

# **ENLISTED MARINE INSPECTOR TRAINING PROGRAM (EMITP)**



**COMDTINST 1500.6C**

**June 2026**

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COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 1500.6C

Subj: ENLISTED MARINE INSPECTOR TRAINING PROGRAM (EMITP)

Ref: (a) Military Assignments and Authorized Absences, COMDTINST 1000.8 (series)  
(b) Appointing Warrant Officers, COMDTINST 1420.1 (series)  
(c) Guidance and Eligibility Criteria for Enlisted Personnel Boards and Panels,  
PSCINST 1401.2 (series)  
(d) Commandant and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard's Guidance to  
Enlisted Selections Boards and Panels

1. PURPOSE. This Instruction establishes policies and standards governing the administration of the Enlisted Marine Inspector Training Program (EMITP).
2. ACTION. All Coast Guard unit commanders, commanding officers, officers-in-charge, deputy/assistant commandants, and chief of headquarter directorates must comply with the policies contained.
3. AUTHORIZED RELEASE. Internet release is authorized.
4. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. The previous version of the Enlisted Marine Inspector Training Program, COMDTINST 1500.6B is hereby cancelled.
5. BACKGROUND. In 2018, the Enlisted Marine Inspector Training Program (EMITP) was created with 10 billets, and today the program has grown to 87 billets. EMITP is now the only path to Marine Safety Specialist Deck (MSSD) or Engineer (MSSE). The EMITP is designed to select top performing enlisted members and train them into qualified marine inspectors. In other Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) specialties, for example BOSN or ENG, the members already have years of experience in that field of work. Prior to EMITP, a majority of newly appointed MSSD and MSSE had little to no marine inspections experience and typically spent most of their first tour in training. With the implementation of the EMITP, selectees are assigned to a feeder port and fully immersed in a combination of academic learning and hands-on training in the Prevention field to earn a variety of marine inspection competencies. During such time, they may apply and compete for appointment to MSSD or MSSE. Once promoted to CWO, they will PCS and arrive to the new unit with the experience and qualifications of a marine inspector.

6. DISCLAIMER. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is intended to provide administrative guidance for Coast Guard personnel and is not intended to, nor does it impose, legally binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.
7. MAJOR CHANGES. The update clarified the criteria for being considered a "selectee" and the rules regarding the 5-year penalty for withdrawal.
8. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS. The Office of Environmental Management, Commandant (CG-SHORE-V) reviewed this Commandant Instruction and the general policies contained within and determined that this policy falls under DHS categorical exclusion A3. This CI 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).
9. DISTRIBUTION. Electronic distribution in the Directives System Library. Intranet/Pixel Dashboard: Directives Pubs, and Forms - PowerApps (appsplatform.us). If Internet released: Commandant Instructions (uscg.mil), Coast Guard Forms (uscg.mil).
10. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. Records created as a result of this Instruction, regardless of format or media, must be managed in accordance with Records & Information Management Program Roles and Responsibilities, COMDTINST 5212.12 (series) and the records retention schedule located on the Records Resource Center Microsoft SharePoint site.
11. POLICY ON TRAINING PROGRAM.
  - a. Eligibility. Applicants must meet the following requirements:
    - (1) Presently in a rating of either Marine Science Technician (MST), Boatswain's Mate (BM), Aviation Survival Technician (AST), Machinery Technician (MK), Damage Controlman (DC), or Electrician's Mate (EM).
    - (2) Must be an E-6 or E-7 at time of application. E-5's above the cut for E-6 are not eligible. E-7s above the cut for E-8 are eligible if they meet the time in service (TIS) requirements in the next paragraph.
    - (3) At the time of application, E-6 applicants must not have more than 17.0 years of TIS, and E-7 applicants must not have more than 21.0 years of TIS.
    - (4) Applicants must not have previously been an EMITP selectee or participant within the last 5 years.

- (a) Selectees who have previously been selected to EMITP and subsequently turned it down (including due to PCS assignment) must wait 5 years from the date the member turned down the assignment.
  - (b) Participants who voluntarily withdrew or were disenrolled from the program must wait 5 years from the date of withdrawal or date disenrollment was approved.
- (5) Meet the requirements in Reference (a) Article 1.E.2.a., and Reference (b) Article 3.E. and 3.F., except Article 3.E.5.
- b. Application. In the spring of each calendar, EPM-2 in collaboration with Commandant (CG-741), will release the EMITP solicitation message via ALCGENL. This message will contain application criteria, instructions, and timelines. The timelines are critical, as it affects the Eligibility requirement above.
- (1) Member's Memo. The Member's Memo is the most important piece of the application. It is the applicant's opportunity to directly communicate with the Selection Panel and to accentuate themselves regarding the Selection Criteria in paragraph 11.c.
  - (2) Command Endorsement. The Command endorsement is critical to the application as it expands on the applicant's quality within their rate and assigned duties and attests to their capability to become a future CWO. Therefore, all command endorsements must meet the requirements for a Commanding Officer's recommendation, as outlined in Article 3.I. of Reference (b).
- c. Selection Criteria. Selections are made choosing the best-qualified individuals from all eligible ratings. Best qualified individuals are those who exude the highest standards in Performance, Professional Qualities, Leadership, and Military (PPLM) within their rate and assigned duties. Review Reference (c) and (d) for more specifics.
- (1) EMITP Specific. In addition to the above criteria, the ideal candidate has excelled in the following. Note, these are not requirements to apply.
    - (a) A person that researches and comprehends written materials, such as technical manuals, policies, or regulations, and can apply their intent to systems or equipment.
    - (b) Soft Skills. Such as, but not limited to, communication, emotional intelligence, self-awareness, conflict management, problem solving, and critical thinking.
    - (c) Continued education towards Merchant Mariner Credential or other industry recognized certifications.
  - (2) Selection Panel Membership. The Selection Panel should consist of:
    - (a) EMITP Manager, or a representative from Commandant (CG-741).
    - (b) CWO MSSD/MSSE Specialty Force Manager.

