

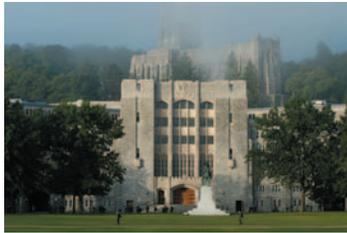
Congressional Guide 2005

Admission to the United States Service Academies



On the Cover

Top row: U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy graduation. Bottom row: U.S. Merchant Marine Academy color guard, U.S. Coast Guard sailing exercise.



The 2005 Congressional Guide for Admission to the United States Service Academies

This guide is prepared as an aid for Congressional sponsors of applicants and candidates seeking nominations and appointments to the United States service academies. Information for the three Department of Defense service academies is presented in Section IA of this publication. Section IB contains separate subsections with information unique to each academy. Information relevant to the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Transportation service academies is provided in Section II.

U.S. Military Academy
Director of Admissions
Attn: Congressional Liaison Office
Official Mail & Distribution Center
646 Swift Road
West Point, NY 10996-1905
Phone: (845) 938-5754
Website: www.usma.edu

U.S. Air Force Academy
Director of Admissions
ATTN: Congressional Liaison Office
2304 Cadet Drive Suite 200
USAF Academy CO 80840-5025
Phone: (719) 333-8850
Website: www.academyadmissions.com

U.S. Naval Academy
Office of Admissions/Nominations
and Appointments
117 Decatur Rd.
Annapolis, MD 21402-5019
Phone: (410) 293-4392
Website: www.usna.edu/Admissions

U.S. Coast Guard Academy
Admissions Office
New London, Conn. 06320-4195
Phone: (860) 444-8500
Website: www.cga.edu

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
Admissions Office
300 Steamboat Road
Kings Point, NY 11024-1699
Phone: (516) 773-5391
Website: www.usmma.edu

CONTENTS

Section I	3
Department of Defense Academies	
United States Naval Academy	
United States Military Academy	
United States Air Force Academy	
Section IA	4
The Nomination and Appointment Process	
Congressional Nomination Methods	7
Summary of the Nomination and Appointment Process	9
Nomination Form	10
Section 1B	
Admission Procedures	11
United States Naval Academy	12
United States Military Academy	16
United States Air Force Academy	20
Section II	
Department of Homeland Security Academy	25
United States Coast Guard Academy	26
Section III	
Department of Transportation Academy	27
United States Merchant Marine Academy	28
Nomination Form for the United States Merchant Marine Academy	30



Section 1

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACADEMIES

ARMY

AIR FORCE

NAVY



SECTION IA - *The Nomination and Appointment Process*

The Nomination

All appointments to the service academies are made by the President. To be considered for an appointment to a service academy, an applicant must have a nomination from an authorized nominating source. Title 10, U.S. Code, Annotated establishes two nomination categories. The first, usually referred to as “congressional nominations,” includes the nominations of the Vice-President and Members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. The second, referred to as “service-connected” or “military-affiliated” nominations, includes the selections of the President and nominations of the appropriate service (e.g., Secretary of the Navy for nominations to the Naval Academy).

Applicants should apply to all nomination sources for which they are eligible. Congressional nominations account for approximately three-fourths of all appointments. Therefore, Members of Congress should not exclude from their nomination process those applicants who may also hold service connected nominations.

Congressional Nominations

Members of Congress may nominate applicants who meet the eligibility requirements established by law. Senators nominate from applicants in their entire state. Representatives nominate from applicants domiciled in their congressional districts as constituted at the time of their election. Applicants may apply for and receive nominations from both their United States Senators and from their Representative. Applicants may also apply to the Vice-President of the United States, who can nominate applicants from the country at large as well as U.S. citizens living abroad.

Service-Affiliated Nominations

An unlimited number of presidential nominations are available for children and legally adopted children of career officer and enlisted personnel of the armed forces, active or reserve, including the Coast Guard. One hundred candidates may be appointed with these nominations each year. A parent in the Reserves must be serving as a member of a reserve component and be credited with at least eight years of service or must be entitled to retired pay except that he or she is not yet sixty years old. Otherwise, the parent must currently be on active duty (other than for training) and have served continuously for at least eight years or have retired with pay or have been granted retired or retainer pay. The President may also appoint the children of Medal of Honor winners.

Students may also be appointed to the service academies based on nominations as children of military personnel who were killed in action; died from wounds, injuries or disease while on active duty; sustained 100 percent disability from such wounds, injuries, or disease as certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs; or who are currently prisoners of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA). The children of civilians in POW or MIA status are also eligible. Legally adopted children are eligible.

The Secretary of the appropriate service may nominate for appointment enlisted members of the regular and the reserve components of the appropriate service, members of the service’s own Reserve Officer Training Corps and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs, and the Junior Reserve Officer Training programs of the other services which have been designated as Honor Units with Distinction.

Qualified Alternates

If the annual quota of midshipmen/cadets is not filled, the Secretary may select up to 150 candidates who received congressional nominations but were not selected. These candidates must be fully qualified.

Additional Appointments

If the annual quota of midshipmen/cadets is still not filled, the Secretary may nominate candidates who competed for the nomination and are fully qualified. At least three-fourths of these candidates must have received a congressional nomination.

Who is Eligible?

Each applicant for a nomination must meet the following eligibility requirements as of 1 July of the year of admission to an academy:

Age: Be at least 17 years old, but not have passed the 23rd birthday.

Citizenship: Must be a U.S. citizen.

Marital Status: Be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents.

General Admissions Standards

Before nominating an applicant, Members of Congress should carefully evaluate each applicant’s overall qualifications, including the legal domicile to confirm that the applicant is domiciled within the boundaries of the representative’s congressional district. The three academies consider evidence of character, scholarship, leadership, physical aptitude, medical fitness, goals and motivation in determining each nominee’s “whole-person” evaluation.

