

## Physician Pilot Program

In August 2008, the Assistant Secretary for Health approved a *two-year pilot initiative* to increase the number of medical officers in the Commissioned Corps. The purpose of the pilot is to increase the number of highly qualified, experienced physicians to meet the increasing demands of the Service by utilizing specific accession practices and policies. Although the Commissioned Corps as a whole has grown in size over the past year, the medical category has continued to experience decreasing numbers. It is critical that this trend in the medical category be reversed in order for the Corps to continue to succeed in its mission to protect, promote, and advance the health and safety of our Nation.

The pilot program includes the following:

1. Allow inter-service transfers for a limited number of eligible members (rank O-5 and below) of the uniformed services who hold regular corps status
2. Allow commissioning of a limited number of qualified civilians at the O-5 rank
3. Permit accession of candidates with up to 15 years of military service
4. Permit the accession of certain candidates possessing specific skills whose age is greater than 44-years
  - Other limitations apply

### REQUIREMENTS:

All physicians commissioned into the Corps under the Physician Pilot Program must complete an Application for Accession to the Commissioned Corps (form PHS-50) and meet all other commissioning standards (*e.g.* credentials, medical accession standards, security clearances)

For more information on becoming a Commissioned Officer with the United States Public Health Service and to view an application, please visit our website at:

<http://www.usphs.gov/applynow/>

Please be sure to download, complete and submit the *entire* application (form PHS-50)

For questions regarding the Physician Pilot Program, please contact the Career and Assignment Manager (CAM) Team Blue at: [camblue@hhs.gov](mailto:camblue@hhs.gov)

For information on the Physician Category of the Commissioned Corps, please visit <http://usphs-ppac.org/>