To:          Battalion of Midshipmen, NROTC Unit, University of Colorado Boulder  
From: LT Dustin League, Academics Officer, NROTC Unit, University of Colorado Boulder  

Ref: NSTC M-1533.2A – Regulations for Officer Development (ROD) Program – 17 JULY 2015  
Subj: Fifth Year Benefits  

1. **Purpose**  

Promulgate information about, eligibility for, requirements for, and how to apply for Fifth Year Benefits (SYB).  

2. **Overview**  

   a. SYB are for scholarship midshipmen enrolled in academic programs that require more than four academic years for completion of baccalaureate degree requirements, including elective requirements of the Senior ROTC course (NAVR 4020 – Leadership and Ethics).  
   b. SYB may provide extended benefits during a fifth academic year which may include regular semesters or summer sessions beyond Naval Science year four.  
   c. Applications will be endorsed, validated, and verified for accuracy by the Commanding Officer.  
   d. Applications are considered by NSTC on a case-by-case basis.  
   e. If SYB are not granted, the student will be placed on Special LOA as soon as practicable upon expiration of benefits, they will not be required to take NAVR courses during this time, with the exception noted in paragraph 2.f, but will participate in all other Battalion activities.  
   f. The student will take NAVR 4020 their final Spring semester prior to commissioning.  
   g. Upon accepting SYB the student’s contract will be amended to maintain a five-year service obligation upon graduation.  
   h. Additionally, SYB create additional service obligation as follows:  
      i. Each semester – 6 month obligation  
      ii. Each quarter – 4 month obligation  
      iii. Each summer session – 3 month obligation  
   i. CNSTC is the approval authority for academic programs’ eligibility and all extended benefit entitlements requests.  

3. **SYB Application Acceptance Considerations**  

   a. NSTC will consider academic credits necessary for the academic major, mandatory NROTC credits, and overlapping requirements in determining the necessity for extended entitlements.  
   b. Calculation: in general, the following is considered:  
      i. Credits necessary for academic major  
      ii. Plus mandatory NROTC credits (NAVR as well as Calculus, Physics, etc. as applicable)
1. If Calculus and/or Physics are required by NROTC but not your Major, count the number of credits required by NROTC for these courses as the number of credits earned for these courses.

2. If Calculus and/or Physics are required by both NROTC and your Major, count the number of credits required by NROTC for these courses as 3 credits/course.

   iii. Minus overlapping credit requirements (i.e. NAVR courses that count towards your major, Calculus, Physics, etc.)

   iv. The sum averaged over 8 semesters must be greater than or equal to 18 credit hours per semester

c. Limitations and other considerations:

   i. Student must not be enrolled in a dual degree academic program

   ii. Average length of enrollment for all students to complete a specified program at a specified institution (4 years vs. 5 years for a specific course of study)

   iii. Quality of previous work (Cumulative GPA)

   iv. Extended benefits will not be granted in cases of:

      1. Academic deficiency

      2. Failure to complete an academic requirement

      3. Scheduling conflict created by an avoidable student action

      4. Change of major that creates a need for additional semester(s)

4. Application Process

   a. Write a request for 5YB as follows:

      i. From: MIDN W. T. Door
      ii. To: NSTC (OD)
      iii. Via: Commanding Officer, NROTC Unit, University of Colorado
      iv. Subj: Extended Benefits Request
      vi. Enci:

         1. Academic Transcript
         2. Extended Benefits Degree Plan

      vii. State how many additional semesters you are requesting

      viii. State your case as to why you need additional benefits and why you should be granted them

      ix. Provide any additional supporting evidence you have (include as an Enclosure and reference in your request)

      x. Your final paragraph should read similar to this:

         1. I understand that approval of this request means I will be required to continue participation in Naval Science Drill during the extended entitlement period. Furthermore, I will incur an extended active duty obligation of [six additional months (determine this from the information provided above)] for the receipt of extended NROTC Scholarship.

   b. Enclose your transcript

   c. Enclose your extended benefits degree plan
i. Ensure it is very clear and straightforward and all elements are filled in, past, present and future

d. Provide a separate memorandum with the following:
   i. Major (i.e. Civil Engineering, B.S.)
   ii. GPA (Cumulative to date)
   iii. Average number of semester hours per term required to complete a degree in (X) years in (your major) at the University of Colorado
   iv. Credits required to earn a degree in (your major) at the University of Colorado
   v. Total number of credits required by NROTC (NAVY as well as Calculus, Physics, etc. as applicable)
      1. If Calculus and/or Physics are required by NROTC but not your Major, count the number of credits required by NROTC for these courses as the number of credits earned for these courses.
      2. If Calculus and/or Physics are required by both NROTC and your Major, count the number of credits required by NROTC for these courses as 3 credits/course.
   vi. Credits granted for NROTC required courses towards your degree (i.e. NAVY courses that count towards your major, Calculus, Physics, etc.)
   vii. Number of terms you have completed less than 15 credits

e. Submit your request to your advisor, and be prepared to answer any inquiries they, or any member of the chain of command above them, may have

5. Summary

a. 5YB applications are on you to submit and justify so ensure you make it clear why you need additional time to complete your degree. Understand that the Navy does not have to approve any additional entitlement requests. It is in your best interest to perform well in all classes and to be forward looking in your scheduling of courses. If you have any questions, stop by to see your advisor or to see me.

Dustin League
LT USN