Character

Absolutely critical in the course of evaluating a candidate is a positive determination of the candidate's character. Absence of good moral character is cause for disqualification.

Scholarship

Each element of a candidate's academic record is carefully evaluated by a service academy's admissions board. The elements evaluated include a complete high school record (and college record, when applicable), class rank and either the SAT-I or the American College Testing (ACT) scores. All strengths and weaknesses in a candidate's academic background are taken into account.

SAT-I test scores are available to Members of Congress directly from the testing agency approximately 30 days after an applicant has been tested. However, for Members of Congress to receive them, the applicant must request that the agency forward the test results to the Congressional offices. The applicant may do this at the time he or she registers for the test. It is each Member's responsibility to coordinate with an applicant on the receipt of test scores. Members of Congress may expedite the process by obtaining a SAT-I code number from the testing agency and providing this code number to applicants. Members may obtain SAT-I code numbers by calling (609) 771-7600. To obtain ACT test scores, the applicant uses Code 7000 on the test application form. The applicant will then be furnished an additional copy of the test scores to send to his or her Members of Congress. To register for the SAT-I and ACT, students should check with their school counselor or visit the appropriate web site (www.sat.org and www.act.org) for details of test dates and registration requirements. Candidates will normally enhance their competitiveness by taking both the SAT and the ACT more than once. Non-standard, un-timed tests are not acceptable. The admissions offices of the academies stand ready to assist in evaluating test results.

Leadership

Participation and achievement in organized athletics, student body and class government, clubs and class extracurricular activities, scouting, boys/girls state, church or other community-related activities demonstrate evidence of leadership potential. Candidates who have found it necessary to work to provide family support are considered to have demonstrated desirable leadership potential.

Physical Aptitude

Measuring strength, endurance, agility and

coordination, the candidate fitness assessment (CFA) is designed to determine each candidate's readiness to undertake the rigorous athletic and physical education program at the academies. Each academy includes the results of the test in their whole-person evaluation. The Naval Academy generally evaluates the CFA on a pass/fail basis, but gives due consideration to scores that are exceptionally high or low. The test may be taken as many times as necessary.

Medical Fitness

Candidates who meet minimum scholastic standards will be scheduled to take a service academy qualifying medical examination at a military or civilian contract facility near the candidate's home. Although medical qualification standards vary for each of the academies, only one exam is required. Additional tests may be necessary and may vary depending upon the academy. Scheduling and evaluation of the exam is accomplished by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (**DoDMERB**). Candidates who have questions about their medical exam results should direct them to:

DoDMERB

8034 Edgerton Drive, Suite 132
USAF Academy, CO 80840-2200
Phone: (719) 333-3562

Website: <https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil>

Medical scheduling and evaluation are time-consuming processes, especially if consultation, retesting or corrective action are required. The process may take from six weeks to four months.

Motivation

An attempt to measure motivation may be made through observation of the candidate's interest level in attending an academy and serving as an officer in the armed forces. Motivation is an intangible quality and difficult to evaluate; however, since it most frequently the factor that determines an appointee's success or failure at a service academy, the effort must be made.

Whole-Person Evaluation

All of the preceding factors are part of the "whole-person" evaluation used by each of the academies. These qualities are required of an individual in order to meet the challenges of the academy programs and, following graduation, as commissioned officers.

Applicant Evaluation

Each academy uses a questionnaire to make an initial assessment of an applicant's potential for appointment. An eligible applicant should contact each academy by calling or writing to request the appropriate questionnaire. The questionnaire may also be completed on-line by visiting each academy's web page.

Soon after the applicant submits the questionnaire, the admissions office will reply to the applicant with an evaluation of the applicant's demonstrated ability to meet admissions standards. Applicants who meet the standards are declared candidates; those who do not meet the standards at that point may later submit additional test scores or information to the academy for reevaluation. The applicant must provide the following information: academic standardized test scores (ACT, PSAT, SAT-I), rank in class and grade point average, social security number and participation in high school extracurricular activities.

Applicant Screening

The academies send status reports to Members of Congress from September through April. In addition to considering these candidate status reports, Members are encouraged to conduct their own screening panels as part of the selection process. An alternative is to use a numerical process where numerical weights are given to respective categories of the selection process, e.g. scholarship, athletics, extracurricular activities. A selection committee can assist the staff member in interviewing and screening applicants. The purpose of such a committee is to evaluate, conduct a comparative analysis of, and recommend the best candidates to the Member. The committee can be composed of individuals from different cities or townships with the person most knowledgeable about the academies to serve as chairman, which could be the senior member of the board or a local admissions liaison information officer. A Member's staff can make up a screening panel also. To assist the Member efficiently, members of the board should be briefed by a staff member or liaison officer each year as to the requirements of each academy and the latest information in order to make the very best selections possible. A professional educator on the board is helpful also. To encourage more community involvement, membership on boards or panels should have limited terms.

Vacancies

Each U.S. Senator and Representative may have a maximum of five cadets or midshipmen at each service academy at one time. **A Member of Congress may nominate up to ten candidates for each vacancy.** In

order not to close out the ability to nominate to each academy each year, **the Member should verify that a vacancy will be available for the next year before filling more than one vacancy.** During the summer, the service academies report who is charged to each office as well as the number of vacancies available for the coming admissions cycle. In addition, new Members receive vacancy status reports from each academy shortly after they assume office. Throughout the year, Members are notified by each academy whenever additional vacancies become available because of separations.



Statue of General Dwight D. Eisenhower at West Point.

Congressional Nomination Methods

There are three methods of nomination which may be used by Members of Congress. They are: competitive, principal with competing alternates, and principal with numbered alternates. Members of Congress may use any of these methods at their discretion. Regardless of the nominating method and means of evaluation used, **it is strongly encouraged that a full slate of ten nominations be submitted for each vacancy.** A higher number of nominees increases the quality of the incoming academy class.

