



Navy Maternity Uniform Pilot Program Update Fact Sheet

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BLUF

NAVADMIN 176/23 announces updates to the Navy Maternity Uniform Pilot Program (MPP). This update allows pregnant Sailors the opportunity to select the best combination of uniforms for their work environment throughout their pregnancy. The program is open to pregnant Active and Reserve officers and enlisted.

Who needs to know?

- All female Sailors regardless of pregnancy status
- Leaders of female Sailors
- Triads, Wardrooms, Chief's Mess, Shipmates

What you need to know – key points

- Eligible participants will receive a set of maternity uniforms based on the sea bag they select.
- MPP sea bag options include the Full Maternity Sea bag, the Waterfront Option, the Ashore Staff Option A, and the Ashore Staff Option B.
- Maternity working uniforms will come complete with sewn-on embroidered name tape, service tape and qualification insignia.
- Enlisted E-1 to E-6 Maternity Dress uniforms will arrive with sewn-on rank insignia and neck tab.
- Hemming, embroidery, and shipment of uniforms will be performed free of charge through Navy Exchange Service Command's (NEXCOM) Southeast Distribution Center.
- The Navy seeks to DOUBLE its participation this year – up to 800 participants.
- Active and Reserve pregnant officers and enlisted assigned to the continental United States and outside the continental United States are eligible to apply to the program.



Uniform Matters

Sample POD/POW Note

- FREE MATERNITY UNIFORMS - The Maternity Pilot Program (MPP) provides a free maternity uniform sea bag (including sewn-on embroidery and rank insignia) to eligible Sailors on a temporary basis. Select the sea bag option right for you! For more information and to apply, check out the MPP website: <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/References/US-Navy-Uniforms/Maternity-Pilot-Program/>

FAQ

Q. What items will be issued to participants of this pilot program?

A. With this update, eligible Sailors will have the opportunity to select one of four different sea bags. These choices allow Sailors to choose the best option for themselves and their work environment.

Q. Can I apply for maternity allowance and also request to participate in the program?

A. Eligibility to participate in the MPP requires the Sailor to be pregnant and not in receipt of a maternity allowance throughout the period of pregnancy.



Q. What happens to the maternity uniforms once they are returned to NEXCOM?

A. Upon receipt, NEXCOM will inspect, demilitarize, professionally clean, restock and reissue maternity uniforms that are in re-issuable condition.

Q. How much do I have to pay for tailoring?

A. Nothing. The uniforms are tailored to fit based on the sizing information the Sailor provides on her Maternity Uniform Measurement Sheet.

Q. Do Sailors who participate get to keep the uniform in the event they are pregnant again in the future?

A. Participating Sailors will be required to ship all uniform items at no cost back to NEXCOM at the conclusion of their maternity period. If a Sailor gets pregnant again during the time period of the pilot program, Sailors may reapply to participate again.

Q. Can Sailors participate more than one time over the course of the pilot program?

A. Yes, Sailors may participate more than once over the five years the pilot program will run.

Q. What happens if my maternity uniforms become too tight or I advance in paygrade?

A. If any of your maternity uniforms became too tight for wear or you advance in paygrade during the course of your pregnancy, the MPP will replace the uniforms with bigger size garments or update the embroidered rank insignia at no cost.

Q. How long can I keep my uniforms postpartum?

A. This program allows for uniforms to be kept up to six months postpartum. As stated in NAVPERS 15665J under Chapter 6701 General (Maternity Uniforms), "Personnel are expected to wear regular uniforms upon return from convalescent leave, however, commanding officers may approve the wear of maternity uniforms up to six months from the date of delivery based on medical officer diagnosis/recommendation."

Q. Where can I find more information about the Maternity Pilot Program?

A. On the Uniform Matters website at <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/References/US-Navy-Uniforms/Maternity-Pilot-Program/> or the Navy Exchange website at https://www.mynavyexchange.com/browse/military/navy/_/N-1244704230

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