



# US Navy Civil Engineer Corps Collegiate Corner



May 2022

Greetings!

Good luck to everyone as you finish up finals and, if you are in your last semester, graduate! This brings up two (2) points:

1. If graduating, congratulations on all of your hard work! All of the time you put into your schooling is now paying off and you will soon ship off to OCS in preparation to begin your Navy career. Take the downtime you will have between graduation and your OCS start date to spend quality time with family and friends as well as get your personal plans in order in preparation for your initial pipeline of training into the Navy. It's an exciting time!
2. If you still have time left in school, congratulations to you as well! This ends another semester of hard work. Hopefully you are looking forward to a summer of internships, travel, personal time with loved ones, and possibly summer classes. Whatever situation you find yourself in, please continue to stay in good physical shape and continue to grow both professionally and personally. Outside of books, life experiences are where you really get to learn and apply your skills/judgment so we hope that you have that opportunity going into the summer months.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We look forward to you joining the ranks!

- CEC Accessions Team

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## LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES

In keeping with the Principles of Naval Leadership series we will focus on the next tenant. This principle is easier said than done but extremely important when it comes to your interactions with your peers, subordinates, and senior leaders.

### Keep your subordinates informed

- Whenever possible, explain why tasks must be done and any pertinent amplifying instruction.
- Arrange to get sufficient feedback to assure yourself that immediate subordinates are passing on necessary information.
- Be alert to detect the spread of rumors. Stop rumors by replacing them with the truth.
- Build morale and esprit de corps by publicizing information concerning successes of your unit.
- Keep your unit informed about current legislation and regulations affecting their pay, promotion, privileges and other benefits.

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## ACCESSIONS OFFICER FOCUS



Before we go into our traditional “Career Focus” section, we would like to take this time to honor LT Michael Scaplehorn, our CEC North Accessions Officer. LT Scaplehorn will be transferring out of his accessions role in early June 2022 and heading off to graduate school in St. Louis, Missouri.

From candidate interviews (we know that many of you were personally interviewed by him and were provided with your initial insights and answers in regards to our Corps by him), to class presentations, to career fairs, and to school and faculty visits, LT Scaplehorn has been a champion in ensuring the future success of the Civil Engineer Corps by identifying engineers and architects that seek to serve their country and develop personally and professionally.

We know that many of us have been positively impacted from LT Scaplehorn’s untiring support of you as the student as well as our accessions program overall. He is a model example of a Civil Engineer Corps officer and his experience, dedication, and work ethic will be truly missed.

In standard Navy tradition, we wish LT Scaplehorn “*FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS.*”

With that said, we will soon be welcoming aboard LT Andrea Gal as the new CEC North Accessions Officer. LT Gal is currently scheduled to check onboard full-time in the July 2022 timeframe. When she is officially in the seat, we will introduce her via the Collegiate Corner. If you have any questions or requests for the North Accessions Officer between June 2022 to July 2022 transition time period, please contact any of the other Accessions Officer listed at the end of this Collegiate Corner.



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## CAREER FOCUS



All newly commissioned CEC Ensigns must go to the Naval Civil Engineer Corps Officers School (CECOS) following graduation from OCS, this month's Career Focus will discuss what CECOS is and information to better prepare you for attending the school.

### **What is CECOS?**

CECOS is the initial CEC-specific career training school that newly commissioned CEC Ensigns attend following OCS. Other communities have similar community-specific initial training schools for their newly commissioned officers as well (e.g. Surface Warfare Officer's School, or SWOS, taken by all newly commissioned Surface Warfare officers).

CECOS provides classroom instruction and hands-on training on the roles and responsibilities of Navy CEC officers. The six (6) week Basic Class focuses on officer competencies, military training, facilities management, and construction project management. These are the basic skills all CEC officers need in order to be successful. An additional eight (8) weeks of training is then provided specific to your first duty station and on the fundamentals of government contracting. This means that if you are going to a facilities/NAVFAC billet, this additional time will be spent gaining further instruction and knowledge in the facilities management/maintenance field. If you are going to a Naval Construction Force unit (Seabees), your additional time will be spent gaining further instruction and knowledge into Naval Expeditionary and Seabee principles, tactics, and practices.

After you are identified for a specific CECOS class and date, detailed "Welcome Aboard" information will be provided to you on the items needed for you to fully prepare yourself for and coordinate your attendance. With that said, the following is a basic list of items to know/be prepared for in advance of receiving your "Welcome Aboard" package:

- **Location:** CECOS is located onboard Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) in Port Hueneme, CA. Port Hueneme is located approximately 1-hour drive north of Los Angeles and LAX is the primary airport used to transit to and from CECOS.



