2016 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CATEGORY PROMOTION BENCHMARKS

PY 2016 Guidance Regarding Promotion Precepts and Benchmarks for Commissioned Corps Officers

Officers competing for promotion are rated on the five Promotion Precepts described in the electronic Commissioned Corps Issuance System (eCCIS) Instructions 331.01 (old CCPM 23.4.1) "Permanent Grade Promotions", and 332.01 (old CCPM 23.4.2) "Temporary Grade Promotions", and noted below. To assist officers in better understanding the Promotion Precepts, the Precepts are described in terms of Factors. Each Factor has a Benchmark, which is a level of achievement for the officer given the category and grade.

The purpose of this Guidance is to inform officers and promotion boards of the levels of achievement per Promotion Precept generally considered to describe the "best qualified" officer for a specific category at a specific grade. This document can also benefit the officer in setting some personal long term goals for his or her career advancement.

The Chief Professional Officers (CPO) and Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Chairs, in consultation with their constituent category members, revise the Guidance annually to reflect the ever changing missions and policies of the Corps. All five Promotion Precepts are identical for all categories, as are the Benchmarks for Promotion Precepts 1, 4 and 5. The Benchmarks for Promotion Precepts 2 and 3 are category-specific.

The benchmarks for Precepts 1 – 5 are levels of achievement and/or standards of excellence that describe the "best-qualified" officer. They serve as a basis by which officers can be measured within each category. No Officer is expected to meet all the standards for Precepts 1 - 5. Many promoted officers will have achievements that exceed the factors for one or two precepts, but may not meet all the factors for others. Therefore these Benchmarks should not be considered a checklist of activities that must be completed in order to be promoted. Quality and impact of an officer's service is far more important than the quantity of activities in which they participate.

The individual factors within each Precept are not listed in priority order. The importance of each factor is left to the discretion of the Promotion Boards. The members of the Promotion Boards review the service records of each officer under consideration for promotion and each assigns a score for the specific Promotion Precept. Promotion Board members exercise their professional judgment and discretion in the review and rating of each record.

There is no time period that limits which of the officer's activities and accomplishments are eligible for consideration. However, activities and accomplishments subsequent to an officer's last promotion should receive priority consideration.

The Promotion Precepts are weighted as follows:

Performance Rating and Reviewing Official's	40%
Statement (Performance)	40 /0
2. Education, training, and professional development	20%
3. Career progression and potential	25%
4. Professional contributions and services to the PHS Commissioned Corps (Officership)	15%
5. Basic Readiness	***0%

IMPORTANT NOTE

Although the Readiness precept no longer carries any weight with regard to numerical score for promotion, basic readiness remains one of the several administrative checks for promotion. Officers in a "not ready" status at the 31 Dec RedDOG status report prior to the promotion year will receive an automatic Board Not Recommend. In addition, officers in a "not ready" status at the subsequent 31 March RedDOG status report, who were otherwise successful, will be removed from the successful list. Officers are advised to maintain basic readiness at all times.

Promotion Board members examine many documents in the officer's electronic Official Personnel Folder (eOPF) during the promotion review. Examples of these documents include, but are not limited to: Commissioned Officers' Effectiveness Report (COER); Promotion Information Report (PIR); curriculum vitae; the Officer's and Reviewing Official's Statements; award narratives; and letters of appreciation. The most recent COERs (e.g., the last 3-5 years) are generally given the most consideration by Promotion Board members, although earlier COERs may also be reviewed.

Career development resources (e.g., Curriculum Vitae (CV) reviews, mentoring, internet training tools, career development seminars, fellow officers, serving in similar roles, etc.) provided by the PACs, agency liaisons, Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR), and the CPOs should be explored and fully utilized by all officers.

The Benchmarks will change as the Commissioned Corps continues to evolve. Any comments or suggestions that you have on the Benchmarks may be submitted to your PAC Chair, and will be carefully considered for incorporation into the next annual revision.