Competitive Nomination

This is the method of nomination favored by the academies and used by most Members of Congress (approximately 70-75 percent). The Member of Congress submits to an academy an unranked slate of up to ten nominees for each vacancy. The candidates are then ranked in order of merit in accordance with the specific academy system. The most highly qualified is selected for an offer of admission (an appointment) to fill the vacancy. If the Member has more than one vacancy, ten nominees may be submitted for each vacancy (two vacancies: 20 unranked nominees, three vacancies: 30 nominees, etc.). The academy then selects the best of the qualified nominees to fill each of the available vacancies. **Again, it is strongly encouraged that members nominate as many young men and women as possible for each vacancy, as it enhances the quality of the candidate pool.**

Principal with Competing Alternates

This method provides for designation of a principal nominee by the Member of Congress. The other nine unranked nominees are submitted to the academy for evaluation and compete as alternates. If the principal is fully qualified (academics, medical and physical aptitude), he or she will be appointed and will fill the vacancy. Note that this method does not take into account the quality of the other nominees if the principal nominee is fully qualified. On the other hand, if the principal does not qualify, the alternates then compete for the vacancy. Selection at this point is based on merit as determined by the evaluation and ranking of the alternates by the service academy.

Principal with Numbered Alternates

Under this method, the principal nominee is designated and the alternate nominees are ranked in order of preference by the Member of Congress. If fully qualified, the principal nominee receives the appointment to fill the vacancy. If the principal nominee does not qualify, then the first alternate is considered for the appointment and so on. In effect, the highest

designated nominee who is fully qualified for entrance is appointed to fill the vacancy.

A Point of View

Years ago, Members of Congress used the principal with numbered alternates method because the law specified this method. After expansion of the service academies (1964-1968), Members of Congress were allowed ten nominations for every vacancy. Today, about one congressional sponsor in four is using the principal method. Most Members favor the use of the competitive method. The advantages of the competitive method are:

First: The more competitive the method of selecting and evaluating nominees, the more likely the individual selected for appointment will be the best qualified. In the case of principal nominees designated by Members of Congress, for example, a minimally-qualified designated principal nominee must be offered the Member's appointment, even though one or more of the Member's alternate nominees may be far better qualified. Use of the competitive nomination method ensures that the top-ranked, best-qualified nominee is offered admission.

Second: Use of competitive methods would appear to have a distinct advantage for Members of Congress by eliminating the requirement for the Member of Congress to rank one constituent over another. Every candidate has an equal chance based on merit and eliminates any perception of political influence. Most candidates and their parents recognize this fact.

Appointment of Other Qualified Candidates

In addition to those selected to fill vacancies for a Member of Congress, it is possible that one or more additional nominees of the Member of Congress may be successful in gaining appointments under the qualified alternate or additional appointment categories. These appointments are not charged to the Members of Congress but are charged as qualified alternates and additional appointees.

Early Nominations

There are advantages and disadvantages to making nominations early. **The most significant advantage is that early offers of admission can be extended to outstanding candidates,** thus allowing the service academies to compete with other selective universities for that high quality student. An early admissions decision might be the determining factor that brings an outstanding person to a service academy. Early nomination also provides ample time to replace a withdrawn or disqualified candidate with another nominee. Members may submit nominees singularly,

or as a partial slate, at any time. This approach is convenient and helps service academies expedite the evaluation of nominees.

It is difficult to advise as to the best deadline date for accepting applications for a nomination. Each Member of Congress has a different volume of applicants, and somewhat different evaluation and selection procedures. **A November deadline date would appear to fit the needs of most congressional sponsors and still provide for consideration of well-qualified applicants who are late in applying.**

Students are strongly advised to apply to their congressional sponsors and their academy of choice in the spring of their junior year, but many fine prospects do not apply for entry into a service academy until their senior year is well underway and their college plans are being developed. Thus, we encourage Members of Congress to consider substitute nominations as the admissions cycle progresses.

Late Nominations

The service academies' administrative deadline for the receipt of nominations is 31 January.

Nominations should be submitted by that time. Late nominations precipitate a last-minute rush to complete admission records. Information is needed from the nominees, their schools and testing agencies. Medical and physical fitness examinations must be scheduled, taken and evaluated. All of this must be completed before an academy completes evaluation of a candidate. In the case of a full slate of ten nominees all competing for the same vacancy, the top individual cannot be selected until all the required records have been received for each of the nominees.

Substitute Nominations

Members of Congress are sometimes asked to nominate applicants for admission who will further the attainment of service academy class composition goals. Often a service academy will bring sought-after candidates to the attention of appropriate Members of Congress. These individuals may be used to fill a nomination slate to ten or to replace other nominees who have declined or whose nominations have been withdrawn. Substitutions may be made by Members after the staffer checks with the appropriate office at the following numbers:

Army: (845) 938-5723

Navy: (410) 293-4392

Air Force: (719) 333-2520

Nomination Form

The nomination form (DD Form 1870) is normally used by Members of Congress to submit the names of the nominees for the three service academies. This form

must be typed or neatly handwritten and must be signed by the Member. Instructions and mailing addresses are indicated on the form. The form is available online at <http://webster/other/serviceacademy/index.cfm> for the Senate and at <http://housenet.house.gov/forms-library.htm> for the House. Only the signed original should be submitted. The Naval Academy also accepts nominations in letter format.

Appointment Notification

Candidates to be offered appointments are identified after careful evaluation by each academy. Exceptionally qualified candidates are often offered a letter of assurance (LOA) once they have been found scholastically qualified by the service academy's board. The LOA quarantees an offer of appointment after the remaining admissions requirements have been completed. If they have not actually done so, candidates must obtain an official nomination, satisfactorily complete a qualifying medical examination, and pass the candidate fitness assessment (CFA). Each academy may have other specific requirements that must be fulfilled before a fully qualified offer of appointment can be made.

