

**COAST GUARD PHYSICIAN
UNDERGRADUATE AND
GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION
PROGRAM**



**COMDTINST 6010.8
September 2022**

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



COMDTINST 6010.8
07 SEP 2022

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 6010.8

Subj: COAST GUARD PHYSICIAN UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE MEDICAL
EDUCATION PROGRAM

Ref: (a) Officer Accessions, Evaluations, and Promotions, COMDTINST M1000.3 (series)
(b) Body Composition Standards Program, COMDTINST 1020.8 (series)
(c) Performance, Training, and Education Manual, COMDTINST M1500.10 (series)
(d) 10 U.S.C. § 2114 Students: selection; status; obligation
(e) Personnel Operations Manual, POM 821.77
(f) Administration of United States Public Health Service (USPHS) Officers Detailed to
the Coast Guard, COMDTINST 6010.5 (series)
(g) Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, CCD 125.03
(h) Reserve Duty Status and Participation Manual, COMDTINST M1001.2 (series)

1. PURPOSE. This Instruction promulgates policy regarding responsibilities, and provides guidelines regarding Advanced Education Programs (AEPs) for Coast Guard personnel who are preparing to attend a medical school, are attending a medical school, or are attending a Graduate Medical Education (GME) program such as in residency or fellowship following medical school.
2. ACTION. All Coast Guard unit commanders, commanding officers, officers-in-charge, deputy/assistant commandants, and office chiefs of headquarters staff elements must comply with the provisions of this Instruction.
3. AUTHORIZED RELEASE. Internet release is authorized.
4. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. None. This is a new Instruction and does not cancel or update any previous directives.
5. DISCLAIMER. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor it itself a rule. It is intended to provide operational guidance of Coast Guard personnel and is not intended to nor does it impose legally binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS. The Office of Environmental Management, Commandant (CG-47) reviewed this Commandant Instruction and the general policies contained within, and determined that this policy falls under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) categorical exclusion A3. This Commandant Instruction will not result in any substantial change to existing environmental conditions or violation of any applicable federal, state, or local laws relating to the protection of the environment. It is the responsibility of the action proponent to evaluate all future specific actions resulting from this policy for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), other applicable environmental requirements, and the U.S. Coast Guard Environmental Planning Policy, COMDTINST 5090.1 (series).
7. DISTRIBUTION. No paper distribution will be made of this Instruction. An electronic version will be located Coast Guard Directives System Library internally, and if applicable on the Internet at www.dcms.uscg.mil/directives .
8. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. Records created as a result of this Instruction, regardless of format or media, must be managed in accordance with the records retention schedules located on the Records Resource Center SharePoint Online site: <https://uscg.sharepoint-mil.us/sites/cg61/CG611/SitePages/Home.aspx> .
9. POLICY ON PHYSICIAN MEDICAL PROGRAMS. It is the policy of the Coast Guard to establish policy, assign responsibilities, and provide guidelines regarding Advanced Education Programs (AEPs). These programs will be discussed in the following Appendices.
10. FORMS/REPORTS. The forms referenced in this Instruction are available on the Coast Guard Standard Workstation or on the Internet: www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-C4IT-CG-6/The-Office-of-Information-Management-CG-61/Forms-Management/ .
11. SECTION 508. This Instruction adheres to Accessibility Guidelines and Standards as promulgated by the U.S. Access Board. If changes are needed, please communicate with the Coast Guard Section 508 Program Management Office at: Section.508@uscg.mil .

12. REQUESTS FOR CHANGES. Units and individuals may recommend changes via the chain of command to: HQS-DG-1st-CG-112@uscg.mil.

/DANA L. THOMAS/
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard
Director, Health, Safety, and Work-Life

Appendix A. Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) Enlisted to Medical Degree Preparatory Program (EMDP2)

Appendix B. USUHS SOM Program for CG Personnel

Appendix C. USUHS SOM Program for United States Public Health Services Officers.

Appendix D. Graduate Medical Education in the Coast Guard.

