



Greeting Shipmates!

Latest Updates

Navy Streamlines EFM Enrollment. The Navy launched an Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) enrollment and tracking application on the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) website, Sept. 1.

The EFMP application adds an electronic enrollment capability for the Navy's Exceptional Family Member Program and allows service members to track the progress of the enrollment process. The initial phase will only allow new enrollees to use the system. The next phase, which is due out by the end of the year, will allow access to all enrollees of the EFMP.

"This new enrollment and tracking system is based on input from the Fleet and replaces the Navy's legacy paper-based enrollment system" said Cmdr. Carl Chaffin, program management officer for the Exceptional Family Member Program.

According to Chaffin, electronic enrollment will benefit Sailors by expediting the submission, review and final determination of enrollment. "Case liaisons can track the member's non-medical information and referrals more effectively, and electronically log individualized service plans," said Chaffin.

NPC Officials Visit Fleet, Discuss ERB and Other Personnel Information.

Representatives from Navy Personnel Command's (NPC) fleet engagement team visited with Sailors on board USS Simpson (FFG 56) Aug. 30 and discussed force management programs including the Enlisted Retention Board (ERB).

The team is currently embarked on a three-day trip to meet with Sailors in Jacksonville and Mayport, Fla. to discuss the latest personnel policy and initiatives impacting the fleet.

"Fleet engagement visits benefit Sailors by allowing them to be best informed on the personnel programs that are important to them," said Master Chief Quartermaster (SW/AW) Andy Millar, senior enlisted advisor for NPC's enlisted distribution division. "This is an opportunity for Sailors to hear first-hand from a detailing perspective how programs work and it allows them to make informed career decisions."

Representatives from the enlisted distribution division and enlisted community managers met on the deckplates with Simpson Sailors and provided information on detailing, Fleet RIDE/Perform to Serve, community management, manning and related force management topics that impact Sailors.

"ERB is probably one of the biggest things Sailors are concerned about right now, followed by FR-PTS," said Millar, who has already met this year with Sailors in Hawaii, Bahrain, Washington and Norfolk.

Approximately 15,500 eligible Sailors from 31 overmanned rates will be reviewed by the two-phased ERB. Phase I convened Aug. 22, and is reviewing eligible E-4 and E-5 Sailors. Phase II will convene in September and will review eligible E-6, E-7 and E-8 Sailors.

Sailors eligible for the second phase have until Sept. 6 to review their official military



personnel file and submit any correspondence for the Phase II board to consider. See NAVADMIN 129/11 for procedures to submit correspondence.

The fleet engagement team visited USS Hue City (CG-66) and Naval Station Mayport earlier in the week and will meet with Sailors on Naval Air Station Jacksonville before returning to Millington. Fleet engagement trips are coordinated with regional command career counselors.

The next trip is scheduled to reach out to Sailors serving overseas in Japan. The team will visit bases in Sasebo, Yokosuka and Atsugi, Japan, Sept. 8 to 14. Sailors can contact their command career counselor for exact times and locations.

"I certainly encourage Sailors to come out and attend one of our briefs and ask questions about matters that impact their career," said Millar. "There are limited opportunities to speak directly with detailer, placement and community manager representatives."

PRIMS 2011 Streamlines Physical Readiness Reporting. The Navy has released a new version of Physical Readiness Information Management System (PRIMS), updating the Web-based application used to manage physical fitness data of more than 340,000 active-duty and Reserve Sailors, officials said Aug. 22.

"PRIMS 2011 was designed with user-friendliness in mind, and incorporates physical readiness program policy changes announced in the past year," said Bill Moore, director, Navy Physical Readiness Program. "We worked with developers and took Sailor input into consideration when we updated the program application to create PRIMS 2011."

The new version features a disconnected option for command fitness leaders (CFL) who may have limited connectivity. "The disconnected option is a great benefit for command fitness leaders at sea," said Moore.

The new version will allow CFLs to download a spreadsheet and save it to a computer in their work center. The CFL can populate the data during deployment as they conduct their physical fitness assessment (PFA) cycle and then upload the information when they return to an operating area with the required bandwidth, according to Moore.

Joining Forces Community Challenge. Dr. Biden and the First Lady announced it a couple weeks ago. It's a way to reward the great projects people are already doing to support military families - in base communities or elsewhere. Hoping to get a large pool of submissions so we can reward some great projects - the winners will be announced at the end of the year, and they will be recognized by Dr. Biden and the First Lady in Washington in early 2012. This initiative will also help us reach into communities that you all know so well to get our finger on the pulse of what people and small organizations are doing to support military families.

You can nominate a person or group here: <http://joiningforces.challenge.gov>

People can also submit their own projects, but so often the folks doing this work don't seek any recognition for themselves. So, please nominate people you think are deserving and pass the prize site on to others who may deserve - or know people who deserve - recognition!



