



US Navy Civil Engineer Corps Collegiate Corner



February 2020

Greetings Collegiates!

I am certain you are progressing well in your studies and are on track for a successful spring semester. The efforts you are putting forth now will pay dividends in the future so keep pressing; it's almost over. Best of luck in school.

Congratulations to those who graduated in December and best wishes as you move on to OCS. For those still working hard toward the finish line, hopefully winter break has allowed you a chance to rest and recuperate! The Accessions Team is here to keep you informed about the CEC and the Navy and is ready to answer any questions you may have. For past issues of our Collegiate Corners, please visit

http://www.navfac.navy.mil/jobs/students_and_grads/CEC_Collegiate_Program/CollegiateCorner.html.

As always, all of us on the CEC Accessions Team stand by to address any questions or comments you may have along the way. We look forward to you joining the ranks!

- CEC Accessions Team

LEADERSHIP TRAITS

Previously, you learned about the Marine Corps leadership traits and the qualities all leaders should embody and aspire to. Now, you will expand your knowledge to the Principles of Naval Leadership. I challenge you to take what you are learning and apply it to your leadership roles in your project assignments, student organizations, and community connections.

Know yourself and seek self-improvement

- Make an honest evaluation of yourself to determine your strong and weak personal qualities.
- Seek the honest opinions of your friends or superiors to show you how to improve your leadership ability.
- Learn by studying the causes of success or failure of other leaders.
- Develop a genuine interest in people.
- Have specific goals and definite plans to attain them.
- Have a systematic personal reading program that emphasizes not only professional subjects but also includes topics to help you understand people, both as individuals and in their functioning groups.



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LEADERSHIP LESSONS

We have gone through the Marine Corps Leadership Traits and the Principles of Naval Leadership. We will now move onto leadership lessons from some of our Nation’s greatest military leaders.

Winfield Scott

1786-1866

Rank: General-in-Chief

Military branch: U.S. Army

Lesson: Never Compromise



Scott's insistence on military appearance and discipline earned him the nickname “Old Fuss and Feathers.” During the Civil War, his Anaconda Plan for strangling the South by keeping it from its sources of supply was first sneered at by Union generals. But the plan was later adopted by Lincoln and turned out to be the overriding strategy that eventually won the war.

Even if some people don’t believe in your vision, it’s important to keep your team focused on the long-term goal. If you’re confident, don’t be derailed by naysayers.

Quote: “Peace won by compromise is usually a short-lived achievement.”

CAREER FOCUS

It is important to begin this journey, whether it is a 4-year or 30-year endeavor, with clear vision and expectations to help you set and achieve goals. Below are a few notes on what to expect in the early stages of your career!

Career Development Considerations: In general there are three broad categories of duty available to a CEC officer:

- (1) Facilities Management and Acquisition,
- (2) Expeditionary Operations,
- (3) Navy/Joint Staff.

Each area of duty offers an officer, positions of increasing responsibility and authority. As you progress in your naval career, you will find that success in the CEC is a result of sustained superior performance and continuous learning across the three broad categories of duty, while tackling increasingly challenging assignments. The strength of the Corps is founded in our officers’ diverse job exposure, rich leadership experiences, and unique educational opportunities.