Prior to officially notifying any congressional nominee of selection for an appointment, the service academies or their congressional activities offices will notify the congressional office so that the Member may have ample time to be the first to contact the successful candidate and offer congratulations. The academies usually wait two or three days after notifying the sponsor before notifying the candidate of an offer of appointment.

Publicity

Members of Congress should make wide use of the news media to announce to constituents when applications for nominations to the service academies will be accepted. News releases may be enhanced by information concerning the selection process used by the Member of Congress. An appropriate time for news releases is in the spring when nominations open and again in **September** to announce deadlines for nomination closing. Another release in **January** or **February** is recommended to announce names of all applicants selected for nomination to service academies.

Useful publicity also results from news releases made by Members of Congress concerning noteworthy accomplishments at the service academies by their nominees. Congressional newsletters are also good outlets for these announcements. Local releases, provided periodically to Members of Congress by the service academies, contribute to our common goal of keeping the academies in the public eye and attracting applicants with outstanding qualifications.

Some Members host town meetings which could be an opportunity to bring the advantages of the service academies to a group of potential applicants. Many Members of Congress are now hosting “Academy Days” as another avenue for reaching potential applicants. All

academies will render support when possible.

Public service announcements by Members of Congress on television programs are other ways to publicize the service academies as well as the nomination process.

Summary of the Nomination and Appointment Process

The following schedule may be used as a guide to the timing of important steps in the nomination and appointment process.

Beginning in the Spring

Members of Congress begin to receive applications for nomination to the service academies. Use news media, newsletters and other means to publicize the application process.

September through December

Members of Congress accept applications and screen applicants, including interview by screening board if used. Members of Congress send out press releases announcing application deadlines.

September through April

Academies provide periodic applicant evaluation to Members of Congress based on the evaluation of the information self-reported by the applicant. In late January or early February, status reports reflect validated information on the candidates.

Beginning in September

Academies send out early offers of admission/appointment and Letters of Assurance. Advance notice of appointments will be given to congressional offices by the academies. On the Naval Academy Candidate Evaluation Report, candidates will appear as “Not Evaluated” until validated information is received, which could be as early as September. The evaluation will change as additional information is received.

By 31 January (earlier if possible)

Members of Congress submit nomination forms to each academy.

October through February

Members of Congress send out press releases announcing nominees.

By Late April

Academies have offered the majority of appointments and notified the majority of candidates regarding their final application status.

By 1 May

Candidates must accept or decline their offers of appointment.

May through June

Academies may offer additional appointments to replace candidates who decline their appointments.

Late June or early July

Newly appointed class enters each academy. Members of Congress send out press releases announcing appointees and publicizing the application process.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING DD FORM 1870
AND EXPLANATION OF NOMINATING SYSTEMS**

Type one form for each nominee.
Submit only the signed original.

Ten nominations are allowed for each vacancy.

Place an "X" in appropriate Service Academy block.

COMPETITIVE SYSTEM:

Selection will be made by the Academy Academic Board in order of merit based on the "Whole Person" concept as to the candidate whose all around performance indicates the greatest likelihood of successes as a career officer in the Armed Forces of the United States. When filling one vacancy, place an "X" in the "1st Vacancy" block and the "Competitive" block. If filling more than one vacancy, place an "X" in each of the numbered vacancy blocks being filled and the "Competitive" block.

PRINCIPAL/NUMBERED ALTERNATE SYSTEM:

A Principal and nine numbered alternates may be named for each vacancy available. An appointment will be offered if the Principal meets eligibility criteria. If the Principal fails to meet the Academy minimum requirements, the next designated alternate candidate who qualified will succeed as the Principal. Place an "X" in the appropriate "Vacancy" block and type the number of preference of this alternate and the name of the Principal.

PRINCIPAL/COMPETITIVE ALTERNATE SYSTEM:

A Principal and nine numbered alternates may be named for each vacancy available. If the named Principal fails to meet the requirements for admission the Academy will select the top candidate among the competitive alternates designated. Place an "X" in the appropriate "Vacancy" block and the "Competitive Alternate" block and the name of the Principal.

NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES

MILITARY ACADEMY
 NAVAL ACADEMY
 AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden, to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (0701-0026), 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS. RETURN THE FORM TO THE APPROPRIATE ACADEMY ADDRESS.

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Last, First, Middle Initial)	2. DATE OF BIRTH (YYYYMMDD)	3. SOC. SEC. NUMBER
--	-----------------------------	---------------------

4. DOMICILE IN CONSTITUENCY	5. TEMPORARY ADDRESS
-----------------------------	----------------------

a. STREET (Include apartment number)	a. STREET (Include apartment number)
--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

b. CITY	c. COUNTY	d. ST	e. ZIP CODE	b. CITY	c. COUNTY	d. ST	e. ZIP CODE
---------	-----------	-------	-------------	---------	-----------	-------	-------------

6. SEX (X one) <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	7. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code)	8. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND/OR STATE
---	---	--

9. TYPE OF NOMINATION (X as applicable)

a. VACANCY <input type="checkbox"/> 1st <input type="checkbox"/> 4th <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 5th <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd	b. TYPE OF NOMINATION <input type="checkbox"/> PRINCIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> COMPETITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERNATE (1-9) _____ (Name of Principal) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> COMPETITIVE ALTERNATE TO (Name of Principal) _____
--	---

10. REMARKS

11. NOMINATING AUTHORITY	b. SIGNATURE	c. DATE SIGNED (YYYYMMDD)
a. TYPED NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)		

12. MAIL TO APPROPRIATE ACADEMY ADDRESS

Army: Director of Admissions Attn: Congressional Liaison Office Official Mail: Distribution Center 646 Swift Road West Point, NY 10996-1905	Navy: Nominations and Appointments Branch U.S. Naval Academy 117 Decatur Road Annapolis, MD 21402-5019	Air Force: The United States Air Force Academy HQ USAF / RRS 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200 USAF Academy, CO 80840-5025 1-800-443-9266 or 719-333-2520
---	---	---

SECTION IB

Admissions Procedures

Navy Army Air Force



This section contains separate subsections with admission requirements and procedures that are unique to each of the Department of Defense service academies.



