



## U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Opportunities

### Who Are We?

The U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps is an elite team of more than 6,500 full-time, well-trained, highly qualified public health professionals dedicated to delivering the Nation's public health promotion and disease prevention programs and advancing public health science. Driven by a passion for public service, these men and women serve on the front lines in the Nation's fight against disease and poor health conditions. As one of America's seven uniformed services, the Commissioned Corps fills essential public health leadership and service roles within the Nation's Federal Government agencies and programs.



**“For almost 100 years, the technical and managerial skills of US Public Health Service Engineers have led to innovative solutions that significantly improved the health of Americans. However, there are still many health-related issues that need to be addressed by engineers willing to take up the challenge of protecting, promoting, and advancing the health and safety of our Nation.”**

**RADM Sven E. Rodenbeck, P.E.** Chief Engineer Officer U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

### What Do We Do?

Engineer officers in the Commissioned Corps range in specialties from traditional chemical, electrical, mechanical and civil engineering disciplines to the emerging biomedical, computer and environmental specialties. Engineer officers in Public Health:

- Promote public health and prevent and control the spread of disease by constructing water treatment and delivery systems and wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems for underserved populations.

- Conduct research and evaluations to reduce workers' exposures to occupational safety and health hazards.
- Evaluate medical devices and electronic products at Federal testing facilities and inspect domestic and international facilities where these products are manufactured.
- Regulate the environmental impacts resulting from activities of industry and state/local government.
- Provide guidance on designing, constructing and operating “healthy buildings.”
- Provide facilities management, planning, and construction services for health care delivery facilities and laboratory research complexes.
- Identify, assess and evaluate the health risks associated with hazardous waste sites, unplanned releases of hazardous substances and environmental contamination or pollution, and help prevent or reduce further exposure and resulting illnesses.

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### Did you know you can:

- Enjoy fantastic medical and dental benefits for you and your family
- Use the GI Bill to advance your education later on in life
- Contribute pre-tax income to the Thrift Savings Plan

### Quality of Practice

Is your quality of life all that it could be? Is it important to you to have time to spend with your family and friends, doing the things you enjoy? As a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, you receive 30 days of annual leave plus 10 Federal holidays. Many duty stations operate Monday–Friday during normal business hours. This organization allows you to pursue life in literally hundreds of locations from the largest cities to the smallest communities near the oceans, the mountains, the Grand Canyon, the Gulf Coast or national parks. Be prepared to enjoy a camaraderie and sense of common purpose unlike anything you have yet experienced.

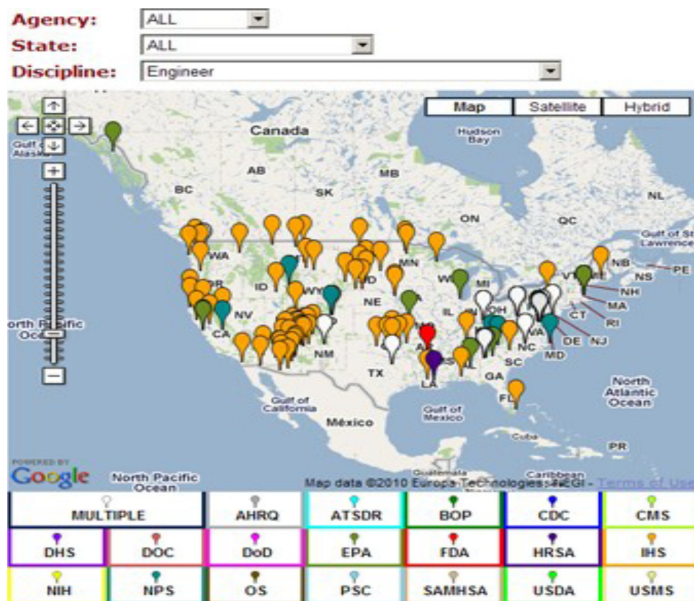


# Why You Should be a Engineer Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

## Where are We Located?

Almost anywhere and everywhere in the U.S. Whether you prefer rural or urban, east or west, north or south; we have a location for you. Engineer officers can be employed as Commissioned Officers across the country in any of the following agencies:

