



Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program (JRCOSTEP) Overview

Students in health related undergraduate, masters and doctoral programs can train alongside active duty officers during their school breaks as part of the JRCOSTEP. Participants are paid, and receive health benefits, housing and travel allowances. Programs last between 30 and 120 days. Participants become inactive Public Health Service officers upon completing the program and can activate upon graduation. There is no obligation to join the USPHS Commissioned Corps.

Eligibility

- **Undergraduates** with at least two years of study toward a baccalaureate degree in environmental health, engineering, nursing, pharmacy, physician assistant, dental hygiene, dietetics, medical laboratory technology, medical record administration, or occupational, physical, or respiratory therapy.
- **Master s students** who have completed at least one year of graduate study in nursing, a physician assistant program, environmental health, engineering, social work, public health, dietetics, healthcare administration, audiology, speech pathology, or occupational, physical, or respiratory therapy.
- **Doctoral students** who have completed at least one year of study in a doctoral program for medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, psychology, veterinary medicine, speech language pathology, audiology, research science, or occupational, physical, or respiratory therapy.



Benefits

- **Pay.** Participants receive the pay and allowances of an O 1, Ensign (or more for those with prior service).
- **Housing.** A tax free allowance for your rent or mortgage calculated based on your duty station and dependent status.
- **Health care** for emergencies and space available care at military medical treatment facilities.
- **Travel** costs are covered between your home and program location.