United States Naval Academy Annapolis, Maryland

Academic Requirements

Evaluating Applicants

In endeavoring to select the best applicants as nominees, Members of Congress should consider the same factors that are considered by the Naval Academy in selecting candidates for appointment.

Factors used to determine the whole-person evaluation include scores on verbal and math portions of the SAT-I and/or scores on English and math portions of the American College Testing Program (ACT). The Naval Academy does not consider results of any tests given after the administration of the January SAT-I and/or the administration of the February ACT. For purposes of the admission decision the Naval Academy will use the highest scores achieved on tests taken after December of the student's 11th grade in high school/secondary school. Other factors include the quality of the candidate's academic record (transcripts, class standing and recommendations from school officials) and the extracurricular activities record (accomplishments in athletics, school or class offices held, school and community involvement, the nature and extent of employment during the school year, etc.).

Entering Class Profile

A profile of the latest entering class is provided to each congressional office during the summer. If you desire additional copies, contact the Naval Academy Nominations and Appointments office at (410) 293-4392.

Preliminary Application

Applicants should submit a Preliminary Application to the Naval Academy in the spring of their junior year or as soon thereafter as possible by visiting our website at www.usna.edu/Admissions/pre-application/ to fill out the form on-line. This will be used in deciding whether to open a preadmission file. The Naval Academy application is also available on line and can be accessed once a candidate receives their number.

Minorities

Minority admissions officers are assigned at the Naval Academy to assist in identifying and encouraging prospective minority candidates.

USNA Nominations and Appointments Office

The Nominations and Appointments Office also serves as the USNA's Congressional liaison office.

Located at the Academy, it is an integral part of the admissions process.

This office provides a wide range of information to Congressional offices including Vacancy Status Reports; monthly Candidate Evaluation Reports from September thru April; and notice of any midshipmen separations that will affect the number of vacancies available to a Member of Congress.

This office can also provide information regarding midshipmen currently in the brigade from a specific state or district if requested by the Member of Congress.

Prior to mailing an offer of appointment to a Congressional nominee, this office will call the Congressional Office so that the Member may contact the candidate with the good news. Generally the letter will be mailed 2 or 3 days later.

The Nominations and Appointments office also works with the Department of Defense to select international students and to process the necessary paperwork.

The Naval Academy sponsors an annual Congressional Staff Seminar, which is designed to help offices identify and nominate competitive candidates. During the visit, participants will see and experience first hand how the 4,000 young men and women of the Brigade of Midshipmen live, study, and train for the very special mission of becoming future leaders of this Nation.

The Nominations and Appointments staff is available to answer questions and concerns that Congressional offices have regarding the nominations process itself, specific candidates, or other issues pertaining to the USNA. Please call 410-293-4392 for assistance.

Medical Consideration

The Naval Academy program is physically challenging. All candidates are required to undergo a thorough medical examination because our graduates will be commissioned in a wide variety of exciting career fields with strict medical standards.

The Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) schedules all medical and dental examinations and carefully reviews the reports to determine if a candidate meets our medical standards for admission. DoDMERB considers medical history and information on illnesses, injuries, surgery, familial diseases, and other factors that could affect a candidate's medical status.

Eye and Vision

This is the most common problem area for candidates. Our basic requirement for admission is normal (20/20)

Naval Academy is authorized to admit only a limited number of candidates in each class with less than 20/20 uncorrected visual acuity. These waivers are granted on a competitive basis, regardless of type of nomination. Therefore, we recommend that candidates who wear glasses or contact lenses not be given principal nominations unless they have such exceptional records that they stand a good chance of competing successfully for one of the available waivers.

Due to the maritime and aviation environment in which they will eventually serve, candidates who do not have normal color perception must be medically disqualified for admission to the Naval Academy.

The only form of refractive surgery considered for a waiver to enter Navy SEAL and Naval Aviation training is photorefractive keratectomy (PRK). In general, it is prudent to delay all refractive surgery procedures until after the progression of nearsightedness associated with growth in eye size has ceased (beyond age 21 for many people). If a candidate is considering undergoing any refractive surgery or treatment, he/she is strongly encouraged to discuss this with the Senior Medical Officer in Admissions. Refractive surgery is disqualifying and the number of authorized waivers is extremely limited.

For more detailed medical considerations, consult Appendix A of the Naval Academy catalog or visit our website at www.usna.edu/Admissions/medical.htm.

Programs Supporting Admissions

Midshipmen as Admissions' Representatives

The Naval Academy's Operation Information (Op Info) Program is conducted primarily during Thanksgiving break. Midshipmen volunteer to make public appearances in their home communities and speak to middle and high school students, appear on radio and television programs, and address civic groups. They provide prospective applicants with invaluable firsthand information on the admissions process and academy life.

Candidate Visits

The Naval Academy Summer Seminar (NASS) is a one week program designed to introduce rising seniors to the Naval Academy. Students will experience all aspects of the Naval Academy including the academic program and midshipman life. Detailed information is available on the USNA website; the application goes on line every year on 1 February.

Candidate visit weekends are scheduled on specific weekends from October through April for high school seniors. Candidates must be competitive for an appointment in order to attend and should contact their admissions counselor for more information.

