

## NWS FAQ

- 1) Where do I apply for a swap?
  - You will have to use a government computer and follow the link:  
  
<https://uconnect.cbpnet.cbp.dhs.gov/sites/OBP/MSD/wm/nwsp/Pages/default.aspx>
- 2) How will I know if I qualify?
  - Employees should refer to the April 28, 2015 MOU. There are also several bullet points on the front page of the share point site.
- 3) How do I confirm my EOD?
  - Employees should refer to their Sector Human Resource Department.
- 4) Do I have to make four selections?
  - No, employees can choose only the locations they desire to a maximum of four locations.
- 5) Why can I not put in for as many stations as I want?
  - NBPC is working on expanding the amount of selections an employee can put in for in future NWS openings.
- 6) Do I have to find someone to swap with?
  - No, at this time employees will not be tasked with finding someone to swap with.
- 7) How will the selections be made?
  - All selections will be made strictly by seniority. Border Patrol Agents will be placed in three categories: Border Patrol Agent, Canine Handler, and Canine Instructor.
- 8) Who will be making the selections?
  - NBPC is developing a computer program to automatically make pairings.

- 9) Why are some stations left out of the NWS?
- USBP determined what stations will be able to participate. The NBPC will continue to work at including these stations in future NWS openings.
- 10) Will different Pay Tiers have influence on matches?
- No, BPA Pay Tiers has no influence on pairings. But Agents should be reminded; that they will absorb the other Agent's pay tier until the next election period.
  - Furthermore, Agents will also be placed on the same shift of the Agent they swapped with.
- 11) When will I know if I have been paired with another employee?
- After pairings have been made, the names will be forwarded to the Service for validation of data and vetting. If both names pass, the service will notify the employees and give them an EOD date for their new station. The timelines for validating data and vetting will be dependent on each sector's ability to process the applicant's information.
- 12) What is validating and vetting?
- The Service will have to ensure that data inputted by the employee is correct and that the employee meets the guidelines of the April 28 MOU.
- 13) How many days do I get for house hunting and moving?
- An employee can request up to 40 hours of administrative leave. If an employee needs more time they will have to request Annual Leave through their new duty station.
- 14) When will the next NWS solicitation open up?
- Depending on the speed and ability of the Service to validate and vet applicants, for this current opening, will have direct influence on when the next NWS will open. NBPC is anticipating having a second opening before or at the start of the next calendar year. NBPC is hoping to open solicitations every quarter.
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