



With Pride & Distinction

Junior Officer Advisory Group

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As members of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, our uniforms represent a strong tradition of honor and service. Great responsibility comes with being commissioned officers and wearing our uniforms appropriately and proudly reflects upon our personal excellence. The uniform is a symbol of professionalism, readiness, and esprit de corps.

Per Commissioned Corps Instruction (CCI) 421.01, "[Uniforms for Male Officers](#)," and 421.02, "[Uniforms for Female Officers](#)," officers "...must maintain all required components of the Service Dress Blue (SDB) and ODU [Operational Dress Uniform]." In addition, CCI 413.01, "[Special Uniform Considerations](#)" states that officers are also required to maintain two sets of the physical training uniform (PTU). With the exception of the PTU, there is no requirement for an officer to possess any minimum number of other uniforms. Instead, it is left to the officer to determine what quantities of uniform items suffice to maintain personal hygiene and appearance to the highest standards. Thus, the uniforms that should be a part of every officer's wardrobe are the SDB, ODU, and the PTU.

The SDB is a general purpose uniform authorized for year-round wear to official functions or situations where the male civilian equivalent is coat and tie. Aside from the required basic components (which can be found in CCI 421.01 and 421.02), there are some authorized optional components that are popular modifications to the SDB. For instance, the black Navy V-neck sweater or the black windbreaker jacket may be worn over the shirt/blouse in lieu of the SDB coat. With both of these modifications, a black garrison cap is an optional alternative to the combination cap. A more recent modification allows female officers to wear flats as part of their Service Dress Uniforms.

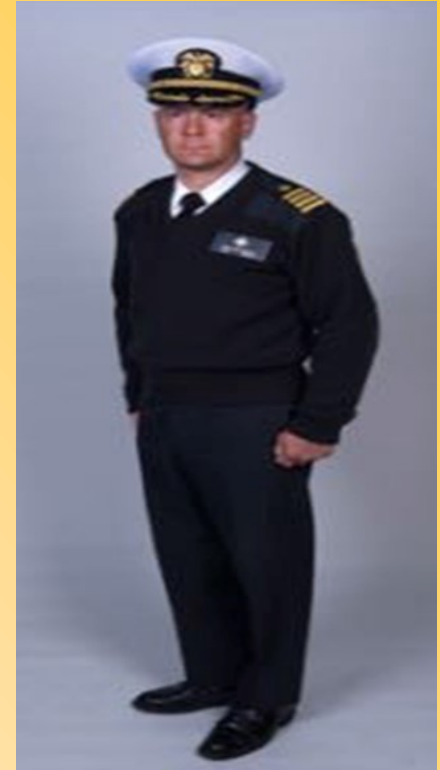


Example showing Foul Weather Parka, Type II and Trousers

The ODU is a working uniform appropriate for situations during which other uniforms would be unsafe or become unduly soiled. The required components are the same for male and female officers. It is a sturdy, loose-fitting uniform that's especially common in field work and deployment environments. Available optional components of the ODU include wearing of the Fleece Liner (with rank tab), the Foul Weather Type II Parka and/or Trousers, black safety boots (as an alternative to black combat boots), and a blue sun (Boonie) hat. The ODU will phase out on February 1, 2023 and will be replaced by the Coast Guard Utility (CGU) uniform, so stay alert for future guidance.

In 2021, the USPHS joined the other branches of uniformed services in having a physical training uniform. Officers are required to have a minimum of two shirts and two shorts. Optional items include a fleece hoodie and fleece sweat pants.

With the SDB, ODU, and PT uniforms, an officer has the basic policy-mandated uniforms. However, the necessary uniform that an officer wears may change based on mission and agency. This document only discusses some of the modifications allowable with each mandatory uniform and it is up to all officers to stay informed of what is authorized based on their individual circumstances.



Example showing optional Navy V-neck sweater modification to the SDB



Optional PTU fleece hoodie



Optional PTU fleece sweatpants

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