Appendix A. Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) Enlisted to Medical Degree Preparatory Program (EMDP2)

- A. Background. The EMDP2 is a competitive program through USUHS for enlisted personnel who desire to attend medical school and become military physicians. It consists of a two-year pre-medical school program, completed in-residence at George Mason University, completing the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), and ultimately applying to the USUHS School of Medicine (SOM) for entry into the four-year SOM medical student program. During the program, students remain in their enlisted grade. Members who complete the program and are accepted into the USUHS SOM Program will be commissioned as ensigns prior to their matriculation.
- B. Authority. The Coast Guard (CG) has the authority to provide specialized training to CG members under 14 U.S.C. § 504(a)(7). Enlisted personnel who are accepted into the USUHS SOM will be commissioned in the grades of O-1 or O-1E (as appropriate based on years of service) by authority of 10 U.S.C. § 12203.
- C. Requirements. All applicants for EMDP2 must meet USUHS admissions requirements, which may be periodically updated. Applicants are encouraged to review admissions requirements on the program website for the most up-to-date information. Applicants seeking to participate in the EMDP2 must meet the following requirements:
1. A completed baccalaureate degree (any major or academic discipline) with a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.2 from an accredited U.S. college or university. USUHS will not consider waiver of these requirements; therefore, CG applicants who do not meet them will not be considered.
 2. One year (six semester hours) of college-level English or Writing-intensive Humanities, Languages, Social Sciences, or Psychology and one semester (three semester hours) of college Algebra, Higher-level Math, or Statistics. These requirements may be satisfied by results from the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES), and/or DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST).
 3. A Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or American College Testing Test (ACT) within five years of application to USUHS.
 4. Active Duty in the pay grades of E-4 to E-7. Commissioned Officers, Chief Warrant Officers, and other enlisted pay grades are not eligible.
 5. Be no older than 34 on 1 July in the year of matriculation to the EMDP2 Program (the director of EMDP2 can recommend waiver of this requirement for USUHS's consideration).
 6. Have more than 3 but less than 10 years of service on 1 July in the year of matriculation to the EMDP2 Program.

7. Be a U. S. citizen.
8. Meet CG requirements for appointment as a commissioned officer as per Ref (a).
9. Members must be recommended for advancement and maintain advancement eligibility throughout application process. Members who received a courts-martial or other criminal conviction, Non-Judicial Punishment, and/or an unsatisfactory conduct mark within the preceding 24 months are ineligible to apply.
10. Be in compliance with the CG Body Composition Program as per Ref (b).
11. Be tour complete on or about the time of matriculation to the EMDP2. Applicants who are not tour complete may only apply with a positive command endorsement.

NOTE: While not required, experience in military health care is highly desirable.

D. Application.

1. The Personnel Service Center (PSC) will release a message annually to announce EMDP2 AEP availability, number of positions offered, and eligibility requirements.
2. The EMDP2 is a competitive program, intended only for high-performing enlisted members with high chances of success in a rigorous medical school program. All applicants meeting criteria above will be assessed by a panel convened by Commander (PSC), which will recommend up to two selectees and up to two alternates. Those personnel that do not meet the criteria listed above will not be eligible to apply.

E. During Training.

1. At the beginning of the EMDP2, trainees execute a Permanent Change of Station to the Washington, D. C. area.
2. During the EMDP2, trainees occupy two year Training Allocation Billets (TABs), report to the Physician Force Manager at COMDT (CG-1121), and complete Duty Under Instruction (DUINS) evaluations annually.
3. Trainees shall apply to the USUHS SOM medical student program. Trainees are not encouraged to apply to other medical schools as the CG does not have a program for this training at other medical schools and will not support requests for other sourced training.
4. Trainees must meet the continued academic requirements of the EMDP2.
5. Trainees remain eligible for enlisted advancement during the program; advancement up to the grade of E-8 does not require disenrollment. Trainees are not eligible to compete for Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) during the program.
6. Trainees who complete the program incur a 36-month Active Duty Service Obligation

(ADSO). This ADSO is served consecutively with any other ADSO incurred for training and/or education. Time in Graduate Medical Education (GME) cannot be used to serve any ADSO. If trainees are not able to finish the EMDP2 program, their ADSO will be calculated based upon guidance provided in Ref (c).

F. Program Completion.

1. Completion of the EMDP2 does not guarantee acceptance into the USUHS SOM program.
2. CG participants in the EMDP2 who are accepted into the USUHS SOM Program are guaranteed a four-year Training Allocation Billet (TAB) to immediately attend the USUHS SOM Program following EMDP2 completion.
 - a. Those accepted must meet all CG commissioning requirements as specified in Ref (a).
 - b. Those accepted to the USUHS SOM Program must accept appointment as an O-1 or O-1E, CG Reserve, (depending on years of service in their enlisted grade).
 - c. Those accepted shall attend the June convening of CG Direct Commission Officer (DCO) School between EMDP2 completion and matriculation to the USUHS SOM.