Naval Academy Information (Blue and Gold) Program

This is the Naval Academy's nationwide admissions network. It is headed by the Director of Candidate Guidance at the Naval Academy and coordinated by Navy and Marine Corps officers (admissions officers) at the Naval Academy. There are more than 1,500 Naval Academy Information Officers (NAIOs) at the heart of the information program, who assist in recruiting efforts throughout the 50 states and overseas. Many NAIOs are Naval and Marine Corps Reserve officers, but there are also a significant number of civilians participating. Many are educators. All are volunteers. It is probable that Members of Congress may already know NAIOs who reside in their state and district. Some are members of congressional nominee screening committees.

Members of Congress are encouraged to call on the NAIOs when they need assistance. The names, addresses and phone numbers of local NAIOs are available from admissions officers at the Naval Academy.

USNA Athletic Association

The Naval Academy Athletic Association is interested in obtaining names and home addresses of promising student athletes noted by congressional staff members. Congressional staffers may call the Associate Director of Athletics for Admissions Coordination, (410) 293-2238 to recommend athletes for consideration.

USNA Alumni Association, Navy League, Midshipmen Parents' Club

In addition to Naval Academy Information Officers, other Navy-oriented organizations located nationwide include local chapters of the Naval Academy Alumni Association and the Navy and Marine Corps League. In some communities, there are organizations composed of parents of midshipmen. These organizations' members, wherever located, are knowledgeable about the Naval Academy. Many would welcome the opportunity to help as a member of a nominee selection committee or in some other way. Naval Academy Admissions Officers can assist Members of Congress in contacting representatives of these organizations in their local areas.

The USNA Foundation

The Naval Academy Foundation, headquartered in Annapolis, is a private nonprofit organization chartered under the laws of the state of Maryland for "philanthropic, educational and scientific purposes." The principal mission of the Foundation is to find and assist highly motivated young men and women to qualify and compete for entrance to the Naval Academy through an intensive year of post-high school education.

The Foundation may provide partial scholarships for those candidates that it sponsors. A list of the institutions participating is available through the Foundation. For additional information about the Foundation's program, contact the Executive Director, U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, Inc., 48 Maryland Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21404-0000. Phone (410) 267-8651.

Students attending prep school under the sponsorship of the Foundation must obtain a nomination in order to receive an appointment to the USNA.

The USNA Preparatory School (NAPS)

Located in Newport, Rhode Island, the primary purpose of NAPS is to prepare enlisted members from the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps to attend and graduate from the Naval Academy as officers. The ten-month course of study, lasting from July through May, is designed to strengthen the academic foundation of individual candidates, with emphasis on English composition, mathematics and science. A student's placement in each subject depends upon his or her demonstrated ability, previous education and additional needs for success at one of the academies. Demanding military and physical development programs complement the academic preparation.

Nominees in a regular or reserve Navy or Marine Corps status who are unsuccessful in obtaining an appointment to the Naval Academy are considered automatically by the Naval Academy for admission to NAPS. No special request for this consideration is necessary.

Additionally, each year the Naval Academy Admissions Board identifies a number of the most promising and highly motivated civilian candidates who were unsuccessful in being selected for admission to the Naval Academy. Those identified are offered the opportunity to enlist in the Naval Reserve for the express purpose of attending NAPS.

Candidates for NAPS must

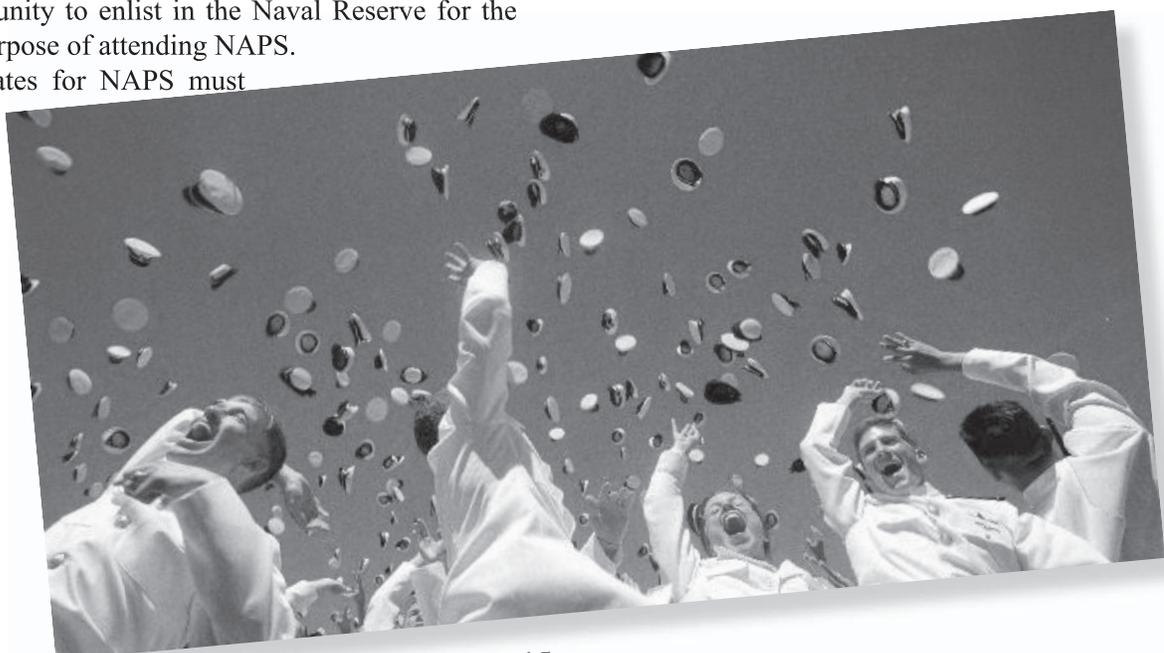
be U.S. citizens of good moral character; unmarried, not pregnant and with no children; and at least 17, but not yet 22 on 1 July of the calendar year in which they will enter the preparatory school. The superintendent of each academy determines the admissions standards for their candidates.