PY 2016 FACTORS and BENCHMARKS FOR PROMOTION PRECEPTS

1. Performance Rating and Reviewing Official's Statement (Performance)				
Factor	Benchmarks P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6
Commissioned Officers' Effectiveness Report (COER)	The primary focus in reviewing the COER should be on the accompanying narrative rather than on the	The primary focus in reviewing the COER should be on the accompanying narrative rather than on the	The primary focus in reviewing the COER should be on the accompanying narrative rather than on the	The primary focus in reviewing the COER should be on the accompanying narrative rather than on the
Based on information contained in the Officer's	indicated value.	indicated value.	indicated value.	indicated value.
Statement, separate from the Reviewing Official's Statement, the officer will be rated on promotion readiness as it relates to:	Secondary assessment will include a review of the COER score, in the context of the officer's performance trends.	Secondary assessment will include a review of the COER score, in the context of the officer's performance trends.	Secondary assessment will include a review of the COER score, in the context of the officer's performance trends.	Secondary assessment will include a review of the COER score, in the context of the officer's performance trends.
 Progression of responsibility Achievement and contributions to the 	Guidance provided as needed/requested to complete assignments of moderate complexity and	Guidance provided as needed/requested to complete assignments of moderate complexity and	Evidence of independent performance of complex tasks requiring developed proficiency and higher	Independent initiative, evidenced by development, oversight, coordination and/or leadership of projects of
agency mission o Personal accountability for developing skills	impact. Skill development reflects potential for leadership and	impact. Skill development reflects potential for leadership and	responsibility with positive impact on the program. Demonstrated leadership of	exceptional difficulty with an expected level of expertise. Assumption of overall

	1. Performance Rating and Reviewing Official's Statement (Performance)				
Factor	Benchmarks P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6	
and leadership effectiveness	willingness/ability to assume increasing levels of responsibility. Completes assigned duty-related mandatory training and elective training to complement mandatory training. Supporting information that	willingness/ability to assume increasing levels of responsibility. Completes assigned duty-related mandatory training and elective training to complement mandatory training. Supporting information that	program teams or projects. Completes assigned duty- related mandatory training and elective training to complement mandatory training. Supporting information that professional development contributes to the agency	personal accountability for the involved program or project. Completes assigned duty-related mandatory training and elective training to complement mandatory training. Supporting information that	
	professional development contributes to the agency missions. The officer demonstrates they efficiently and effectively work at their current grade.	professional development contributes to the agency missions. The officer demonstrates they efficiently and effectively work at a higher level than their current grade.	missions. The officer demonstrates they efficiently and effectively work at a higher level than their current grade.	professional development contributes to the agency missions. The officer demonstrates they efficiently and effectively work at a higher level than their current grade and should currently occupy an O-6 billet.	
Award History** Progression of awards, relevance to mission, quality, as well as quantity, across the career is assessed: • PHS Individual and Unit Honor Awards (e.g., PHS Citation Medal, Outstanding Service Medal, Unit Commendation) • Other Awards and Recognition • PHS Service Awards (e.g., Isolated Hardship	There should be a record of awards across the career. Officers should strive for increasing impacts at the local level, including team or unit participation, which may result in individual or unit awards (e.g., a PHS Citation Medal or Unit Commendation). Division, Institute, and Agency (including non-DHHS agencies), and professional organization awards, and recognition such as letters of	There should be a record of awards across the career. Officers should strive for increasing impacts at the local level, including team or unit participation, which may result in individual or unit awards (e.g., an Achievement Medal or Unit Commendation). Division, Institute, and Agency (including non-DHHS agencies), and professional organization awards, and recognition such as letters of	There should be a record of awards across the career. Officers should strive for increasing impacts at the regional level which may result in progressively higher individual awards or unit recognition (e.g., a Commendation Medal or Unit Commendation). Division, Institute, and Agency (including non-DHHS agencies), and professional organization awards, and recognition such as letters of	There should be a record of awards across the career. Officers should strive for increasing impacts at the regional, national or international level which may result in progressively higher individual awards or unit recognition (e.g., an Outstanding Service Medal or Outstanding Unit Citation). Division, Institute, and Agency (including non-DHHS agencies), and professional organization awards, and	
Service Award, Special Assignment Service Award)	commendation. Service should clearly reflect the impact(s) that evolve from responsibility and performance of the officer.	commendation. Service should clearly reflect the impact(s) that evolve from responsibility and performance of the officer.	commendation. Service should clearly reflect the impact(s) that evolve from responsibility and performance of the officer.	recognition such as letters of commendation. Service should clearly reflect the impact(s) that evolve from responsibility and	