Appendix B. USUHS SOM Program for CG Personnel

- A. Background. The USUHS SOM Program is a four year allopathic medical school program that leads to the award of a professional degree in medicine (Medical Doctor, or M.D.). It is completed in-residence at USUHS.
- B. Authority. This program is authorized by 14 U.S.C. § 504(a)(7). Enlisted members and Chief Warrant Officers who are appointed and commissioned upon acceptance into the USUHS SOM receive a Reserve commission in the grades of O-1 or O-1E (as appropriate) by authority of 10 U.S.C. § 12203. CGA Academy graduates, after completion of at least one operational tour following graduation from the CGA, who are accepted into the USUHS SOM Program must resign their current commission and accept a regular commission into the grades of O-1 or O-1E (as appropriate) by authority of 14 U.S.C. § 2101(a)(1)(A). Direct Commission Officers receive a Reserve commission by authority of 10 U.S.C. § 12203. USUHS SOM graduates are recommissioned in the grades of O-3 or O-3E, Regular CG, by authority of 14 U.S.C. § 2101(a)(1), as applicable.
- C. Requirements. All applicants must meet USUHS admissions requirements, which may be periodically updated. Applicants are encouraged to review admissions requirements on the program website for the most up-to-date information.
1. CG personnel seeking to attend the USUHS SOM Program must compete for an Advanced Education opportunity.
 - a. An ALCGPSC message will be released annually by PSC announcing USUHS SOM AEP availability, number of positions offered, and requirements.
 - b. Eligible personnel include commissioned officers, warrant officers, and enlisted personnel on active duty or in the CG Reserves who have completed (or will complete prior to projected matriculation at USUHS) a baccalaureate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (3.7 is recommended) and have completed the USUHS pre-requisite coursework. Personnel currently on Active Duty who are not tour complete require positive command endorsement to apply.
 - c. A CG selection for an Advanced Education opportunity at the USUHS SOM Program does not guarantee acceptance into the USUHS SOM Program. Those recommended by the panel who are not accepted by USUHS will not be eligible to continue in the program.
 - d. CG personnel who are recommended by the PSC panel and nominated by Commander (PSC) will receive a Letter of Approval to attend USUHS from Commander (PSC). This Letter must be provided to USUHS as part of the application package.

2. Applicants must be U. S. citizens.
3. Enlisted and officer applicants must meet CG commissioning requirements as found in reference (a). For enlisted personnel, this includes a commissioning physical exam within 12 months of projected matriculation to USUHS. Personnel requiring a commissioning physical may obtain one through a CG or DoD clinic or MTF.
4. Applicants must be no older than age 36 on June 30th of the year of projected matriculation to USUHS. The Coast Guard and USUHS may waive this requirement.
5. Applicants must complete an application to USUHS through the online American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS).
6. Applicants must also complete a supplemental application to USUHS; procedures to complete the supplemental application will be sent to applicants once they have applied using AMCAS.
7. Applicants must have taken the MCAT within three years of projected matriculation; applicants are encouraged to visit the USUHS website for more information as information regarding competitive scores may change annually.
8. Applicants must submit Letters of Recommendation as prescribed at the USUHS application website.

D. During Training.

1. At the beginning of the USUHS SOM Program, trainees execute a Permanent Change of Station to the Washington, D.C. area.
2. During the USUHS SOM Program, trainees occupy four-year Training Allocation Billets (TABs), report to the Physician Force Manager, COMDT (CG-1121), for CG supervisory purposes, and complete Duty Under Instruction (DUINS) evaluations annually.
3. Trainees must meet the continued academic and administrative requirements of the program.
4. Trainees who are already CG commissioned officers must resign their current commission and accept recommissioning as an O-1 or O-1E (as appropriate) in the Regular Coast Guard (CGA graduates and other CG officers who have integrated and have Regular commissions) or Coast Guard Reserve (all others). Trainees who are enlisted, who are Chief Warrant Officers, or who are civilians will be commissioned as an O-1 or O-1E, CG Reserve, prior to entry into the program.
5. Trainees with prior service receive pay protection during the program; base pay will not decrease due to a change in grade to O-1 or O-1E. See Ref (d) for details.
6. Trainees are not eligible for promotion during the program and will remain O-1 or O-

1E for all four years.

