NPS offers free ride, hard work

Scholarships available

By KEVIN HOW
Herald Staff Writer

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Looking for work? The Naval Postgraduate School has a full master's program scholarship with a job waiting at the end of it.

NPS is currently accepting applicants for the National Science Foundation's federal Cyber Service Corps scholarship program, according to Cynthia Irvine, professor of computer science and director of the Navy school's Center for Information Systems Security Studies and Research.

The school, she said, is accepting eight students in the National Science Foundation's federal Cyber Service Corps scholarship program in March and an additional eight students in September.

The program offers students fully paid tuition amounting to $16,000, an annual stipend of $12,000, a $16,000 subsistence allowance, a medical allowance and placement in paid summer internships with government agencies, Irvine said.

Graduates will be expected to serve two years with a U.S. government agency as specialists in safeguarding computer systems, she said, and the program has had a 100 percent success rate in placing its graduates in jobs.

Application for the March enrollment is Jan. 15, she said, and April 30 for the September enrollment.

No computer degree

A notable change in the program this year, Irvine said, is that the center will enroll students who do not have an undergraduate degree in computer science, but will provide remedial work to bring those students up to speed for graduate level computer studies.

Applicants should have earned a bachelor's degree in any subject with a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

The selection committee, Irvine said, is interested in applicants with aptitude but who may have little or no computer science background, and the desire to work for the federal government in an information assurance-related position.

Applicants should submit a completed application form, which can be downloaded at http://cisr.nps.edu/scholarships.html, a résumé, essay, official sealed transcripts from all colleges or universities attended, official GRE scores and two letters of recommendation.

Security clearance

Applicants must be U.S. citizens not employed by the federal government, meet criteria for federal employment, and be able to obtain a security clearance.

Completed materials may be mailed to NPS CISR — SFS Program, Computer Science Department, Code CS/IC, Glasgow Hall East, Building 305, 1411 Cunningham Road, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, 93943.

Kevin Howe can be reached at 646-4416 or...