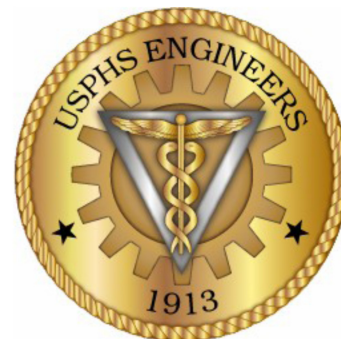
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Department of Interior/National Park Service
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Food and Drug Administration
- Indian Health Service



## Opportunities for Growth

Are you ready for an exceptional career and the experience of a lifetime? When you join the U.S. Public Health Service, you become part of a diverse group of individuals who have a unique sense of purpose. Your commitment and willingness to take part in this incomparable opportunity will be rewarded with excellent pay and benefits, state-of-the-art facilities, collegial environments, opportunities for loan re-payment and sponsored professional education; and the chance for advancement and challenging work, all on behalf of an appreciative patient population.

Engineer officers in the Commissioned Corps have tremendous professional opportunities among many government agencies in both rural and urban settings in nearly every state. The Commissioned Corps encourages you to move geographically and among the agencies to get a variety of experiences, expand your knowledge base, and grow professionally so that you can effectively deal with the challenges of improving public health. And you can do all this as a Commissioned Corps officer, which means changing jobs and still having job security.



## Quality of Life

Is your quality of life all that it could be? Is it important to you to have time to spend with your family and friends, doing the things you enjoy? As a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, you receive 30 days of annual leave plus 10 Federal holidays. Many duty stations operate Monday–Friday during normal business hours. This organization allows you to pursue life in literally hundreds of locations from the largest cities to the smallest communities near the oceans, the mountains, the Grand Canyon, the Gulf Coast or national parks. Be prepared to enjoy a camaraderie and sense of common purpose unlike anything you have yet experienced.



# U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Benefits

## USPHS Commissioned Corps Officer Benefits

Commissioned Corps officers working for the U.S. Public Health Service enjoy the same benefits as their counterparts in the armed services. Here are a few of them:

- No cost, comprehensive medical and dental care for Corps officers; excellent health benefits for families
- Paid sick leave, maternity leave, and Federal holidays
- Professional practice liability coverage
- Thirty days of paid vacation per year beginning the first year
- Tax-free housing and meal allowances
- Thrift Savings plan (retirement savings and investment plan similar to a 401 (k) )
- Retirement plan with benefits eligibility beginning after 20 years of service
- Loan repayment potential. Assignments with certain Federal agencies, such as the Indian Health Service, offer loan repayment and/or other educational and family support programs.
- Veteran's benefits, including the Post 9/11 GI Bill and the Montgomery GI Bill are available to provide educational benefits for Corps officers and, as appropriate, their family members.

## Additional Uniformed Services Benefits

The Commissioned Corps offers you and your family many other exceptional benefits including:

- Paid moving expenses when you join the Corps, relocate with the Corps, and retire from the Corps.
- Access to military base lodging, recreational facilities and space-available flights on military aircraft.
- Shopping privileges at military base commissary and Post Exchange.

## Join America's Public Health Team!

If you are an engineer or an engineer student interested in joining the fight for public health, or if you have questions about what we do and how you can make a difference with the Commissioned Corps, we would like to talk to you. For more information, call us at 800-279-1605 or visit our web-site at [www.usphs.gov](http://www.usphs.gov).

## Additional Uniformed Service Benefits

The Commissioned Corps offers you and your family many other exceptional benefits including:

- Paid moving expenses when you join the Corps, relocate with the Corps, and retire from the Corps.
- Access to military base lodging, recreational facilities and space-available flights on military aircraft.
- Shopping privileges at military base grocery and department stores.

