

# Be an Health Services Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps



### About the Commissioned Corps

The U.S. Public Health Services Commissioned Corps protects, promotes, and advances the health and safety of the nation. With more than 6,000 officers, the Commissioned Corps is one of the nation's seven uniformed services and resides in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As the world's foremost public health service, it is composed entirely of officers who have been commissioned on the basis of their health-related training.

Commissioned officers deliver ongoing health promotion and disease prevention programs and are called on to provide onsite clinical and public health expertise in times of national emergencies and disasters. A career in the Commissioned Corps offers unlimited opportunities to serve your country while improving the quality of people's lives and making a real difference in public health.

Health Services is one of 11 categories in the Commissioned Corps. Health Services Officers in the Commissioned Corps represent many disciplines, including the biological, physical, environmental, and social sciences; optometry; social work; podiatry; medical technology; dental hygiene; medical records administration; computer science; health education; health care administration; and other public health specialties such as physician assistant.

### Qualifications to Be a Health Services Officer in the Commissioned Corps

To become a Health Services Officer in the US Public Health Service, you must:

- Be a Native born or Naturalized US citizen
- Be at least 21 and less than 44 years of age
- Meet physical fitness, height/weight standards and be free of chronic disease.
- Have attained a qualifying degree from an accredited by the *American Universities and Colleges* (<http://www.usphs.gov/profession/healthservices/activities.aspx>)
- If applicable, a current, unrestricted, and valid license in any of the 50 States, Washington, DC; the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; the US Virgin Islands; or Guam. You may also need to meet additional accreditation criteria to quality depending on your profession.
- Must complete a full security investigation.

### How do I get started?

Visit the [USPHS.gov](http://USPHS.gov) website click on "Apply Now" to download the application materials. If you have questions please call 1-800-279-1605 to speak with a recruiter.

### What documents will the recruiter need?

- Curriculum Vitae (CV) with documented date of birth and work experience by month and year.
- Copies of your transcript and diploma from an educational program accredited by the *American Universities and Colleges* (published by the American Council on Education).
- If applicable, current certification or professional license
- Current state licenses.
- If you have previously served in the military you will need a copy of your DD214 (Record of Service), and copies of your last 3 officer evaluation reports (OER) or non-commissioned officer evaluation reports (NCOER).

### What happens next?

The recruiter will send your documents forward for review. If the review committee determines that you are an eligible applicant, the recruiter will assist you with additional documents to complete your application. A selection board reviews the final application. If you are selected, you will be given the opportunity to **become part of the greatest healthcare team in the world, serve your country and provide care for America's underserved.**

**To learn more about the US Public Health Service, please visit us at [www.usphs.gov](http://www.usphs.gov).**