



# United States Navy Biography

**JESSICA D. BEARD**  
**COMMANDER, NURSE CORPS**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**



Commander Beard was born in Mobile, Alabama and moved to Detroit, Michigan with her family at age 4 and remained there until she enlisted in the Navy in December 1988. She graduated from University of Central Florida, Orlando, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing and was commissioned via the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP) to the rank of Ensign in May 1996.

Commander Beard began her naval career as a Seaman Recruit at Basic Training in Orlando, Florida on December 19, 1988. Upon graduation she reported to Meridian, Mississippi to Storekeeper (SK) "A" school where, based on her GPA of 97.9, she was selected for the Accelerated Advancement Program (AAP). This program allowed her to be advanced to E-4 after 4 months of honorable service. After graduation, Commander Beard reported to Naval Hospital Orlando, Florida as an E-2 Storekeeper (SKSA) where she worked in hospital supply and was advanced to E-4 (SK3) 4 months later. In 1993, she attend Hospital Corpsman "A" school as an E-5, during her time in corps school she passed the E-6 exam and was selected for MECP at that same time. She attended UCF from Aug 1993 – May 1996 and graduated with a BSN and was commissioned to Ensign. In June 1996, she attended Officer Indoctrination School (OIS) in Rhode Island. After OIS, she reported to National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) Bethesda, and worked as a staff Nurse on the Mother Infant Unit (MIU) from August 1996 to December 1999. She later reported to Naval Hospital Jacksonville and served as Charge Nurse on the Mother-Baby Unit and Labor and Delivery and Division Officer of the Nurse Call Center from January 2000 to October 2001. In October 2001, she transferred to Naval Medical Clinic Annapolis where she served as Assistant Department Head of Orthopedics Clinic until July 2005.

In 2005, Commander Beard was selected for the Duty under Instructions (DUINS) program and received a Master of Science in Midwifery from the University of Maryland at Baltimore in May 2007. After graduation, she report to the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda (NNMC) as a staff Certified Nurse Midwife from June 2007 to September 2010. During this tour of duty, CDR Beard was tasked to support Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) in Afghanistan from July 2008 to Oct 2009 where she served as Officer In Charge (OIC) of Police Mentor Team (PMT) Medical, for Afghanistan National Security Force (ANSF). In September 2010, she reported to Naval Hospital Jacksonville, where she served as staff Certified Nurse Midwife in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department (OBGYN). CDR Beard is currently stationed at US Naval Hospital, Okinawa, Japan (USNHO) as a staff Certified Nurse Midwife.

Commander Beard is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM), Florida Nurses Association, (FNA), Florida Military Nurses Association (FMNA), and Far East Regional Vice President for the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA). Her personal decorations include the Navy Meritorious Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards), Army Commendation Medal, and other personal and service medals and ribbons.