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- Travel: Travel to and from CECOS will be coordinated between you, your detailer, the ultimate duty station you will report to after CECOS, and CECOS. Members are entitled to fly to/from CECOS (via LAX) or drive to/from CECOS from where they are currently located. The driving option allows you to have your vehicle with you while attending CECOS.
- Duration: As mentioned above, CECOS is approximately 14-weeks long.
- Class Dates: There are two (2) CECOS classes offered each year. The first class of the calendar year usually convenes in the late JAN/early FEB timeframe. The second class of the calendar year usually convenes in the July timeframe.
  - Note on “Stash” time: Depending on your OCS graduation date, and due to the fact that there are only two (2) CECOS class offerings each year, you may have to wait some time before receiving a CECOS class date. If there is a significant gap of time between your OCS graduation date and CECOS class date, you will be “stashed” or routed to your ultimate duty station following OCS where you will be administratively assigned to your ultimate unit to start becoming familiar with the organization and your roles while awaiting a CECOS class date. If you are stashed at your ultimate duty station, you will be notified of when a CECOS class date is established for you, you will then transit to CECOS to complete the schooling, and then upon CECOS graduation you will return to your ultimate duty station to begin your official job. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS SITUATION EXIST BASED ON SPECIFIC OFFICER NEEDS, SITUATIONS, AND FUNDING! Work with your detailer on determining what your specific, final travel routing and stash plan will be.
- Accommodations: Students will be provided government lodging onboard NBVC in proximity to CECOS. Students wishing to bring their families will be provided family lodging either in government quarters on base, or as necessary, in appropriate family quarters off base in close proximity to NBVC.
- Schedule/Physical Training: CECOS is your full-time duty while attending. Classes are approximately held from 0700-1600 daily. The complete course schedule will be provided to you prior to the first day of class. Physical training is also a very important part of CECOS and group physical training will occur several days a week. You will part in an official Navy PFAs while at CECOS.
- Uniforms: The uniform of the day is the Navy Working Uniforms (NWUs) Type III Uniform. All other issued uniforms should be brought with you to CECOS. This includes the Navy Working Uniforms (NWUs) Type III (additional pairs), Service Khaki, Dinner Dress Blue Uniform, Service Dress Blue Uniform, Summer/Service/Dress White Uniform as well as the Physical Training Uniform (PTU). Otherwise, bring appropriate civilian clothing for times when not taking part in official military functions or training. Business casual attire is required for any command social events. All students not previously issued



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the Type III uniform will be issued this uniform once at CECOS. Finally, several uniform inspections are conducted during CECOS.

- Computers/Networks: Laptop computer are used in all classes. Officers are encouraged to bring their personal laptop to the initial day of class and purchase a common access card (CAC) reader that can be found at all Navy Exchange locations.
- Field Training Exercise: Officers will participate in a Field Training Exercise (FTX) during CECOS. The FTX is a strenuous, physically taxing event in which officers will be required to “deploy” to the field in a simulated contingency environment and execute common expeditionary tasks required of the Naval Construction Force and a CEC officer. Again, this is a field event, so be prepared to live in “field” conditions with tents and other associated expeditionary structures during this timeframe.
- Other Recommendations/Lesson Learned:
  - Work with your detailer/CECOS regarding any specific questions on pay and allowances, travel advances, travel funding, and other funding and administrative issues associated with attending CECOS.
  - With the above said, CONTACT YOUR DETAILER AND CECOS IMMEDIATELY, EARLY AND OFTEN for any questions or concerns you have in regards to your pay, allowances, leave requests, lodging, family matters, and other issues that concern a smooth administrative transition to and from CECOS.
  - Keep all receipts for any travel and expenses that you incur as a result of your attendance and travel to and from CECOS. Your final and official travel claim associated with your CECOS training will be settled once you have graduated CECOS and have officially checked into your ultimate duty station.
  - You will be required to complete online contracting classes via Defense Acquisition University in order to graduate from CECOS. You will need to establish a DAU online account to complete these courses. IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU COMPLETE AS MANY OF THE ONLINE COURSES ASSIGNED TO YOU, IF POSSIBLE, PRIOR TO ATTENDING CECOS. If you do not complete some or all of the courses prior to attending CECOS, you will find that your off-duty and personal time will be impacted as you are required to complete these items outside of normal day-to-day classroom instruction. Work with your detailer and CECOS on the procedures to sign-up for a DAU account as well as what the required DAU courses are. If stashed, take advantage of this time to complete your required DAU training.

**THIS IS NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF ITEMS TO PREPARE YOU FOR CECOS. THESE ARE ONLY GUIDING INSTRUCTIONS. WORK WITH YOUR DETAILER AND CECOS ON ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS YOU MAY HAVE!**





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**HEALTH CHALLENGE**

**Incorporate squats into every workout  
this month**

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**ACCESSIONS TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION**

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