Family programs exist to assist and empower our Reserve leaders to care for service members.

Federal Department of Veterans Affairs:

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs is a federal government agency. VA is the second largest cabinet-level agency behind the Department of Defense. The primary function of VA is to provide veterans' benefits to eligible military veterans and service members.

State Departments of Veterans Affairs:

In addition to your federal VA benefits, individual states offer completely separate and additional state benefits to veteran residents and/or their dependents. State veterans' benefits and eligibility requirements vary by state. Visit <http://www.nasdva.net/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=14> to learn more about benefits available in each state.

County Veterans Services Officers:

County Veterans Services Officers provide assistance to veterans, their family members, and/or survivors with obtaining any county, state, and federal benefits that they may be entitled to based on military service. To locate a County Veterans Services Officer, visit <http://www.nacvso.org/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=10>

Campus Veteran Services Offices:

Many college and university campuses have a "veteran affairs" or "veteran services" office to assist veteran students.

The First Tee National Guard and Reserve Program. A Nationwide Free Life Skills and Golf Instruction Program for Children of the National Guard and Reserves. Locate your nearest chapter of The First Tee at www.thefirsttee.org.

Navy Reserve Policy Board Issue Submission. Every Sailor has the opportunity to participate in shaping policies which guide our Reserve Force. The Navy Reserve Policy Board (NRPB) meets in Norfolk to address issues provided from the field. The Policy board reviews issues throughout the year and is your direct line of communication to the Force policy makers. Electronic inputs are the preferred method and can be emailed to NRPB@navy.mil. For initial inputs, a blank issue submission form and additional guidance is available on the NRWS (private side). Just click on the link below. Thank you for your input and bringing Deckplate issues to senior Navy Leadership.
<https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n5/Shared%20Documents/n5a.aspx>

The Weekly NR Employment Scorecard:

<https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n3/NR%20Employment%20for%20OCNR/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

September Ready Now! Newsletter:

<http://www.navyreserve.navy.mil/Ready%20Now/Shared%20Documents/Newsletter.aspx>

Administrative Procedures for Navy Reservists [BUPERSINST 1001.39F](#)

Administrative Procedures for the Drilling Reserve and Participating Members of the Individual Ready Reserve [COMNAVRESFORINST 1001.5F](#)

Please use the above links if you have any questions regarding Administrative Policy. Make sure you are up to date regarding any changes to current policy regarding your Sailors!



NAVADMIN

- 259/11 [NAVY WORKING UNIFORM TYPE I, II, AND III, CAMOUFLAGE UTILITY](#)
- 260/11 [UNIFORM BOARD UPDATE](#)

Around the Force

USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) stopped in Norfolk, Sept. 2 to disembark crew members after completing a five-month deployment to the U.S. Southern Command Area of Responsibility in support of Continuing Promise 2011.

More than 200 staff members from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, as well as staff from other military treatment facilities across the country, disembarked before the Comfort returns to its homeport of Baltimore, MD.

Continuing Promise is an annual mission that fosters goodwill, and demonstrates the United States' commitment and support to Central America, South America and the Caribbean. Continuing Promise offers training for U.S. military personnel and partner nation forces, while providing valuable services to communities in need.

While deployed, the 800 military and civilian crew members completed nine port stops to provide aide to locals, and participated in subject matter expert exchanges. Comfort visited Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua and Peru. While in each port, the crew worked with host nation medical personnel to provide up to 11 days of medical, dental, optometry, engineering, veterinary services, and civil-military operations training to each country's citizens.

"Bravo Zulu to the Comfort team and your successful deployment to South America and the Caribbean," said Rear Adm. Alton L. Stocks, NMCP commander. "I want to thank you for all the outstanding and very important work you did during the five months you were deployed. As you return back from this deployment, be proud of the way you participated in the humanitarian operations throughout very strategic locations to our national interests."

Event Outlook

- * NOSC-San Diego, CA. Tucson, AZ, & Port Hueneme, CA (8-12 Sep)
- * CPO Pinning Ceremony-Orlando, FL (16-18 Sep)
- * Freedom Awards-Arlington, VA (23 Sept)
- * NERA Conference-Sacramento, CA (28-30 Sep)

As of 2 September 2011:			
<u>Operational Support Snapshot</u>		<u>RC Medical Readiness</u>	
FY11 Pres Bud End Strength	65,500	Fully Medically Ready:	86.6% (from 86.0%)
RC Sailors (FTS/SELRES) Onboard:	64,895	Partially Medically Ready:	3.9% (from 4.0%)
RC Sailors Performing Operational Support:	19,119	Total:	90.5% (from 90.0%)
RC Sailors Mobilized or Deployed:	4,328		
RC CPOs Mobilized	713		
RC Flag Officers on Active Duty:	30		

MONTHLY COMMUNICATION PRIORITY: ACTIVE COMPONENT/RESERVE COMPONENT FORCE MIX