

Officer/Midshipman Study Guide Procedures

A new web-based Officer/Midshipman Study Guide (OMSG) has been approved for use by all NSCC adult leaders that are seeking an initial appointment or promotion to an Officer or Midshipman rank. The new web-base OMSG is “not” authorized for use by NSCC cadets, nor is it to be used as part of any training program, including POLA. As before, completion of the Study Guide is a requirement for anyone being promoted to an Officer or Midshipman rank.

The OMSG has been re-written to change several of the questions/answers and to include the latest updates of several publications (Admin, Awards, Uniform)

For those who are presently in the process of completing the “paper” version of the OMSG, the OMSG can still be completed using that version, with answer sheets sent to NHQ Reps as is now done. However, this option will only be “grand-fathered” for a three-month period of time, to permit those who are presently working on the paper based version to complete it and send it to the respective NHQ Representative. Complete transition to the electronic web based version will be required for everyone by the end of June. As of 1 July, all Study Guide answers will be completed using this new version only.

In order to complete the new web-based version of the OMSG, the adult must be connected to the Internet. “Off-line” completion of the OMSG is not possible. The web-based version of the Study Guide is set up so that an adult leader does not need a copy of any regulations or publications. All required material to answer the questions is available via hyperlinks. An individual can work at his/her own pace, take the exam in sections, and answers will be “saved” for them to continue the Study Guide when they have time to return to the Web Site. However, if the Study Guide is not completed within four (4) months of first starting it, all of the information will be deleted.

The web-based OMSG can be accessed from the COMPASS national training website at: <http://compass.seacadets.org>

Once connected, it is easy to understand the process and work on answering the OMSG questions. The adult must first complete the two-step, wizard like, registration process in order to access the OMSG. When he/she completes the registration process, an email will be sent to the Unit CO or Regional Director (if on a Region Staff), as well as to the NHQ Representative, so they know who has started to take this exam. The final results go to the respective NHQ Representative for further processing as needed. For those who pass, a copy of the overall results will also go directly to Sea Cadet Headquarters.

The move to an electronic version of the Study Guide is needed in order to permit an easier update of the questions/answers as publications are updated and changed. In addition, it save both time and cost for those involved with this requirement, and therefore enables the small Headquarters staff to direct more effort to other needs.

(Appendix 5)

The Internet Development Group (IDG) developed this web site, and it is another example of the MANY things that they have done to provide invaluable support for the Sea Cadet Program. The IDG is an all-volunteer force that constructed and maintains our on-line presence. Anyone interested in joining this important group should contact LCDR Bill Murphy, NSCC at bmurphy@seacadets.org. If you cannot reach LCDR Murphy, please let NHQ know of your interest and we will ensure follow-up.

We believe this updated Study Guide will be more beneficial to those completing this requirement, and the web site has been designed to make this as “user friendly” as possible. Any suggestions for improvement can be sent to the Headquarters Representatives.