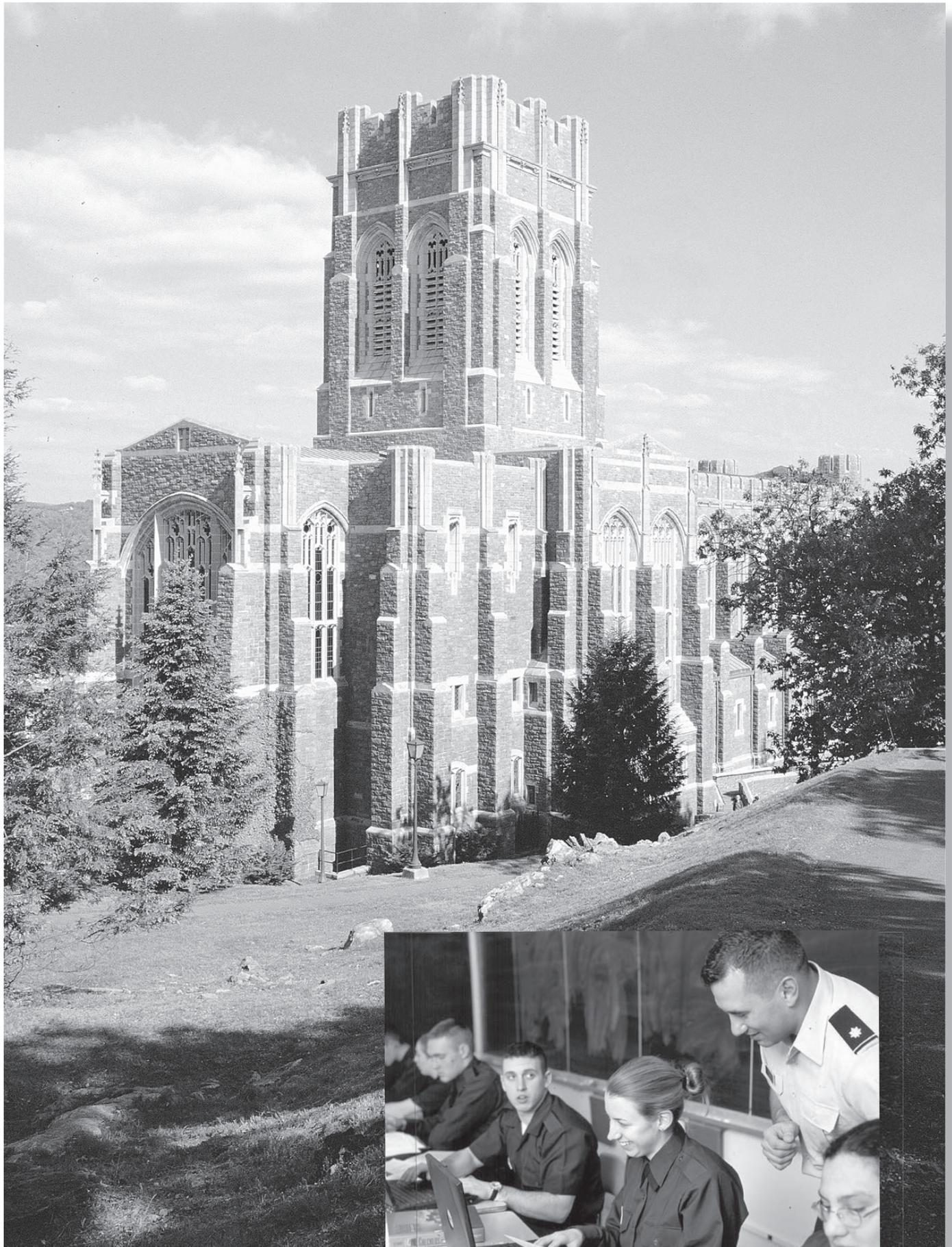
The USNA encourages Members of Congress to nominate students attending NAPS if there is space available on the slate. NAPS students are also eligible for a Secretary of the Navy nomination.

Important Phone Numbers

Admissions Office
(Nominations & Appointments) (410) 293-4392
(Admissions Officers) (410) 293-4361
Associate Director of Athletics for Admissions Coordination (410) 293-2238
U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School (401) 841-2692
USNA Foundation (410) 267-8651
USNA Alumni Association (410) 263-4448

Website
www.usna.edu





United States Military Academy

West Point, New York

Academic Requirements

As noted in Section IA, the whole-person evaluation is based on factors of scholarship, leadership, and physical aptitude, as well as character, motivation and medical fitness. Although the Military Academy does not require a specific number of courses or units of study as a prerequisite for admission, recommended areas of preparation are: four years of English, four years of mathematics including trigonometry, two years of a foreign language, four years of science, including two years of laboratory science and one year of history. Overall, a strong college preparatory program taken in high school is highly recommended. Approximately 80 percent of the entering class comes from the top 20 percent of their high school class. Mean SAT-I scores for a recent class are Math-648, English-629. Mean ACT scores are Math-29, Verbal-29.

Medical Requirements

Potentially qualified applicants are scheduled for a complete qualifying medical examination by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) at the request of the Military Academy. Specific medical requirements may be found in the Military Academy catalog. The general vision and height standards are as follows:

Eye and Vision Standards

Visual Acuity: Distant visual acuity which is correctable to at least 20/20 in each eye with spectacle lenses.

Color Vision: Ability to distinguish vivid red and vivid green.

Refractive Error: Myopia of less than 6.75 diopters in any meridian. Hyperopia of less than 8.00 diopters in any meridian. Astigmatism: all types less than 3.00 diopters. Anisometropia: less than 3.50 diopters.