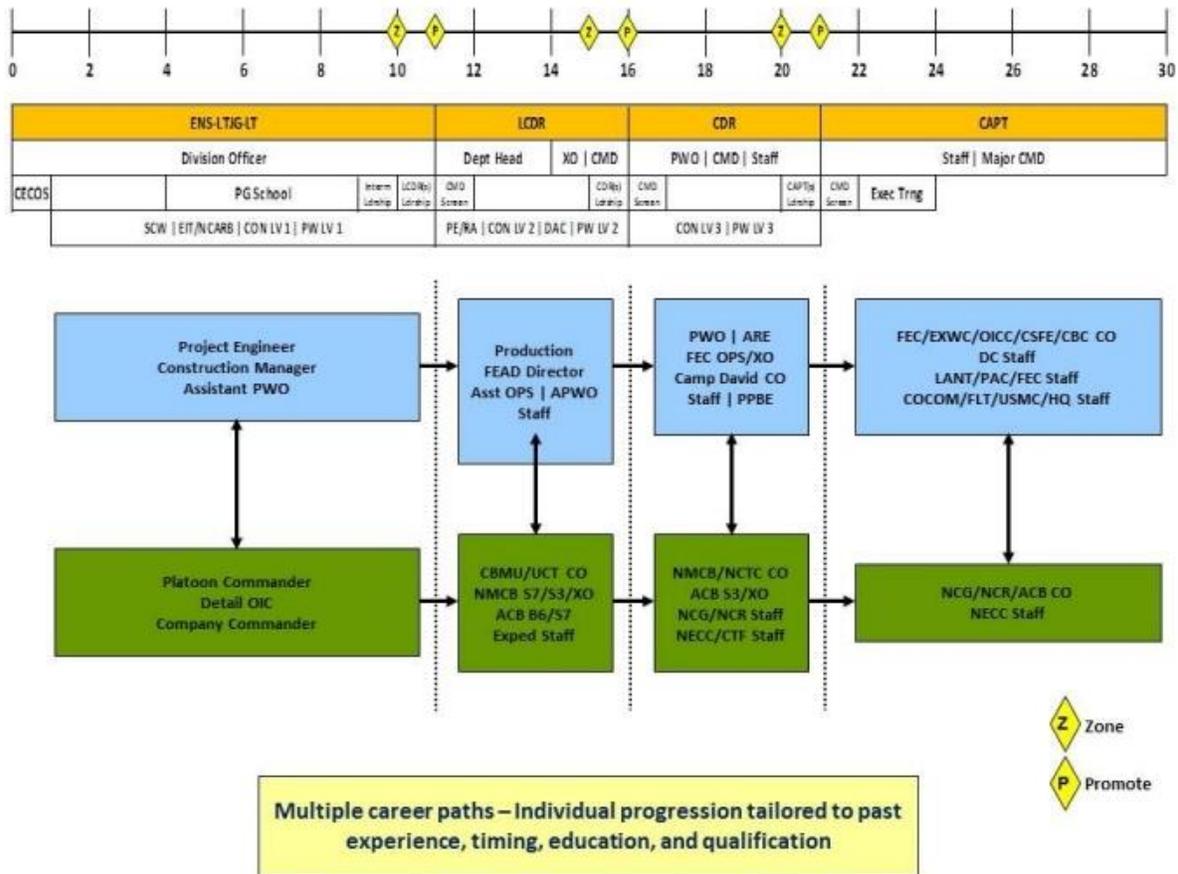


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Career Stages: Tactical / Developmental – Ensigns, Lieutenant Junior Grades, and Lieutenants (O1-O3): During this stage of an officer’s career, the officer develops an understanding of how the Navy and Department of Defense (DoD) are organized and how CEC officers are aligned to support them at the tactical level. Officers serve as front line leaders and supervisors and begin to hone leadership and management skills through interaction and responsibility with and for military, civilian, and construction contractor employees. Officers also develop foundational engineer-related experience and business acumen that spans operational and ashore assignments. Critical to this stage of a CEC career is to maximize professional development through sequential assignments to each of the billet types to obtain public works, construction/facilities contract management, and expeditionary competencies. Specialization in one type of duty is not desired nor normally permitted. Officers also begin to establish mentor-protégé relationships and develop their professional reputation and network.

Nature of Assignments: It is clear that there is no single, ideal career path that guarantees success in the CEC. Consistent reviews of the career paths of accomplished senior CEC leaders validate this. A successful career is built on demonstrated performance in a variety of billets that provide increasing responsibility, experience, challenge, and opportunities to lead. Other factors such as geographic diversity, the ability to break out in competition, and independent leadership





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opportunities are important attributes of career planning and should be sought. Each of the three broad categories of duty offer CEC officers ample opportunity for growth through increasing responsibility, accountability, and authority. Ideally assignments will be made to a succession of jobs that rotate among the basic specialties so by the fifteenth year, a career officer should have worked in all areas to have a broad base of experience.

The African American Experience in the Navy

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of blacks in U.S. history. Originally established in 1926, President Gerald R. Ford expanded the celebration in 1976 to include the entire month of February. This year, the Navy encourages its personnel to celebrate and reflect on the theme “The African American Experience in the Navy.” Please visit the link below to explore African American achievements and legacies in the US Navy.

<https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/diversity/african-americans.html>



To learn more about Cook Third Class Doris Miller, please visit the link below:

<https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/diversity/african-americans/miller.html>

Doris Miller saved the lives of his shipmates and then valiantly fought attacking Japanese forces during the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, bravery for which he was awarded the Navy



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Cross—the first African American to receive this honor. Almost two years after his valor at Pearl Harbor, Miller gave his life for his country when his ship was sunk during battle.

The USS Doris Miller (CVN 81) will be the first aircraft carrier named for an enlisted sailor and the first named for an African American.

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