The Navy-Marine Corps Officer Education Program is administered and taught by the Naval Science Department staff on the University of Idaho, Moscow campus. The program’s objective is to provide instruction and training to students in preparation for being commissioned as officers in the United States Navy or Marine Corps through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC). Students are designated as midshipmen and receive extensive academic, physical, and leadership training while pursing a degree. The program is open to all genders and offers scholarships leading to active duty commissions. Normally, students enter the program at the beginning of their freshman year; however, selected students may enter up to the beginning of their sophomore year and in very limited cases the beginning of their junior year. Students take up to 25 hours of professional development courses taught by the NROTC Unit and must participate in Introduction to Naval Science labs each semester. All naval science courses and the lab are conducted at the University of Idaho. Students attending Washington State University are able to participate in the program and can register for these courses via the UI/WSU cooperative courses program. In addition to the required naval science courses, all NROTC students must complete additional academic requirements as stipulated in their contract. For the navy option students, service assignment is completed during their senior year and students may be assigned to duty on nuclear submarines, surface ships, naval aviation or special warfare. Service assignment for marine option students occurs following completion of the Basic School after graduation.

Scholarship Program

NROTC scholarship students’ benefits include tuition, fees, a book allowance, and a monthly stipend. Room and board are not covered by the scholarship.

Application for this program is normally made during the spring of the junior year or early fall of the student’s senior year of high school. Initial selections for these national four-year scholarships are completed by a Naval Service Training Command-sponsored board and are based on college entrance examination scores (SAT or ACT) and high school/university academic performance.

A student on scholarship will complete three summer training cruises of four to six weeks duration. During the first cruise, students are introduced to the submarine, amphibious warfare (Marine Week), surface warfare, and aviation communities. For navy option students, the second and third cruises can be aboard nuclear submarines, surface ships, or with aviation units of the Pacific or Atlantic fleets and may include overseas travel. Marine option students attend officer candidate school in Quantico, VA for their final summer training evolution. During summer training events, the students receive one-half of the pay of an ensign/second lieutenant, plus room and board.

Graduates of this program are commissioned as officers in the navy or the marine corps.