STRATEGIC SEALIFT OFFICER PROGRAM

mainemaritime.edu/nrotc
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE

Students who meet the qualifications may apply for Midshipman status in the SSOP and apply to participate in the U.S. Maritime Administration's Student Incentive Payment (SIP) Program.

If selected, an incentive payment of $8,000 per academic year is provided for up to a maximum of four years, for a total of $32,000! Student Incentive Payments of $4,000 are made each semester to qualified students.

The SIP Program requires students to obtain a Coast Guard Unlimited License and to apply for, and accept if offered, a Reserve officer commission in the U.S. Navy.

A student who receives SIP incurs an obligation to serve as an employee in the maritime or maritime-related industry, and in times of national emergency, to serve as a Naval Officer aboard a U.S.-flagged merchant vessel.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Apply for the SSO program. Applications are on our website: mainemaritime.edu/nrotc/reserve-commission/.

2. Complete a physical examination to verify eligibility (at Department of Defense expense).

3. Students must agree in writing to apply for, and accept if offered, a United States Navy Reserve commission.

4. The medical process may take several months and must be completed in order to be eligible to receive SIP and Commission in the USNR.

5. Continuation in the program is based on sustained, superior performance, to include a minimum GPA of 2.5 each semester.

STRATEGIC SEALIFT OFFICER PROGRAM

The Strategic Sealift Officer Program (SSOP), formerly the Merchant Marine Reserve (MMR), is an excellent way to serve your country and assist with the financial obligations of a college education.

The SSOP is designed to train and educate highly qualified students to become commissioned officers in the Strategic Sealift Readiness Group (SSRG) component of the U.S. Navy Reserve (USNR).

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM, A STUDENT MUST:
- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be at least 17 but less than 25 years of age (upon enrollment at MMA).
- Be physically qualified.
- Have a satisfactory record of academic ability and moral integrity.
- Have no moral reservation or personal conviction that prevents the bearing of arms.
- Be enrolled in a Bachelor of Science degree program leading to a U.S. Coast Guard Unlimited License:
  - Marine Engineering Operations
  - Marine Engineering Technology
  - Marine Systems Engineering - License Track
  - Marine Transportation Operations
MINIMUM OBLIGATION
AFTER GRADUATION

- Complete a minimum of two weeks of active duty each year for a total of eight years in a merchant marine related billet, with pay and travel/food reimbursement.

- At least 150 days of sailing employment aboard a U.S. flag vessel using your Coast Guard license for three years.

- Maintain your Coast Guard license for three additional years (first 6 of 8-year obligation).

- Submit annual service obligation compliance reports to MARAD for eight years.
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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