



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

Canc frp: Jul 2003
IN REPLY REFER TO
BUMEDNOTE 6810
BUMED-00
22 Jul 2002

BUMED NOTICE 6810

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Ships and Stations Having Medical Department Personnel

Subj: FRAME OF CHOICE (FOC) PROGRAM

Ref: (a) NAVMEDCOMINST 6810.1
(b) NAVMEDCOMINST 6320.3B
(c) OPNAVINST 5100.23E

Encl: (1) Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

1. Purpose. To provide updates to the FOC Program.
2. Cancellation. BUMEDNOTE 6810 of 25 Mar 98.
3. Background. The Navy remains committed to providing spectacle frames that respond to mission readiness, safety, and personal choice per references (a) and (b). As a result of ongoing customer surveys, the Naval Ophthalmic Support and Training Activity (NAVOPTHALSUPP-TRACT) has updated the FOC Program to support the needs of our Sailors and Marines.

4. Responsibilities

a. NAVOPTHALSUPPTRACT is the administrator of the FOC Program and will:

(1) Develop policies and program guidance for managing, planning, organizing, directing, and controlling the FOC Program. This includes directing and coordinating the optical support units (OSUs), NAVOPHTHALSUPPTRACT satellite units, and Army optical fabrication laboratories (OFLs) who will provide FOCs to the fleet and field.

(2) Periodically update the SOPs that describe FOC selection, distribution, fabrication, and inventory maintained.

(3) Continuously monitor and evaluate program costs.

(4) Measure results; maintain metrics and reporting system.

(5) Supply all FOC fitting sets to all affected activities.

(6) Coordinate with the other Services' medical treatment facilities (MTFs) for providing the FOC Program for Navy and Marine Corps personnel assigned to their facilities.

b. MTF. The senior optometrist in each MTF will act as the coordinator for the FOC Program in their MTF's service area. They are responsible for:

- (1) Implementing and complying with this notice.
- (2) Maintaining lines of communication with NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT to conduct the FOC Program by the most effective and efficient means.
- (3) Assigning responsibilities for the FOC Program in their area.
- (4) Managing and maintaining inventory.
- (5) When possible, providing same-day service to all customers.
- (6) Tracking and reporting adverse product trends to NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT. This includes frame defects and poor frame durability under operational conditions.

5. Policy

a. One FOC, with clear lenses only, will be issued to eligible active duty personnel annually. No tinted lenses will be fabricated in the FOC Program. Only the frames and corresponding sizes and colors in the approved fitting set, issued by NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT, will be included in the Program.

b. Foreign active duty military personnel otherwise eligible for eyewear, per reference (b), are also eligible for one FOC with clear lenses only.

c. An FOC will be issued on any spectacle prescription, civilian or military, that is not over 1 year old, if the patient has no visual complaints and no decrease in best-corrected vision since the last vision examination by an eye care professional.

d. An FOC will not be issued to active duty or Reserve personnel until after the first 30 days of current active duty tour, or completion of basic or initial training (boot camp, officer indoctrination school, officer candidate school, U.S. Naval Academy plebe summer), whichever comes first.

e. In rare instances, the FOC Program may be expanded in remote areas to include other eligible beneficiaries, but only after approval by the MTF commanding officer and executive agent for Department of Defense (DOD) optical fabrication.

f. The date of order will be annotated in the member's outpatient medical record. The FOC will not be ordered or dispensed without an entry on the SF 600. The following information is required:

- (1) Patient name, social security number (SSN), and command.

(2) FOC data (frame style number, color, eye size, bridge size, temples size, spectacle prescription, and lens type (SV, PST-35, etc.)).

g. Inform aviation and submarine personnel verbally, and make entry on the SF 600, that FOC will not be worn while in an "operational" duty status. Inform submariners the P-3 frame is the mask insert for use onboard submarines.

h. FOC, like standard-issue frames, are not intended for use as safety or sports protective eyewear. Employees involved in eye hazardous operations must obtain appropriate protective eyewear as governed by reference (c).

i. FOC will replace one of the required two pair of S-9 and S-8 frames. For aviators and submariners, FOC may be in addition to the required two pair of flight glasses or P-3 frames.

j. Personnel who damage or lose their FOC may return it for repair or replacement.

