

INFO FOR NAVY JOINT PROGRAM STUDENTS

Congratulations on your acceptance to the MIT-WHOI Joint Program! We look forward to your arrival. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask current Navy students (reach out to jp-info@mit.edu for contact information).

Navy Military Admin:

While in the Joint Program, you will be administratively assigned to the MIT NROTC unit for Duty Under Instruction (DUIN). Check-ins are conducted at the NROTC unit, located on MIT's campus (201 Vassar St, Cambridge MA 02139). The process for check-ins, as well as required documents (stamped orders, last FITREP, etc.) are listed in the DUIN Welcome Aboard letter (<https://nrotc.mit.edu/duty-under-instruction-duin>). The NROTC staff also coordinates PFAs (typically April/September), urinalysis, leave/liberty approval, and FITREPs.

Your primary MIT NROTC contact is Elaine Tavares (etavares@mit.edu). She is the Duty Under Instruction (DUIN) Human Resources Assistant.

Navy Academic Admin:

As a JP student, you are part of the Navy's Civilian Institution Program (CIVINS) which is headed by Naval Postgraduate School (NPS). The CIVINS office should contact you in the spring prior to starting the program to get your contact information, student ID number, expected start date, etc. CIVINS will coordinate tuition payment once you've submitted the required forms and supporting documentation of NPSINST 1520.1K. Principally, this is the Education Plan (EP). You are responsible for meeting the requirements of the Operational Oceanography (Curriculum 375) and will receive the subspecialty code 6402P after graduation.

Once you have a research advisor, you will submit an initial EP, forecasting your full course schedule, planned thesis topic, and the course descriptions from the MIT course catalog. CIVINS will review your EP and validate that it meets the requirements of the NPS curriculum. Following your initial EP, you will generally submit a revised EP each semester to reflect your most recent grades and any changes in classes you plan to take. If your EP does not meet the requirements of the NPS curriculum, you will simply need to revise the plan and resubmit.

1. CIVINS website: <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Career-Management/Fellowships/NPS-CIVINS/>
2. NPSINST 1520.1K: Governing instruction for CIVINS, includes instructions for submitting EPs https://www.nps.edu/documents/103400012/108027973/NPSINST_15201K.pdf/ac1546f1-379a-4236-a60f-7b7b5fd670cb

3. Blank EP form:
<https://nps.edu/documents/103400012/117752313/Edu+Plan+with+SME+Approval.pdf/757b6afc-508d-424e-b133-67a19cd440be?t=1496182645000>
4. MIT-WHOI Navy Curriculum Info, includes ESR descriptions and information on how to map ESRs to courses. Make sure you use this when generating your EP!
<https://mit.who.edu/admissions/navy-program/curricular-information/>

A separate Welcome Aboard Letter will be sent to you directly from NPS CIVINS.

MIT-WHOI Department Academic Requirements:

As a JP Student, you are assigned to a department at MIT and a department at WHOI. It is important to understand the academic requirements of your MIT department and of the Joint Program. The Education Coordinator in the respective WHOI department is a great resource to help you and your advisor through the necessary requirements to ensure you graduate on time.

1. WHOI Education Coordinators:
 - a. AOSE: Ted Maksym – tmaksym@who.edu 508 289 3428
 - b. PO: Robert Todd – rtodd@who.edu 508 289 2533
2. WHOI Academic Handbooks: <https://mit.who.edu/academics/handbooks/> These will reference you the respective MIT handbooks that outline the requirements of your department.

Housing Options:

Many students choose to live in WHOI housing during their first summer. The WHOI housing office will reach out in the spring (usually April) regarding student housing for the summer. This is a great way to get familiar with WHOI, meet other students, and participate in summer activities and review classes. This also satisfies the requirement to complete one term of research at WHOI.

If you will be at WHOI full-time during the first summer and plan to live near Cambridge in the fall, you can rent WHOI housing for the summer and start a lease near Cambridge in the fall. Alternatively, if you start a lease in the Cambridge area during the summer, you can access WHOI transient housing. Transient housing is free (subsidized by the Joint Program) for those students with a concurrent lease in the Boston area, if you need to spend time at both campuses.