	1. Performance Rating and Reviewing Official's Statement (Performance)				
Factor	Benchmarks P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6	
				performance of the officer.	
Reviewing Official's Assessment for Promotion	Exhibits Leadership Qualities.	Exhibits Leadership Qualities.	Demonstrates Leadership Skills.	Accomplished Leadership Role.	
Assessment for Promotion Readiness Based on information contained in the Reviewing Official's Statement (separate from the Officer's Statement), the Officer will be rated on promotion readiness as it relates to: • Current Leadership Role in Command/Agency • Progression of Leadership Potential • Contribution to the Agency Missions	Recognizing junior officers with the potential and inspiration to influence. For example: As assessed in ROS, candidate excels: a) In attributes that serve the leadership in a group, team, committee, or branch work and with the potential for team leadership or management role and/or b) As a member of a task force or similar group at, or above, the local or regional Branch or Division level Additional attributes may include: a) Authorship of publications or other written communication or oral presentations that strive for increasing impact (e.g., at, or above, the local/ regional Branch, or Division level)	Recognizing junior officers with the potential and inspiration to influence. For example: As assessed in ROS, candidate excels: a) In attributes that serve the leadership in a group, team, committee, or branch work and with the potential for team leadership or management role and/or b) As a member of a task force or similar group at, or above, the local or regional Branch or Division level Additional attributes may include: a) Authorship of publications or other written communication or oral presentations that strive for increasing impact (e.g., at, or above, the local/ regional Branch, or Division level) Engages in collateral activities that contribute to the Agency/PHS mission.	Skills. Recognizing exceptional personal leadership skill and significant potential or competence as a leader or manager. For example: As assessed in ROS, candidate excels: a) In the contributions to and support of a management, supervisory, technical or clinical expert and/or program leadership role and/or b) As a member or leader of a task force or similar group at, or above, the local or regional Agency level Additional attributes may include: a) Primary or secondary authorship of publications or other written communication or oral presentations that strive for increasing impact (e.g., at or above the local or regional Agency level) Engages in collateral activities that contribute to the Agency/PHS mission.	Recognizing leaders who have moved into key leadership roles and have a proven record of influence and achievement (e.g., Subject Matter Expert, Program Chief/Director or equivalent). For example: As assessed in ROS, candidate excels: a) In an executive, senior management, expert, and/or special advisory/consultant position and/or b) As a leader of a task force or a similar group at either the regional, national or international Agency level Additional attributes may include: a) Primary or secondary authorship of publications or other written communication or oral presentations that strive for increasing impact (e.g., at either the regional, national or international Agency level)	
		Branch, or Division level) Engages in collateral activities that contribute to the	strive for increasing impact (e.g., at or above the local or regional Agency level) Engages in collateral activities that contribute to the	other written communic or oral presentations th strive for increasing im (e.g., at either the region national or internationa	

	1. Performance Rating and Reviewing Official's Statement (Performance)					
Factor	Benchmarks P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6		
				contribute to visibility and impact of the Agency/PHS Commissioned Corps mission.		

^{*} Temporary O2 and O3 promotions for all categories and Temporary O4 promotions for the Medical and Dental Categories are determined by an administrative file review as outlined in Commissioned Corps Instruction (CCI) 332.01 (old CC 23.4.2, 6-2); officers are encouraged to use the Factors and Benchmarks listed for T-O4/P-O2 and O3 for career development purposes.

** Please refer to CCI 511.01 (old CC 27.1.1) Awards Program for a description of the Honor and Service Awards.

2. Education, Training and Professional Development					
Factor	Benchmarks T-O3/P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6	
	Bachelor's Degree. For officers with accredited	Bachelor's Degree. For officers with accredited	Bachelor's Degree. For officers with accredited	Master's or Doctoral Degree. Advanced degree from a	
Degrees	bachelor's degree, has initiated the process or is pursuing an advanced degree from a regionally or nationally accredited institution that contributes to current or future PHS assignments.	bachelor's degree, has initiated the process and is pursuing an advanced degree from a regionally or nationally accredited institution that contributes to current or future PHS assignments.	bachelor's degree, has initiated the process and is pursuing an advanced degree from a regionally or nationally accredited institution that contributes to current or future PHS assignments.	regionally or nationally accredited institution that contributes to current or future PHS assignments.	
	Environmental Health, Indu Preparedness and Respon- doctorate degree).	strial Hygiene, Information Syst se (MBA, MPA, MS, MPH or co	mited to: Public Health, Health Catems and Technology, Health Phymparable master's degree; PhD, ion of the agency and/or PHS. The	ysics, Emergency DrPH, or comparable	