To learn more about Commissioned Corps Benefits while assigned to the Indian Health Service, view the following videos from the IHS Division of Oral Health. <http://www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/Dental/index.cfm?module=videos>



# U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Next Steps

## USPHS Officer Qualifications

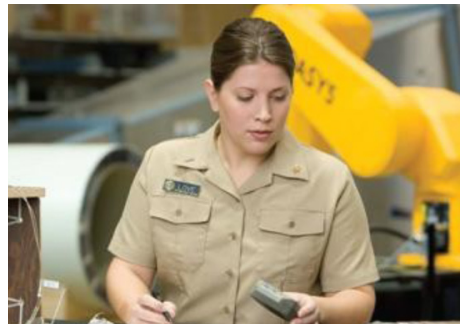
All Commissioned Corps officers must meet several basic qualifications: You must be a U.S. citizen, be less than 44 years of age, and pass a physical examination. To be an Engineer Officer, you also need the following:

- A bachelors or masters degree in engineering from an engineering program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. (Degrees in an engineering-related curriculum such as engineering technology, are not acceptable).

## Engineer Student Opportunities

The U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps offers two excellent opportunities for students to serve their country while completing their education. If you are interested in a public health career, we encourage you to apply to the Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program (JRCOSTEP) and the Senior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program (SRCOSTEP). Both programs offer excellent benefits and are highly competitive.

If you have questions about COSTEP, please visit our website at <http://www.usphs.gov/student/COSTEP.aspx>.



CDR Berry Williams (left). LT Kimberly Love Piermatteo (center). LDCR Bradley Cunningham & LCDR Nikhil Thakur (right).

## Who Do I Contact?

AGENCY	RECRUITER	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE	EMAIL
Engineer Officer Recruitment Subcommittee	CDR Kimberly Love	(301) 796-6081	<a href="http://www.fda.gov">www.fda.gov</a>	<a href="mailto:kimberly.love@fda.hhs.gov">kimberly.love@fda.hhs.gov</a>



# Commissioned Officer Pay Comparison— Private Sector

## Licensed Professional Engineer (PE)

### Private Sector Average Salary Ranges by Job Title



To compare Commissioned Corps officers salary tax exemptions with their private sector counterparts, visit the following link: <http://www.moaa.org/financialcenter/calculators/MilitaryPay.html>

Data retrieved from PayScale, www.payscale.com—8/16/10



## Commissioned Officer Pay Comparison—2011 with Dependents

PHS Engineer Officers					
Salary Base	O-3 w/ less than 2 yrs service	O-3 with over 3 yrs service	O-4 with over 4 yrs service	O-5 with over 10 yrs service	O-6 with over 20 yrs service
Monthly Base Pay (taxable)	\$3207	\$4,542	\$5,286	\$6,659	\$9,223
Subsistence (no tax)	\$224	\$224	\$224	\$224	\$224
Housing (no tax)	\$897-2,955	\$960-3,327	\$1,056-3,846	\$1,122-4,218	\$1,134-4,260
Retirement Annuity	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory
Gross Income– Monthly	\$4,328-6,386	\$5,726-8,093	\$6,566-9,356	\$8,005-11,101	\$10,581-13,707
Federal Income Tax	\$329	\$623	\$677	\$951	\$1,982
Social Security	\$135	\$191	\$222	\$280	\$374
Medicare	\$47	\$66	\$77	\$97	\$134
State Income Tax	May be exempt	May be exempt	May be exempt	May be exempt	May be exempt
Health Care Benefits	Noncontributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory
Take Home Pay Monthly	\$3,817-5,875	\$4,846-7,213	\$5,590-8,380	\$6,677-9,773	\$8,091-11,217
Monthly pension after 30 years service	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$5,024/month After federal taxes, for life