7. In accordance with Ref (d), trainees do not accrue Time In Service (TIS) for base pay or retirement purposes during the USUHS SOM program.
 8. Trainees who are not prior commissioned CG officers shall attend the June convening of CG DCO School prior to matriculation to USUHS.
 9. Trainees who complete the USUHS SOM program incur an 84-month Active Duty Service Obligation (ADSO) by statute IAW Ref (d). This ADSO is served consecutively with any other ADSO incurred for training and/or education. Time in Graduate Medical Education (GME) cannot be used to serve any ADSO. Trainees who do not complete the program incur an ADSO as per Ref (d).
 10. Trainees are required to apply to the Joint Service Graduate Medical Education Selection Board (JSGMESB), during their fourth year, for an Active Duty military residency, i.e. GME. See Section 4 below for additional details regarding CG GME.
 - a. Trainees are encouraged to apply for a categorical residency; the approved residencies are Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry, Public Health and General Preventive Medicine, Occupational Medicine, Orthopedic, Sports Medicine, and Aerospace Medicine.
 - b. Other specialties may be considered on a case-by-case basis, but must be approved by COMDT (CG-11).
 - c. A limited number of trainees may be approved by COMDT (CG-11) to attend an Active Duty Postgraduate Year One (PGY-1)-only program and then serve one or more tours as a General Medical Officer.
 - d. Trainees who secure an Active Duty military GME position are granted an Advanced Education opportunity according to the length of program into which they are accepted.
 - e. Trainees may apply to a civilian residency in an approved specialty as well, but are not guaranteed Release From Active Duty (RELAD) to attend such a residency as a reservist or CG sponsorship to attend such a residency on active duty. Members who attend a civilian residency, unless sponsored by the CG, will be placed in the Obligated Inactive Ready Reserve (IRR) and will be recalled to Active Duty to complete their education and training ADSO(s) upon completion of the residency program.
- E. Program Completion. Trainees who complete the USUHS SOM Program are recommissioned as O-3 or O-3E, Regular CG, upon graduation. Trainees who held pay grade O-3/O-3E or higher prior to matriculation are restored to their former pay grade with Time in Grade (TIG) credit as determined by PSC-OPM.

Appendix C. USUHS SOM Program for United States Public Health Services Officers.

- A. If, during a given academic year, there are not a sufficient number of CG applicants to USUHS, or an insufficient number of approved CG applicants are accepted to USUHS, to maintain the CG physician training pipeline, the CG may offer to sponsor prospective medical students who are applying to USUHS and desire to serve as commissioned officers of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS).
- B. All requirements in Section 2 above apply, including competing for an Advanced Education opportunity.
- C. Persons nominated for an Advanced Education opportunity and a USPHS commission who are accepted into the USUHS SOM may attend as CG-sponsored USPHS officers.
- D. Such officers are detailed to the CG from the USPHS in accordance with Refs (e) and (f) and fall under the Physician Force Manager, COMDT (CG-1121), for supervisory purposes during the program.
- E. Trainees who are not prior commissioned officers will attend CG DCO School prior to matriculation to USUHS if possible. If DCO School cannot be scheduled prior to matriculation, DCO School will be accomplished during the fourth year of training.
- F. In accordance with Ref (g), such officers incur a 120 month ADSO which must be served in the CG. Time in Graduate Medical Education (GME) cannot be used to serve this ADSO. Officers who do not complete the program incur an ADSO IAW Refs (c) and (f).
- G. As with CG trainees in the USUHS SOM program, CG-sponsored USPHS officers must apply to the JSGMESB for GME; all provisions of Section 2.D.10 above apply except 2.D.10.e. If a CG-sponsored USPHS medical student does not secure an Active Duty GME position, their disposition will be negotiated with the USPHS.

Appendix D. Graduate Medical Education in the Coast Guard.