	2. Education, Training and Professional Development					
Factor	Benchmarks T-O3/P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6		
Certifications, Credentialing, and Licensure	Pursuing professional environmental health credential (REHS/RS) or industrial hygiene, safety, or health physics certification (CIH, CSP, or CHP). If officer has more than one of the above credentials, it will satisfy the additional credential requirement below. Officer is also pursuing an additional professional certification. • Examples of additional cert Healthy Homes Specialist, Certification in Medical Dev • Additional Certifications she in the COER, OS and/or CV	Current professional environmental health credential (REHS/RS) or industrial hygiene, safety, or health physics certification (CIH, CSP, or CHP). If officer has more than one of the above credentials, it will satisfy the additional credential requirement below. Officer also has an additional professional certification. ifications can include, but are now the solution of the above credentials in the control of the above credentials, it will satisfy the additional credential requirement below. Officer also has an additional professional certification. ifications can include, but are now the could hold value to advance the results.	Current professional environmental health credential (REHS/RS) or industrial hygiene, safety, or health physics certification (CIH, CSP, or CHP). If officer has more than one of the above credentials, it will satisfy the additional credential requirement below. Officer also has an additional professional certification. ot limited to: CHMM, HAZMAT, Hagency specific certification (e.g., Drugs). mission of the agency and/or PHS	Current professional environmental health credential (REHS/RS) or industrial hygiene, safety, or health physics certification (CIH, CSP, or CHP). If officer has more than one of the above credentials, it will satisfy the additional credential requirement below. Officer also has an additional professional certification. IEM, CPH, CEM, CICP, CCFS, FDA Level II Investigator, S. These can be demonstrated		
	Guidance Document on the	EHOPAC Career Developmen				
Public and Environmental Health Training	Course work, continuing education, or training experiences in environmental health or related to job, that contributes to current or future PHS assignments.	Course work, continuing education, or training experiences in environmental health, or related to job and contributes to current or future PHS assignments.	Course work, continuing education, or training experiences in environmental health, or related to job and contributes to current or future PHS assignments. Recent trainings and experiences should support development of leadership and management skills.	Course work, continuing education, or training experiences in environmental health, or related to job and contributes to current or future PHS assignments. Recent trainings and experiences should support development of leadership and management skills.		
 Examples include, but are not limited to: Health Care Management, Information Systems Technology, Emery Preparedness and Response, Management and Leadership Skills. All training should be documented in CE Summary in e-OPF. Additional Trainings should hold value to advance the mission of the agency and/or PHS. Value and purpose demonstrated in the COER, OS and/or CV. 						

3. Career Progression and Potential					
Factor	Benchmarks T-O3/P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6	
Pillar Assignment		Officer encumbers a position th	nat meets one of the five pillars		
	Currently occupy a billet ≥ O-3.	Currently occupy a billet ≥ O-4.	Currently occupy a billet ≥ O-5.	Currently occupy a billet ≥ O-6.	
Billet Level	•	ogressively higher billets through ropriately document the level of title tion letters in e-OPF.		rvisory duties, in the OS, ROS,	
Assignments (Personnel Orders)	 and independence are den Shall include any detailed a and CV. 	≥ 2 assignments that demonstrate progressively more responsibility, ability, and independence. For example, independently conducts projects of moderate complexity with limited guidance. c reassignments within an agency nonstrated. assignments ≥ 90 consecutive da after meeting EHO appointment of	ays (TDY). TDY assignments sh	ould be documented in eOPF	
Geographic Mobility	≤ 1 permanent change of station excluding original call to active duty. (Prior military service counts as 1 PCS).	≥ 1 permanent changes of station excluding original call to active duty. (Prior military service counts as 1 PCS).	≥ 2 permanent changes of station excluding original call to active duty. (Prior military service counts as 1 PCS).	≥ 3 permanent changes of station excluding original call to active duty. (Prior military service counts as 1 PCS).	
Collateral Duties (Duties not covered by billet)	Collateral duties are expected, which may or may not relate to environmental health, but support PHS, agency, and program initiatives.	Collateral duties are expected, which may or may not relate to environmental health, but support PHS, agency, and program initiatives.	Collateral duties are expected, which may or may not relate to environmental health, but support PHS, agency, and program initiatives.	Collateral duties are expected, which may or may not relate to environmental health, but support PHS, agency, and program initiatives. At least one collateral duty at the senior/national level with a large-scale leadership role.	
	Lead/Member, Information Agency Mentor, etc.	not limited to: PHS or Agency En Technology Duties, Training Offi locumented in CV, OS, ROS, CC	icer/ Coordinator Duties, JR CO	STEP Preceptor, EHO or	

