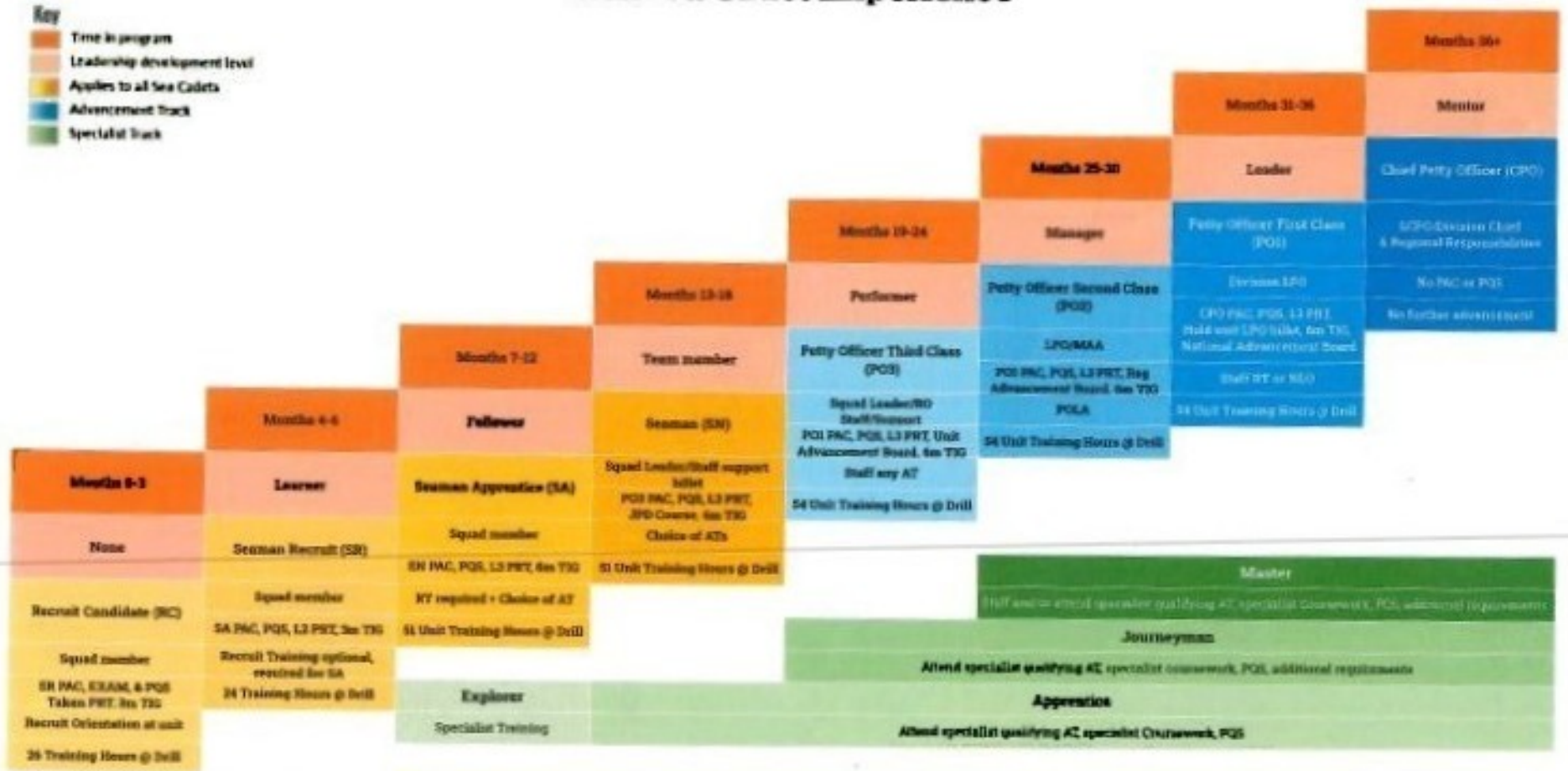
The Sea Cadet Experience



Updated: 23 DEC 24

SEA CADETS

SEA CADET ADVANCEMENT

In our cadet-led program, each new rank represents growth in leadership and responsibility. As cadets advance—following a structure modeled after Navy and Coast Guard ranks—they mentor newer members, help plan drill activities, and develop valuable personal and leadership skills.

Advancement requires meeting specific criteria (see the provided chart) and earning the Commanding Officer's approval. These goals call for consistent effort, both during drill and outside of it. By giving their best effort, maintaining a positive, team-focused attitude, and seeking opportunities to improve, cadets make steady progress. Advancing at least once per year ensures good standing and continuous growth, helping every cadet build leadership skills that last a lifetime.

Rate	TIR	TIS	Course	Exam	PQS	Training	PRT
Recruit Candidate (RC)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Seaman Recruit (SR)	2 months	2 months	SR PAC	SR Exam	SR PQS	None	Taken (no score)
Seaman Apprentice (SA)	3 months	5 months	SA PAC	N/A	SA PQS	None	Level 2
Seaman (SN)	6 months	11 months	E3 PAC	N/A	SN PSI	Recruit Training (RT)	Level 3
Petty Officer 3rd Class (PO3)	6 months	17 months	PO3 Course	PO3 Exam	N/A	Any Training	Level 3
Petty Officer 2nd Class (PO2)	6 months	23 months	PO2 Course	PO2 Exam	N/A	Petty Officer Leadership Academy (POLA)	Level 3
Petty Officer 1st Class (PO1)	6 months	29 months	PO1 Course	PO1 Exam	N/A	Any Training	Level 3
Chief Petty Officer (CPO)	6 months	35 months	CPO Course	N/A	N/A	Staff Recruit Training (RT) or Navy League Orientation (NLO)	Level 3