

# U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS

## Building Leaders of Character

### ABOUT US

The United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) is an official youth leadership development program of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard. Our mission is to educate America's young men and women in a naval tradition with hands-on experiential training occurring on naval bases and other military installations in order to imbue the highest ideals of honor, respect, service, and commitment.



### WHO CAN BECOME A CADET?

The program was created in 1962 by the U.S. Navy League at the request of the U.S. Navy.

The USNSCC annually serves over 10,000 young men, women, and adult volunteers.

To become a cadet you must be:

- Between age 10 and the completion of high school
- Be an American citizen or be a permanent legal resident
- Be alcohol and drug free
- Be unmarried
- Maintain a C- GPA

We have approximately 400 units across the United States, Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

We also have a dedicated Virtual Battalion for young men and women who do not live near a local unit.

A Cadet may request a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

No qualified person will be excluded from participation in the USNSCC solely on account of a disability.



### WHAT DO OUR CADETS DO?

During the school year, our cadets participate in monthly drills at their local unit. Cadets are required to attend and graduate recruit training, which consists of instruction in general military topics, drill and ceremonies, and physical fitness, while focusing on the development of team-work, self-discipline, self-confidence, accountability, and grit.

Once Cadets have graduated from recruit training, they will attend advanced trainings of their choice. We offer a variety of experiential, hands-on trainings including: field operations, vehicle maintenance, leadership, cyber security, SCUBA certification, robotics, SEAL training, and international exchanges.

Trainings occur during school breaks on naval bases, military installations, and other civilian training grounds. Many of our Cadets have attended recruit training at the U.S. Navy's only Recruit Training Command, Naval Station Great Lakes.



### SEA CADETS AND THE NAVY:

Many Cadets aspire to join the military through enlistment, service academies, or Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

While Sea Cadets are not required to serve in the military upon graduation, many elect to use the skills they acquired as Sea Cadets to do so.

According to the U.S. Navy, more than 500 former Sea Cadets join the United States Navy in a typical year. Of these, 250 enlist and another 250 begin an officer commissioning program.

Annually, 10 to 12 percent of Sea Cadets enter the U.S. Naval Academy each year. Since 1988, 832 Sea Cadets have entered the U.S. Naval Academy.

In a typical year, hundreds more graduating Cadets self-report that they intend to join another branch of the armed forces. Most of the rest indicate that they are college bound.



*Chief Petty Officer Desmin T. Jones  
from Alexandria Division*

# WHAT DO OUR FORMER CADETS SAY?

**“My ability to handle the pressure and challenge of leading Sailors my age, or driving and operating an incredibly complex warship, can be traced back to the first time I led as a Sea Cadet.” - LT Austyn Sutton, USN**

*Austyn Sutton joined the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps in 2009. He graduated from the program as a Sea Cadet Chief Petty Officer. He later attended Texas A&M University where he participated in NROTC. He now serves as a Surface Warfare Officer aboard the USS Curtis Wilbur.*

**“The United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps taught me that no obstacle in front of me was too high to overcome. The skills and experiences that I received while a Cadet, helped shape me and prepare me for the many leadership challenges I would face in the U.S. Navy. The Sea Cadets made me who I am today.” - SWC Joan Powers, USN**

*Joan Powers is currently a Chief Steelworker, she graduated from the Sea Cadets in 2007. While a Cadet, she achieved the rank of Sea Cadet Chief Petty Officer. She has been deployed three times, stationed overseas for three years, participated in three missions, visited 47 nations, and has worked with both the Department of State and as a Recruit Drill Commander at Naval Station Great Lakes during her time in the Navy.*

**“Sea Cadets constantly tested me and shaped me as a leader by exposing me to the many different components of the military lifestyle.” - IT2 Austin Fields, USN**

*Austin Fields graduated from the Sea Cadets in 2018. He is now an Information System Technician in the U.S. Navy and served as the Recruit Petty Officer in Charge for his division during his U.S. Navy Recruit Training.*

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