- A. Background. Graduate Medical Education (GME) consists of medical specialty training programs that, with the exception of PGY-1 (i.e. internship)-only programs, lead to board eligibility in a medical specialty recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) or the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). As stated in Section 2.D.10.a above, the CG prefers that graduating CG or CG-sponsored medical students attend a categorical GME program immediately following graduation from medical school, though COMDT (CG-11) may permit completion of a PGY-1 only year followed by one or more tours of duty as a General Medical Officer. This Section also applies to CG physicians, including CG-detailed USPHS physicians, who wish to apply for additional GME or who are GMOs who desire to enter a categorical residency program. It does not apply to physicians who are seeking fellowship training (such as Sports Medicine or Medical Informatics); fellowship programs have separate guidance.
- B. CG-approved GME specialties. As the CG provides primary care and operational medicine to CG military personnel, the CG has need mainly for primary care providers, mental and behavioral health providers, and public health professionals. COMDT (CG-11) reserves the right to determine the distribution of specialties each year based upon the needs of the service. GME specialties supported include: Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry, Public Health and General Preventive Medicine, Aerospace Medicine, or Occupational Medicine. Other specialties and PGY-1- only programs may be considered by COMDT (CG-11) on a case-by-case basis.
- C. Types of CG GME.
1. Active Component Military. This is the preferred option because it ensures that CG physicians grow in their knowledge of military medicine and culture. Active Duty military GME is accessed through application to the JSGMESB.
 - a. Physicians in an Active Duty military GME program incur an ADSO equivalent in length to the program, but this ADSO may be served concurrently with other education and training ADSOs. If the ADSO from GME exceeds that of remaining education and training ADSOs, or no education and training ADSO remains, the ADSO from the GME program prevails.
 - b. Physicians in an Active Duty military GME program fall under their Program Director for immediate supervision, but at minimum the Reviewer on the DUINS form (for CG officers) or the Reviewing Officer on the Commissioned Officer Evaluation Report (for USPHS officers) must be the Physician Force Manager, COMDT (CG-1121).
 - c. Physicians in an Active Duty military GME program accrue TIS and TIG normally, according to the regulations of their parent Service.

2. Civilian-sponsored. With the permission of COMDT (CG-11), physicians may seek to attend a civilian GME program while remaining on Active Duty. The physician and COMDT (CG-1121) will be responsible for ensuring an appropriate Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)/Training Affiliation Agreement (TAA) between the CG and the program in question is in place, finalized, and signed before attending the program. If COMDT (CG-11) is supportive of a civilian residency program, COMDT (CG-1121) will provide the applicant with a limited amount of administrative support to execute the applicable MOA/TAA.
 - a. Physicians in a civilian-sponsored GME program incur an ADSO equivalent in length to the program, but this ADSO may be served concurrently with other education and training ADSOs. If the ADSO from GME exceeds that of remaining education and training ADSOs, or no education and training ADSO remains, the ADSO from the GME program prevails.
 - b. Physicians in a civilian-sponsored GME program fall under their Program Director for immediate supervision, but at minimum the Reviewer on the DUINS form (for CG officers) or the Reviewing Officer on the Commissioned Officer Evaluation Report (for USPHS officers) must be the Physician Force Manager, COMDT (CG- 1121).
 - c. Physicians in a civilian-sponsored GME program accrue TIS and TIG normally, according to the regulations of their parent Service.
3. Civilian-deferred. With the permission of COMDT (CG-11), a CG physician may request to attend GME at a civilian institution in an Obligated Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) status. If COMDT (CG-11) approves this request, the CG physician must secure permission from PSC-OPM to separate from Active Duty and, if currently a Regular Officer, must accept a Reserve commission in the same pay grade in which they are currently serving. USPHS physicians detailed to the CG may not apply for a civilian- deferred GME program while they have an ADSO to the CG. USPHS physicians detailed to the CG who do not have a remaining ADSO to the CG and who desire to attend GME in a civilian-deferred status must apply for such through the USPHS.
 - a. CG physicians attending GME in an IRR status accrue TIS and TIG IAW Ref (h).
 - b. CG physicians attending GME in an IRR status must have an annual DUINS evaluation on which the Reviewer, at minimum, must be the Physician Force Manager, COMDT (CG-1121).
 - c. CG physicians attending GME in an IRR status do not incur an ADSO, but do not serve off any remaining education and training ADSO either.
 - d. Upon completion of the GME program, CG physicians will ordinarily be recalled to Active Duty to serve any remaining ADSO in their current Reserve pay grade. At the discretion of Commander (PSC), CG physicians who held a prior Regular commission may be immediately re-integrated, as per 14 U.S.C. § 2101(a)(1)

4. Failure to complete a GME program. CG physicians who do not complete an Active Duty military residency or a civilian-sponsored residency incur an ADSO as per Ref (c). CG physicians who do not complete a civilian-deferred residency are recalled to Active Duty to serve any remaining CG ADSO.