIs may submit a cadet nomination form in this scholarship category in the same way as for the regular 4-year scholarship.  Please counsel your cadets that the Nurse Scholarship availability is extremely limited and therefore very competitive.

9. Enclosure (2) provides deadline and target dates for actions that must be taken for consideration of NROTC scholarship applications from NJROTC/NNDCC cadets.

10. There is an additional program that provides scholarships to students who will be attending one of the Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) where there is an NROTC unit (see the NROTC website for list). An applicant should have a minimum SAT score of 550 EBRW and 540 math or ACT score of 21 math and 22 English. Again, scores may be mixed and matched from tests taken between December 2017 and December 2019. A Minority Serving Institution Scholarship Reservation (MSISR) also provides the same benefits as an NROTC national scholarship. The applicant must have a fully processed on-line application and receive a nomination from the PNS of the NROTC Unit affiliated with the MSI they plan on attending.  The applicant has until the end of February 2020 to contact the NROTC unit to seek a nomination.

11. Instructors are directed to provide information and assist interested and eligible cadets to the maximum extent possible.

                                  /s/
                        T. N. DASELER
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