- (c) Officers or Civilians that have completed at least one Prevention field tour.
  - (d) MSSD and MSSE Chief Warrant Officers from a diverse cross section of eligible feeder ratings who have completed at least one Prevention field tour.
- d. Assignment. Although in alliance with Commandant (CG-741), EPM-2 has full and final authority regarding PCS orders for EMITP assignments.
- (1) EMITP applicants are designated Primary or Alternate on the panel results message.
    - (a) Primary: Upon official notification (message traffic or AO contact), Primaries become EMITP Selectees and receive a 4-year assignment to a feeder port (major Sector or MSU). The EPM-2 Special Assignments Assignment Officer (AO) manages EMITP assignments and provides a list of available positions. Selectees submit the rank ordered preferences and inform the AO of any special needs (COLOs, SNP, etc.). Selectees that decline PCS orders must follow voluntary withdrawal procedures outlined in section 11.g.(1).
    - (b) Alternate: In the event additional assignments become available, Alternates become Primaries and are notified by the AO. Alternates may withdraw without penalty by contacting the AO prior to selection.
  - (2) If an EMITP is a high performer and positively endorsed by their command but unable to make CWO in the initial 4-year assignment, they may be extended at their current assignment. Contact the EPM-2 Special Assignments Officer for guidance.
- e. Training. EMITP participants are Apprentice Marine Inspectors (AMI) and shall be part of a feeder port's training program. Marine inspections workforce training and competency is managed by the Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance (CG-CVC).
- f. Advancement. While enrolled in the EMITP, participants may continue to advance within their rating. After selection to CWO appointment, a waiver may be required from EPM-1 for advancement on a case-by-case basis.
- g. Withdrawal. The duties and responsibilities of a Marine Inspector are not for everyone. Therefore, EMITP participants and selectees may voluntarily withdraw or be disenrolled from the program and will be reassigned back to their respective rate.
- (1) Voluntary Withdrawal. Participants may request voluntarily withdraw from the EMITP. To withdraw, the member will route a CG Memo "To" to EPM-2, "Thru" the Sector (Prevention Department Head or above) and Commandant (CG-741). In the correspondence, the member should provide a brief description of the reasoning behind the decision to withdraw, a statement of understanding that they will be placed back into rate subject to immediate reassignment, and a statement acknowledging they will not be eligible for the EMITP program for 5 years.
  - (2) Disenrollment. The decision to involuntarily disenroll an EMITP participant will have a significant impact on the member and the program. Therefore, a Training

- Evaluation Board (TEB) is required to complete an independent review of the circumstances and provide Commandant (CG-741) with a recommendation. TEBs provide a standardized process for members who experience academic performance, behavior, or other personal problems while undergoing training.
- (a) The TEB should be comprised of four members: One from Commandant (CG-741), Commandant (CG-CVC), the respective Rating Force Master Chief, and the MSSD and MSSE Specialty Force Manager. After carefully considering the TEB's recommendation, Commandant (CG-741) will provide CG-PSC-EPM-2 with a recommendation to remove or retain an EMITP participant. The final determination to involuntarily remove an EMITP participant rests with Commander (CG-PSC-EPM-2).
  - (b) The TEB may recommend a "No Fault" disenrollment for participants who have made every effort to succeed but are unable to meet the training standards academically, medically, or due to other circumstances.
  - (c) The TEB may recommend a "Fault" disenrollment for participants who demonstrate lack of discipline, poor academic or physical motivation, or who have violated the Coast Guard's Core Values, rules, or regulations. Members who have received Non-Judicial Punishment shall be "Fault" disenrolled. In accordance with Article 1.F.4. of Reference (a), participants who are "Fault" disenrolled will receive an unscheduled evaluation and an Administrative Remarks, Form CG-3307 administered by their unit.
- (3) Declines. An EMITP participant who declines an appointment to CWO, including declining appointment due to receipt of PCS Orders, will be involuntarily removed from the program.
- h. Chief Warrant Officer. EMITP does not guarantee promotion to CWO. EMITP members shall apply and compete for MSSD or MSSE in accordance with the Appointing Chief Warrant Officer policy. EMITP members are waived from the requirements in Reference (b) Article 3.E.5.
12. FORMS. Suggested changes and/or corrections for immediate action may be submitted to [USCG.Forms@uscg.mil](mailto:USCG.Forms@uscg.mil).
13. REPORTS. None.
14. SECTION 508. This policy is created to adhere to accessibility guidelines and standards as promulgated by the U.S. Access Board with consideration of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) requirements. The customer experience (CX), plain language, and service delivery improvements were considered. If modifications are needed for this artifact, please communicate with the Section 508 Program Management Office (PMO) at [Section.508@uscg.mil](mailto:Section.508@uscg.mil). Concerns or complaints for non-compliance of policy and/or artifacts may be directed to the Section 508 PMO, the Civil Rights Directorate (<https://www.uscg.mil/Resources/Civil-Rights/>) for the Coast Guard, or to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security at [accessibility@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:accessibility@hq.dhs.gov).

15. REQUEST FOR CHANGES. Comments and suggestions from users of this Instruction are welcome. Units or individuals are encouraged to recommend changes to the Office or Shore Forces (CG-741) at [shoreforces@uscg.mil](mailto:shoreforces@uscg.mil).

/TOBIAS C. REID/  
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Director for Capability