U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

The Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service is an elite team of over 6,500 health care professionals who work to prevent disease and poor health conditions. As one of America’s seven uniformed services and overseen by the Surgeon General, the Commissioned Corps fills essential public health leadership roles in this country and abroad. They have duty stations in over 20 federal departments and agencies.

The Public Health Service Commissioned Corps has officers in many professions including:

- Physicians, Dentists, Veterinarians, and Pharmacists
- Nurses
- Dietitians
- Engineers
- Environmental Health Officers
- Mental Health Specialists (Clinical Psychology & Clinical Social Work)
- Health Services Officers (Dental Hygiene, Health Administration, Information Technology, Medical Technology, Optometry, Physician Assistant, Psychology, Social Work)
- Scientist/Researchers
- Therapists (OT, PT, Speech Language Pathology, Audiology)

Benefits of being a commissioned officer in the Public Health Service include:

- Competitive starting pay that increases with promotion and years of service
- Health and dental care at no cost and low-cost health care for family
- Tax-free housing and meal allowances
- 30 days of paid vacation per year, plus paid federal holidays, and sick leave
- Malpractice insurance coverage
- Retirement plan and low-cost life insurance
- Moving expenses, travel expenses for job
- Shopping privileges at military bases, space-available flights on military aircraft
- Veterans affairs benefits

More Information


Student Opportunities

The U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps offers excellent opportunities for students to serve their country while completing or continuing their education.

Junior Commissioned Officer Student Training and Extern Program