

2006 Veterinary Benchmarks

Upon recommendation of the Promotion Task Force, the Chief Professional Officers (CPO) and Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Chairs in consultation with their constituent category members, developed benchmarks for the first four promotion precepts with the Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD) developing the benchmarks for the fifth precept. After reviewing the proposed benchmarks, the Acting Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH) in consultation with the Surgeon General approved their use and the dissemination of this information. The Acting ASH also approved the annual review and update of the benchmarks in order to assure that they reflect, to the extent possible, the evolving demands on the Commissioned Corps.

The Benchmarks are the guideposts used by promotion boards as they review the service records of each officer under consideration for promotion. Historically, this type of information was developed at the convening of the Board and by the board members present, prior to the actual review of records. As a result, officers were unaware of the specifics of how their respective category assessed each of the precepts used by the board. It is our desire to make this process transparent to officers and their managers.

PLEASE NOTE that the Promotion Board members are asked to exercise their professional judgment and discretion in the review and rating of each record. *The benchmarks serve as a guide to the board members in their deliberations and are not criteria required for promotion.*

Any comments or suggestions that you may have on updating your category's benchmarks must be submitted to your CPO or PAC (see "About Us" on the Commissioned Corps Management Information System (CCMIS) web site for a listing of CPOs and PAC Chairs).

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1. Performance	O-4	O-5	O-6
•COERs and COER attachments (past 3 years)	<p>The primary focus in reviewing the COER should be on the accompanying narrative. Narrative indicates progression of responsibility, achievement and contributions to the agency mission. A secondary assessment of the COER will include a review of the COER score, in the context of looking at performance trends. The officer should be in a billet at or above their grade.</p>	<p>The primary focus in reviewing the COER should be on the accompanying narrative. Narrative indicates progression of responsibility, achievement and contributions to the agency mission. A secondary assessment of the COER will include a review of the COER score, in the context of looking at performance trends. The officer should be in a billet at or above their grade.</p>	<p>The primary focus in reviewing the COER should be on the accompanying narrative. Narrative indicates progression of responsibility, achievement and contributions to the agency mission. A secondary assessment of the COER will include a review of the COER score, in the context of looking at performance trends. The officer should be in a billet at or above their grade.</p>
• Award History -- o CC Honor Awards o Non-Corps Awards	<p>A continuum of awards that emphasize quality not just quantity at the Achievement Medal or below.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes, Value added.</p> <p>Division, Institute and Agency awards (including from non-DHHS agencies) and professional organization awards and recognition such as letters of commendation.</p>	<p>A continuum of awards that emphasize quality not just quantity at the Commendation Medal or below. There should be a progression of awards across the career of the officer.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes, Value added.</p> <p>Division, Institute and Agency awards (including from non-DHHS agencies) and professional organization awards and recognition such as letters of commendation.</p>	<p>A continuum of awards that emphasize quality not just quantity at the OSM or below. There should be a progression of awards across the career of the officer.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes, Value added.</p> <p>Division, Institute and Agency awards (including from non-DHHS agencies) and professional organization awards and recognition such as letters of commendation.</p>
• Reviewing Official's Assessment o Promotion Readiness (Y/N)	<p>Yes, and comments.</p>	<p>Yes, and comments.</p>	<p>Yes, and comments.</p>

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<p>o Leadership Attributes (i.e., influencing, operating, and improving the mission of the PHS)</p>	<p>Contributes as a member of a formal task force or similar group at the Branch, division, agency, or CC level. Identifies leadership role.</p>	<p>Volunteers for and demonstrates leadership as a contributing member of a formal task force or similar group at the division, agency or CC level.</p>	<p>Volunteers for and serves in a leadership role (e.g., Chair, vice-chair) of a formal task force or similar group at the agency, CC, or PHS level.</p>
<p>o Mission Contribution</p>	<p>Contributes to the mission of the PHS through publications or other written or oral presentations. As assigned by the Supervisor and demonstrating direct contribution to the mission.</p>	<p>Contributes to the mission of the PHS through publications or other written or oral presentations. In addition to assigned duties, actively seeks outside activities that also contribute to the mission.</p>	<p>Contributes to the mission of the PHS through publications or other written or oral presentations. Clear evidence that career (duties and outside activities) has and will continue to contribute significantly to PHS (impact evident).</p>
<p>•Integrity/Duty</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Unquestioned.</p> <p>No outstanding disciplinary or behavioral issues.</p> <p>Displaying honor and integrity as an officer. Without an official Letter of Reprimand or other review board decision for disciplinary action.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Unquestioned.</p> <p>No outstanding disciplinary or behavioral issues.</p> <p>Displaying honor and integrity as an officer. Without an official Letter of Reprimand or other review board decision for disciplinary action.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Unquestioned.</p> <p>No outstanding disciplinary or behavioral issues.</p> <p>Displaying honor and integrity as an officer. Without an official Letter of Reprimand or other review board decision for disciplinary action.</p>