Most students live near MIT during their first academic year and then live wherever their advisor is located for their second year. If you have questions about finding housing or what options are best for you, reach out to any of the current Navy students.

1. MIT off-campus housing: Many students choose to live off-campus in Cambridge, Somerville, or Boston (Back Bay, Kenmore/Fenway)
 - a. Be aware that many rentals require you to pay a broker's fee in addition to the first month's rent/security deposit.
 - b. Boston rental price heat map: https://www.jefftk.com/apartment_prices/
2. MIT Graduate Housing: <https://studentlife.mit.edu/living-communities/>

3. MIT-vetted off-campus rental housing portal, available only to MIT affiliates:
<https://www.mitoffcampus.com>
4. MIT Graduate Family Housing: <https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing>
5. Woods Hole/Falmouth
 - a. WHOI-owned housing: <https://www.who.edu/what-we-do/educate/student-life/student-life-campus/housing/>
 - b. Community housing: <https://communityhousing.who.edu/>
6. United States Coast Guard Base Cape Cod (approximately 25 minutes drive from WHOI)
 - a. <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Operational-Logistics-Command-LOGCOM/Bases/Base-Cape-Cod/Services/Housing/>
7. Hanscom Air Force Base (approximately 30 minutes drive from MIT)
 - a. <https://www.housing.af.mil/Home-deprecated/Units/Hanscom/>

Medical Options for Service Members and Family:

1. After checking into MIT NROTC, you will need to transfer your Tricare coverage to a local provider by contacting Tricare East. You will be offered several provider options, typically Hanscom AFB, Newport, Portsmouth, or Groton. Hanscom Air Force Base – near Lexington, MA; 66th Medical Squadron - <https://hanscom.tricare.mil/>
2. Naval Station Newport – Newport, RI; Naval Health Clinic New England - <https://newengland.tricare.mil/>
3. MIT Health – Cambridge, MA - provides many basic medical services included with MIT tuition. This includes urgent care, flu shots, some primary care functions, sports medicine/orthopedics, mental health/counseling, etc. Because of their location on campus and availability of appointments, some students will choose to utilize MIT health, particularly for urgent care. Note that for prescriptions or specialist appointments requiring referrals, you must see your provider at a military treatment facility. Be sure to save documentation of treatment to include in your medical record. <https://health.mit.edu/>
4. Spouses and children of servicemembers are eligible for TRICARE Prime Remote (TPR) provided your residence is 50+ miles (or 1+ hour drive) from either location #1 or #2. When enrolling in TPR, dependents will need to choose both a civilian Primary Care Manager and dentist. Information on whether you qualify, how to enroll, and lists of clinics that accept TRICARE and can be found at the following link: <https://tricare.mil/primeremote> Some of you may prioritize location over a specific pediatrician. Tricare allows you to choose based on where you live. Some students have recommended pediatrician Dr. Courtney Arrington (Civilian).
5. In May/June prior to starting classes, you will need to waive the MIT Student Health Insurance Plan (extended health insurance for students who do not have other insurance) by submitting documentation of your TRICARE coverage. <https://studentinsuranceoffice.mit.edu/about/mit-ship/waive-mit-ship/>

Transportation around MIT/WHOI:

1. Joint Program website (intercampus travel): <https://mit.whoie.edu/campus-life/student-resources/travel/intercampus-travel/>
2. TIPS program: Navy program for reimbursing expenses related to commuting on public transportation. <https://cnrsw.cnic.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Transportation-Incentive-Program/>
3. MBTA: Boston's public transit system, active duty service members ride free with military ID.
4. Bluebikes: MIT students can get a discounted BlueBikes annual membership (~\$50). <https://sites.mit.edu/vpcssforms/bluebikes/>
5. WHOI bike loaner program: <https://web.whoie.edu/sustainability/initiatives/bicycling/whoie-bike-loaner-program/>

Your First Summer:

Most Navy students choose to spend their first summer living at WHOI. Upon arrival, the Education Coordinator for your department will provide a list of potential research advisors/projects. In your first few weeks, you should set up meetings with potential advisors to determine what project is the best fit for your interests. It can also be very helpful to meet other students in those research groups.