4. Professional Contributions and Services to the PHS Commissioned Corps (Officership)				
Factor	Benchmarks P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6
Honor/Integrity/Duty	Displaying honor and integrity as an officer.	Displaying honor and integrity as an officer.	Displaying honor and integrity as an officer.	Displaying honor and integrity as an officer.
As a USPHS Officer o Honor and integrity are the consistent regard for	Completes mandatory CC training.	Completes mandatory CC training.	Completes mandatory CC training.	Completes mandatory CC training.
the highest standards of behaviors and the refusal to violate one's personal and professional codes	Officer participates in personal and professional duties to meet obligations.	Officer participates in personal and professional duties to meet obligations.	Officer participates in personal and professional duties to meet obligations.	Officer participates in personal and professional duties to meet obligations.
 Duty is the free acceptance of a commitment to service 	No disciplinary or adverse actions; officer in good standing.	No disciplinary or adverse actions; officer in good standing.	No disciplinary or adverse actions; officer in good standing.	No disciplinary or adverse actions; officer in good standing.
Officer CC Contributions	Appointed member or volunteer.	Appointed member or volunteer.	Appointed member or volunteer who leads	Appointed member or volunteer who serves as
Significant contributions are based on information contained in the Officer's	Evidence that [CC and collateral activities impact and contribute to the PHS mission	Evidence that CC and collateral activities impact and contribute to the PHS	subcommittee or demonstrates substantive role.	Chair or Vice-Chair, or leads subcommittees, or demonstrates substantive
Statement, CV, and documented in letters of appreciation. Examples may include: • Membership/ Leadership/	at the local level.	mission at the local level.	Evidence that CC and collateral activities impact and contribute to the PHS mission at the regional level.	role. Evidence that CC and collateral activities impact and contribute to the PHS
Involvement in PAC and Advisory Groups (e.g., Junior Officers Advisory Group, Minority Officers Liaison Council)				mission at the regional, national or international level.
Recruitment Activities		Documented recruitment activities.	Documented recruitment activities.	Documented recruitment activities.

4. Professional Contributions and Services to the PHS Commissioned Corps (Officership)				
Factor	Benchmarks P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6
Professional contributions Commitment to professional development and officer visibility, i.e. while in uniform. Significant contributions are based on information contained in the CV, and documented in letters of appreciation, awards, etc. Examples may include: • Membership/Involvement in Professional, Uniformed Service, and Specialty Organizations	Participates as a protégé in regular one-on-one or group mentoring activities. Active member at the local, level.	Participates as a protégé in regular one-on-one or group mentoring activities. Active member at the local, regional, levels.	Participates as a primary or supportive mentor in regular one-on-one or group mentoring activities Seeks mentors within peers or higher level. Completes a formal mentor assignment verified via letter from PAC, Advisory Group, Agency leadership, etc. Recruits other mentors to support professional development of peers. Active member at the regional, or national, or levels. Serves as contributing member to the organization through a committee or subcommittee.	Participates as a primary mentor in regular one-on-one or group mentoring activities. Seeks mentors within peers or higher level. Completes a formal mentor assignment verified via letter from PAC, Advisory Group, Agency leadership, etc. Recruit, train, support and manage other mentors for the professional development of other officers. Active member at the national or international levels. Serves in a leadership role in the organization such as subcommittee Chair or Chair of the organization.
Presentations and Outreach	Participation at local and regional meetings or activities of professional organizations.	Presentations and/or outreach at local and regional meetings or activities of professional organizations.	Presentations and/or outreach regional meetings or activities of professional organizations. Evidence of greater visibility in promoting the Corps to broader audiences.	Presentations and/or outreach regional, national or international meetings or activities of professional organizations. Sought out by meeting planners for presentations with evidence of greater impact in support of Corps/Agency missions.

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5. Readiness					
Factor	Benchmarks P-O2	Benchmarks T-O4/P-O3	Benchmarks T-O5/P-O4	Benchmarks T-O6/P-O5/P-O6	
	Officer meets and maintains	Officer meets and maintains	Officer meets and maintains	Officer meets and maintains	
NA	Basic Readiness Standards.	Basic Readiness Standards.	Basic Readiness Standards.	Basic Readiness Standards.	
Note: Officers may submit a request for a temporary medical waiver to the Medical Affairs Branch for medical iss					
	would prevent an Officer from a	would prevent an Officer from achieving or maintaining readiness status.			