6. Execution

a. Qualified shore activity customers will receive an FOC prescription upon completion of a new eye refraction. Same-day fabrication service will be afforded in all possible instances.

b. Qualified personnel stationed aboard afloat activities not having optical fabrication capabilities will receive their FOC from the closest DOD optical fabrication site. Qualified personnel stationed aboard afloat activities having optical fabrication capabilities will receive their FOC from that facility, unless they require bifocals or glasses outside the range of inventory.

7. Point of Contact. The NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT point of contact for issues concerning the FOC Program execution is the NOSTRA Director for Resources, DSN 953-4297 or commercial (757) 887-4297 or e-mail to: nostramail@med.navy.mil.

8. Forms. SF 600, Chronological Record of Medical Care, is available via the General Services Administration Web site at: [http://contacts.gsa.gov/webforms.nsf/\(formslist\)?openform&count=1000&category=Standard+Forms&expandview](http://contacts.gsa.gov/webforms.nsf/(formslist)?openform&count=1000&category=Standard+Forms&expandview). Local reproduction of the SF 600 is authorized. DD 771, Eyewear Prescription, S/N 0102-LF-007-6202 and DD 2766, Adult Preventive and Chronic Care Flowsheet, S/N 0102-LF-984-8400, are available via the Navy Forms Online Web site at <http://forms.daps.mil/order>.

9. Cancellation Contingency. Retain until incorporated into reference (a).



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Available at: <http://navymedicine.med.navy.mil/instructions/external/external.htm>

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

1. Purpose. To provide uniform procedures for the FOC Program.
2. Background. The Navy Surgeon General desires all eligible Navy and Marine Corps active duty personnel to have an FOC in addition to standard issue military spectacles.
3. Responsibilities. Optometry Clinics will be responsible for fitting and dispensing FOC.
 - a. Fitting and dispensing an FOC will be documented in the patient's health record on the SF 600 and the DD 2766, Adult Preventive and Chronic Care Flowsheet.
 - b. When dispensing FOC to aviation and submarine personnel, notify them FOC shall not be worn while in an operational duty status.
 - c. When ordering FOC, clinics will note on the DD 771 the order is an FOC along with the frame type and color.
 - d. Broken frames should be collected from the patient and used for replacement parts.
 - e. FOC is available at all DOD optical fabrication sites in the range of lens powers normally stocked by that laboratory. DOD optical fabrication sites will stock inventories based on fabricating responsibilities. Order FOC from your normal optical fabrication site.
 - f. Personnel receiving either FOC or standard issue military glasses should be reminded the glasses they are receiving are not protective safety glasses for eye hazardous duties or recreational activities. Personnel who require safety glasses for their jobs must obtain them from their command per reference (c).
4. Inventory
 - a. Fitting kits will be supplied by NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT to all activities having Spectacle Request Transmission System capabilities. Each respective optical support unit/optical fabrication laboratory is responsible for notifying NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT of the required number and street address of fitting kits needed to outfit designated clinics to fit and dispense FOC. NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT will supply designated clinics with initial fitting kits and fitting sets whenever the frame selection changes.
 - b. Frames included in the FOC Program are listed on the NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT Web site at: <http://138.143.250.101/nostra/frames.cfm>. Unless directed or approved by NAVOPHTHALSUPTRACT, no other frame style, color, or size is authorized.
 - c. All fabrication laboratories must use the Defense Supply Center, Philadelphia and the Electronic Catalogue (ECAT) for replenishing frame and lens inventory.
 - d. Any issue or problem with obtaining supplies should be reported to the NOSTRA Head, Material Management Department at commercial (757) 887-4261 or DSN 953-4261.