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2. Education, Training & Professional Development	0-4	0-5	0-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degrees 	DVM	DVM plus specialty board eligibility OR equivalent training and experience in a specialized area	DVM plus advanced degree OR specialty board certification OR equivalent advanced expertise in a specialized area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certifications/Credentialing 	None	Basic skill level certification(s)/ credentials appropriate for specialty or other related areas	Advanced skill level certification(s)/ Credentials appropriate for specialty or other related areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing Education 	Attend 1 major professional meeting and/or accumulate at least 18 hours of CE credits per year	Attend 1 major professional meeting and/or accumulate at least 18 hours of CE credits per year	Attend 1 major professional meeting and/or accumulate at least 18 hours of CE credits per year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership & Management Training and Experience relevant to the mission of the PHS 		Evidence of course work or experience relevant to the mission of the PHS and leadership/career development training	Evidence of advanced course work or experience relevant to the mission of the PHS and leadership/career development training

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3. Career Progression & Potential	O-4	O-5	O-6
• Billet(s)	≥ 04	≥ 05	≥ 06
• Assignments	Demonstrate progressively more responsibility/ability & independence	Demonstrate progressively more responsibility/ability & independence	Demonstrate progressively more responsibility/ability & independence
• Mobility - Geographic and/or Programmatic	0 (not expected to change job/assignments since acquisition is ≥ 0-3)	≥ 1 (expected to change jobs/assignments at least once)	≥ 2 (expected to change jobs/assignments at least twice)
• Assimilation	Not expected	Regular Corps or applied and/or recommended for assimilation	Regular Corps or applied and/or recommended for assimilation
• Collateral Duties (mission-related activities, committees, and duties)	Evidence of participation in at least 1 organizational collateral duty/activity at the local/ institutional level (see officer's CV)	Evidence of participation in at least 2 organizational collateral duties/activities at the local/institutional and regional level (see officer's CV)	Evidence of participation in at least 3 organizational collateral duties/activities with increased responsibility and/or leadership role at the local, regional, and national/international level (see officer's CV)

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4. Characteristics of Career Officer and Service to the Corps.	O-4	O-5	O-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership/Involvement in PAC or other Commissioned Corps Committees or Advisory Groups (also described in Officer's Statement) 	Volunteer or elected member including field reps/subcommittee members, etc., with demonstrated participation.	Elected Member, assume level of responsibility by Chairing a task force or subcommittee or equivalent.	Elected Member, Serves in Chair or other leadership roles.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Recruiter, or application pending • Mentoring 	Member, formal appointment, active participation. Value added. Contribution of informal mentoring should be documented.	Member, formal appointment, active participation. Leadership. Recognition. Contribution of informal mentoring should be documented.	Member, formal appointment, active participation. Leadership. Recognition. Contribution of informal mentoring should be documented.
• BOTC/IOTC	Yes, with Ribbon.	Yes, with Ribbon.	Yes, with Ribbon.
• Professional Organizations	Active Member.	Serves as a contributing member of a Committee or Subcommittee.	Serves as Chair, Vice-Chair or in other significant leadership roles in Committees or as a member of the Board.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Awards- o Special Assignment Award o Isolated Hardship Award o Hazardous Duty o FMRB/NEPA/CRSA o Foreign Duty 	≥1	≥2	≥3
Commitment to Visibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily wearing of uniform 	Daily.	Daily.	Daily.
• Presentations/outreach acknowledge the Corps	Speeches include discussion of the Corps.	Speeches include discussion of the Corps.	Speeches include discussion of the Corps.
• Other Official Commissioned Corps/PHS Activities (e.g., Honor Guard, Color Guard, PHS Ensemble, Aide-de-Camp, COA, JOAG)	Yes, Demonstrated Participation.	Yes, Demonstrated Participation.	Yes, Demonstrated Participation.

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5. Readiness	0-4	0-5	0-6
	<p>For PY 2006, officers can meet this standard by meeting <u>all</u> of the requirements of the "OFRD Basic Level" of readiness that are in place for the OFRD program as referenced in the Manual Circular, "PHS Readiness Standards".</p> <p>Application of Benchmark Standard:</p> <p>Officers who satisfy <u>all</u> the requirements for PY 2006 will be given the maximum number of points under the Readiness Precept.</p> <p>Officers who do not satisfy <u>all</u> the requirements for PY 2006 will receive zero points under the Readiness Precept.</p>	<p>For PY 2006, officers can meet this standard by meeting <u>all</u> of the requirements of the "OFRD Basic Level" of readiness that are in place for the OFRD program as referenced in the Manual Circular, "PHS Readiness Standards".</p> <p>Application of Benchmark Standard:</p> <p>Officers who satisfy <u>all</u> the requirements for PY 2006 will be given the maximum number of points under the Readiness Precept.</p> <p>Officers who do not satisfy <u>all</u> the requirements for PY 2006 will receive zero points under the Readiness Precept.</p>	<p>For PY 2004, officers can meet this standard by meeting <u>all</u> of the requirements of the "OFRD Basic Level" of readiness that are in place for the OFRD program as referenced in the Manual Circular, "PHS Readiness Standards".</p> <p>Application of Benchmark Standard:</p> <p>Officers who satisfy <u>all</u> the requirements for PY 2006 will be given the maximum number of points under the Readiness Precept.</p> <p>Officers who do not satisfy <u>all</u> the requirements for PY 2006 will receive zero points under the Readiness Precept.</p>

Note: Officers may submit a request for a temporary medical waiver to the Medical Affairs Branch for medical issues related to vaccinations or the Annual Physical Fitness Test.