

## Are the requirements the same for all of the service academies?

No. Although many of the qualifications are similar, each academy operates under its own admissions guidelines. Visit the academy of your choice via the websites noted for each academy's particular admissions qualifications. It is not necessary to seek a nomination to the Coast Guard Academy, as the U.S.C.G.A. accepts candidates based on their own testing criteria.



## What if I choose more than one academy? Will I be limited to a single nomination?

No. You can be nominated to multiple academies depending on how well you have competed among this year's pool of candidates. It is possible to be offered an appointment from more than one academy. You may apply to all of the academies in which you desire to attend.

## When will I know if I have been offered an appointment by the academy?

Academies will begin to notify candidates of their admission status in February and are completed by May.

## Who makes the final decision on an appointment after a nomination?

Typically, there are ten nominations for each open vacancy. Each service academy has their own admission guidelines. An offer of appointment from each service academy is based on their own standards, and the desire shown by the candidate to devote a lifetime of military service and/or career.

## There are five service academies:

- U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York
- U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland
- U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado
- U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York
- U.S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, Connecticut



For assistance or more information on the application process please call 209-579-5458

## Military Academy Nominations



U. S. House of Representative

Josh Harder

California 10th District



The honor of attending a service academy comes with the obligation and commitment to serve in the military for a minimum of five years upon graduation.

## **Military Academy Nominations FAQ**

### **What is a nomination?**

Members of Congress may nominate applicants who meet the eligibility requirements established by law. A candidate may seek a nomination from the following:

- The member of the U.S. House of Representatives who represents the congressional district in which the candidate resides;
- Both U.S. Senators from his/her state; and/or
- Apply directly to the Vice-President of the United States.

### **What are the basic eligibility requirements?**

Each applicant for nomination must meet the following eligibility requirements as of July 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of admission to an academy:

- Age: Be at least 17 years old, but not have passed the 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday.
- Citizenship: Must be a U.S. citizen
- Marital Status: Must be unmarried, not pregnant, and without legal obligation to support children or other dependents.
- Residence: Must reside within the boundaries of the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of California.
- Skill/Fitness: Must meet the medical, physical, and academic requirements of the Academy.

### **When is the deadline for completing a nomination file?**

The deadline to complete a nomination file is October 31<sup>st</sup> of the year.

### **Who do I contact to request an application?**

Please contact the district office to request a nomination packet. Each student that is applying for the service academy must speak with our Service Academy representative.

### **What must be included in my nomination file?**

A complete nomination file consists of the following items:

- Current photo-please add your full name to the back of it.
- High School Transcript-signed and sealed.
- ACT or SAT scores-sent directly from the testing center.
- Resume of extracurricular activities, awards, and work experience.
- A 500-word essay stating why you want to attend a service academy.
- Three letters of recommendation-signed and sealed. One must be from a teacher, principal or high school counselor.

### **What happens after I have completed my nomination file?**

Applicants who submit a completed nomination file will be scheduled for an interview with the selection committee. The interview will take place early December and applicants will be notified of their interview date in November.

### **WHAT CRITERIA IS USED IN SELECTING CANDIDATES?**

Nominations are based on a "whole person" evaluation. Factors such as academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, leadership skills, physical aptitude, character and motivation are taken into consideration and compared with other applicants.

### **Who should I ask to write a letter of recommendation on my behalf?**

Some of the people applicants typically seek recommendations from include:

- Teachers
- Counselors
- Employers
- Coaches
- Clergy
- Scout Leaders

A specific recommendation form is not required. A letter of recommendation is sufficient.