In addition to finding an advisor, the first summer is a great time to prepare academically. JP students run a summer math refresher course to briefly review topics ranging from precalculus to coding (MATLAB, Python, etc.) and statistics (~1.5 hr each). Additional study prep resources are listed below. Some Navy students (particularly those in the 2N Naval Architecture program) have elected to take formal math classes offered during the summer term at MIT (typically 18.089). If you feel that you might benefit from a more structured math or coding class taught at MIT over the summer, communicate that with your Education Coordinator early in the spring to ensure you are able to meet registration deadlines.

There are also many fun events in Woods Hole to get familiar with WHOI and get to know other Joint Program students. Be sure to routinely check your personal email, as well as your MIT and WHOI emails once those are established, to stay up to date with summer events.

Study Prep Recommendations:

Use the summer of your first year to prepare for the academic rigors of MIT and refresh your undergraduate studies, particularly with respect to math and coding skills. Below are recommended topics to study (and some recommended resources) in order of priority.

1. Calculus and vector calculus (e.g. gradients, divergence, line integrals, circle integrals)
 - a. Recommended resource: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
2. Linear Algebra (very important if you did not have an undergraduate course in Linear Algebra)
 - a. Text: *Introduction to Linear Algebra (Cloth) - 4th edition*, by Gilbert Strang, ISBN 13:978-098023714
 - b. MIT Open Courseware website: <http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/mathematics/18-06-linear-algebra-spring-2010/>

(This website has an entire semester's worth of lectures, practice problems, exams, and solutions, and it is a great resource to learn linear algebra by self- study)

3. Programming: A very important skill to develop is computer programming skills. It is recommended that you identify which coding language your lab uses early on then take the summer to become fluent. If you are unsure and/or do not have a familiarity with any programming language, concentrate on MATLAB, python, or C++. As a MIT student, you get MATLAB at no cost through IS&T (<https://ist.mit.edu/>) and can begin using it during the summer before the Fall Semester. Below are some recommended resources for the programming languages:
 - a. MATLAB: <https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/electrical-engineering-and-computer-science/6-057-introduction-to-matlab-january-iap-2019/>
 - b. Python: <http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/electrical-engineering-and-computer-science/6-189-a-gentle-introduction-to-programming-using-python-january-iap-2011/>
 - c. C++: <http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/electrical-engineering-and-computer-science/6-096-introduction-to-c-january-iap-2011/>
 - d. Book: *Practical C++ Programming, 2nd Ed*, ISBN: 978-596-00419-4
4. Complex Numbers
 - a. Book: Schaum's Outline of Complex Variables, 2nd Edition, ISBN-13: 978- 0071615693

Contact Information and Student Resources:

1. A current list of MIT/WHOI Joint Program Administration and Support: <https://mit.who.edu/about/administration/>
2. Joint Program Curriculum Committees (JCAOSE and JCPO) (scroll to bottom): The joint committees provide academic governance, advice, guidance, etc. <https://mit.who.edu/about/governance/curriculum-committees/>
3. Academic and Personal Support Resources <https://mit.who.edu/campus-life/student-resources/support-resources/>
4. MIT's Office of the Dean for Graduate Education <http://oge.mit.edu/>
 - a. GradSupport: <https://oge.mit.edu/development/gradsupport/>
 - b. Resources for Grad Families: <https://oge.mit.edu/families/>
5. Personal Support and Wellness at MIT http://web.mit.edu/Student/personal_support.html
6. WHOI-based Student Resources <https://mit.who.edu/who-student-resources/>
7. MIT Student Veterans (often share free/reduced cost events for military in Boston): <https://vets.mit.edu/>