

Welcome Aboard

Congratulations on your orders to Navy Recruiting District New Orleans! I just wanted to take a quick moment to welcome you to NRD New Orleans and let you know that we are here to make your transition to the command as smooth as possible.

At NRD New Orleans, you will be joining 180 Shipmates, each dedicated to supporting our Nation in the Global War on Terrorism by prospecting, identifying, processing and training the best that our communities have to offer. This job is not for the meek at heart. Keep in mind that 72% or more of our Nation's civilian population will not meet eligibility requirements to serve in the military and that our sister services and civilian job market are all competing for the best to the best. I don't say this to discourage you about your upcoming role as a Navy Recruiter but instead to challenge you to learn as much as you can while at Recruiting School. Seek out successful recruiters and learn from them. Find innovative ways to identify qualified applicants and get the Navy seen and heard in your local community. Our Shipmates and fellow service members currently serving on the front lines need our total commitment to recruiting. Our Nation is counting on us. Defeat is NOT an option.

Below is some helpful information that may answer some of your questions. I realize this will not address all of your concerns so I've also included some phone numbers for you. We are standing by to assist in any way.

Schools – Depending on which recruiting station you are assigned, there are several options for public or private school. You can obtain information from your state's Department of Education at the following

Alabama www.alsde.edu

Florida www.fldoe.org

Louisiana www.doe.state.la.us/lde/directory/home.html

Mississippi www.mde.k12.ms.us

Fleet and Family Support Center – Provide all standard FFSC services (relocation assistance, SEAP, TAP, Financial counseling, home buying seminars, family counseling, parenting classes, etc). You can obtain contact information for FFSC at www.ffsc.navy.mil.

Military One Source – Since many of our stations are not in the immediate vicinity of a military installation, we encourage the

use of Military One Source to address any issues or questions that you might normally refer to a Fleet and Family Support Center. I have enclosed some information in your package that details the services of Military One Source and highly recommend them to our Sailors. However, the chain of command is always here to assist in any issue or obstacle you might encounter.

Medical and Dental Care – Depending on your station assignment, you may be utilizing a local area medical treatment facility or may need to contact Tricare Region South to find out local providers which accept TRICARE for medical as well as dental.

Government Leased Housing – If you are assigned to a recruiting station that is more than 60 minutes from a military installation, you may be eligible to apply for the Government Leased Housing (GLH) program. You may review eligibility and application procedures by going to the CNRC website. This program allows you to live in a house or apartment (depending on paygrade and number of dependents) and enter into a contract/lease with the Army Corps of Engineers. Your utilities are included in your rent but you give up your BAH. If you are interested in this program, contact ETCS Michael Kerrigan at (504) 678-6767 or michael.w.kerrigan@navy.mil so he can assist you with the application process.

Base Housing – If you are assigned to a station within 60 minutes of NAS Meridian, NAS Pensacola, JRB New Orleans or CBC Gulfport, you are eligible to reside in base housing but must apply for housing at the individual base.

If you desire to purchase a home, I recommend contacting a realtor in the local area for specific information.

Physical Fitness – Many of our recruiting stations conduct PT together three times each week. Each of our recruiting stations belongs to a recruiting division and some of our divisions do PT together each week. Since many of our stations are geographically separated from each other, this can present a logistics challenge. However, physical fitness must be maintained while on recruiting duty.

Education – While assigned to NRD New Orleans, you are encouraged to seek higher education. Upon reporting, you will be focused on learning your new job, administrative duties, area of responsibility, visiting schools, etc. After that, however it is recommended that you seek means to develop your education via CLEP exams, DANTES, distance learning, online education, or classroom instruction. It is usually a good idea to start with a visit to a college counselor to determine what your degree

program interests are, what programs are available and which learning method best suits your learning style and work/family schedule. Do not let your entire three-year shore duty pass without pursuing education.

SDAP – Your Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP) will not start until you complete your basic recruiter qualification.

BAH – Your BAH will be based on the zip code for your Ultimate Duty Assignment (UDA), and NOT the zip code of your residence. Be aware of this when negotiating a lease or when purchasing a home.

Hurricane Preparedness – Since many of our recruiting stations are on the Gulf Coast, we are constantly prepared for evacuation due to hurricane. I do not say this to cause concern but to make you aware that we do have a Hurricane Preparedness Plan, which denotes that each Sailor is responsible for making themselves and their family members aware of evacuation routes in your local area. During hurricane

season (1 Jun to 30 Nov), you must have a hurricane preparedness kit, which provides for you, family, and/or pets. You should also establish two separate places you can go in the event of an evacuation. Upon check-in, you will be asked to provide your evacuation contact information. The information must provide names, phone numbers (no cell numbers) and addresses of where you intend to evacuate.

Helpful Phone Numbers and email addresses:

Admin Officer (504)678-6917 cleaver.sanders@navy.mil

Admin Office (504)678-6700

Personnel Office (504)678-6933 alyssa.m.roberts@navy.mil

Chief Recruiter (504)220-5512 robert.wieland1@navy.mil

PSD New Orleans (504)678-2546 or (504) 678-2295

CCC (504)678-0445 serah.rouzan@navy.mil

If there is anything we can do to make your transition to NRD New Orleans a smooth one, let us know. I can be reached at (504)678-0445 or serah.rouzan@navy.mil. I look forward to meeting and serving with you

NC1 (AW) Serah Rouzan

Command Career Counselor

NRD New Orleans