Below are the requirements and potentially disqualifying factors for active duty commissioning in the USPHS. This list does not necessarily include all potential disqualifiers. Please read the list carefully. **You will be asked to confirm your review of this information later in the IHS pharmacy residency application process.**

**Do I meet the entry criteria for joining the Commissioned Corps?**

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be less than 44 years, 0 months and 0 days of age
- Be "medically qualified" and meet height and weight standards (see below)
- Have a current, unrestricted professional license (IHS residencies require that licensure should be obtained as soon as possible after graduation)
- Have a qualifying degree (IHS requires Pharm.D from ACPE accredited program for all newly hired pharmacists)
- Be “professionally boarded” (this is an internal process – not an external boarding/certification)
- Tattoo/piercing/prior service/prior PHS waiver approval if applicable
- Do you have a Grade Point Average of 2.8 or above (on 4.0 scale) or equivalent system? **(must be YES to apply)**

**Meet Suitability Requirements (major disqualifying factors below):**

- Military Discharges: other than Honorable (includes character reviews and further assessment of separation and reenlistment codes)
- Military disciplinary proceedings/court martial
- Employment Severance (e.g. fired, or left under unfavorable circumstances)
- Financial Delinquency on any debt (foreclosure, bankruptcy requiring court documentation, etc. All other accounts must be up to date)
- Drug Use, and/or drug possession or distribution charges or convictions
- Alcohol Abuse (includes alcohol related charges or convictions)
- Violence/Domestic Violence charges or convictions
- Felony Criminal charges/convictions
- Civil court actions
- Pending criminal charges or convictions

**Meet certain medical conditions (partial list of disqualifying conditions listed below):**

- Overweight or underweight according to the USPHS weight standards. Use this link [To View the Standards Chart](#)
- Diabetes Mellitus: History and/or presence of Type I, Type II, Gestational diabetes, Impaired glucose tolerance/pre-diabetes
- Dyslipidemia
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus/AIDS or antibody
- Chronic Hepatitis
- Abnormal liver function studies
United States Public Health Service (USPHS) Pre-Screening Self-Assessment Tool

- Syphilis (untreated)
- Tuberculosis (untreated latent or active TB)
- Abnormal PAP smear results
- Abnormal urinalysis results
- Blood Abnormalities: abnormal blood counts (white or red cell; platelets) that does not meet USPHS accession standards
- Cardiac: abnormal cardiac rate, rhythm and/or conduction in the presence of organic heart disease; pacemaker or implantable defibrillator
- Impaired Hearing or inner/outer ear structure that does not meet USPHS accession standards
- Impaired vision or abnormal eye structure that does not meet USPHS accession standards
- Pregnancy and the Post-partum period (until either 43 days post-vaginal uncomplicated delivery or 56 days uncomplicated post- Caesarian section delivery

*This list is not all inclusive. Please see the USPHS website for updated medical accession standards which should be available online soon ([www.usphs.gov](http://www.usphs.gov))