Height Standards

Men: Minimum height is 60 inches; maximum height is 80 inches.

Women: Minimum height is 58 inches; maximum height is 80 inches.

Congressional Support

West Point Admissions has developed a full support system to minimize the problems involved with the nomination and appointment process. This system ensures an effective and timely exchange of information between a congressional office and

USMA on all applicants. The admissions office will provide continuous assistance in selecting the best qualified young people from the Member of Congress' constituency.

Exchange of Information

The objective for congressional offices should be to submit a full slate (ten per vacancy) of eligible nominees to the academy's admissions office. In turn, the admissions office will send to each Member's office a "Monthly Congressional Summary" (MCS) outlining each candidate's potential as a nominee. This rating takes into consideration all information currently available on a candidate.

Mailback Cards/Pathguide

Much of the information on the MCS comes from the Candidate Questionnaire (CQ) which applicants to West Point fill out as part of the admissions process. Each year, a few applicants will be revealed to admissions through the nomination process. Because of the applicants' failure to make early contact with West Point, they have not received admissions information (including the CQ). In many instances, they have not been scheduled for medical or physical aptitude examinations. Some have failed to register for standardized tests before established deadlines.

As congressional staff assistants identify applicants who do not appear on the MCS, they should complete a "green card" (USMA Form 375) made available in every congressional office.

If no "green cards" are available, have the applicant request a "Pathguide" from his guidance counselor, or simply mail the applicant's name, address, and social security number to the Director of Admissions at West Point. USMA will mail a packet, with a CQ, to the applicant.

USMA Congressional Liaison Office

The USMA Admissions Congressional Liaison Office is located at West Point. This office maintains liaison with Members of Congress regarding cadetship vacancies, candidate nomination, eligibility of nominees, appointment of candidates, and separation of individuals from the Corps of Cadets.

The liaison office informs Congressional sponsors of the nominees' selection two days prior to the announcement by the admissions office. Each August, the office also informs Members of Congress of the number of cadetship vacancies they will have for the next entering class. The USMA Congressional Liaison Office determines, in the case of redistricting, the congressional district to which affected cadets and candidates are chargeable according to domicile. The liaison office also notifies appropriate Congressional

sponsors of all cadet separations. This office, through its work with the State Department, maintains up-to-date information on the number of foreign cadet vacancies at the Military Academy. The USMA Admissions Congressional Liaison Office may be reached by calling (845) 938-5754, or by writing: Director of Admissions, ATTN: Congressional Liaison, Official Mail and Distribution Center, 646 Swift Road, West Point, New York 10996-1905.

Programs Supporting Admissions

West Point looks to its alumni and affiliated organizations (West Point Parents Clubs, West Point Societies) for support of its community oriented recruitment and support programs. Today there are over 2,000 support members in organizations that serve candidates, parents, high school staff and faculty personnel, and their communities.

There are some 1,500 “field force” members who act as coordinators of state, region or Congressional Districts, as well as those who support the coordinators. Individuals who serve in field support roles identify prospective candidates; encourage scholars, leaders and athletes to seek admission; and advise and assist candidates actively seeking admission to West Point. In addition, field support personnel attend “college night” programs, coordinate admissions officers’ visits in their areas, coordinate and sponsor cadets on speaking engagements, and organize admissions training and briefing workshops.

A well-trained, knowledgeable and experienced field force is maintained through annual training sessions at West Point (primarily directed to the U.S. Army Reserve Liaison Officers) as well as through workshops, informal admissions officer visits and an admissions office information bulletin.

The liaison officer (LO) program is one of two major admissions groups operating at the local level. The LO, a U.S. Army Reserve officer, performs admissions counseling and recruiting tasks within an assigned area.

The other major admissions group is that of the admissions participants (AP). They provide local support by counseling and interviewing young men and women seeking admission information. Included among APs are USMA graduates as well as other volunteers who serve in their respective Congressional Districts. Both Liaison Officers and Admissions Participants can be helpful to Members of Congress in a local area.

Other organizations are affiliated with, or are part of, the U.S. Army or the U.S. Military Academy and provide additional assistance. The organizations include West Point Societies (alumni organizations numbering more than 100), West Point Parents Clubs, chapters of the Association of the United States Army, U.S. Army

Recruiting units, U.S. Army ROTC instructor groups (both high school and college), and advisory officers at major Army headquarters and installations. These individuals and organizations assist the admissions office by supporting admissions participants and liaison officers.

Candidate Orientation Visits

USMA sponsors daily candidate orientation visits for high school students and their families Monday through Friday during the academic year. Admitted or admissible candidates are eligible for an overnight visit. All visits are by appointment only. Candidates and students interested in visiting USMA should call (845) 938-5760 at least two weeks in advance.

Cadet Hometown Visits

Over 900 USMA cadets made more than 3,000 public appearances before school audiences and civic organizations and on radio and TV programs during a recent academic year. Cadets are some of the most effective admissions and public relations representatives for USMA. Cadets make their appearances in conjunction with Thanksgiving leave, spring break (March) and during Graduation Week in late May. During the academic year cadets also participate in Congressional Academy Days, major by-invitation meetings and in college fairs across the country. Call the admissions public relations office at (845) 938-5759 to request cadet speakers.

Boys and Girls State Programs

These programs are sponsored annually in every state by the American Legion. The carefully selected participants have just completed their junior year in high school. Selection, based on scholarship and leadership potential, is made by the participants’ schools and communities. Since 1957, West Point has sent cadets to those states which permit cadet participation. The effectiveness of this program is evidenced by the fact that former Boys and Girls Staters comprise 20-25 percent of each new West Point class.

Minority Recruiting Programs

The admissions office continues to identify, encourage and assist minority group candidates who are interested in gaining admission to West Point. An example of one successful publicity effort is our Outreach Program. During the academic year, selected officers (usually lieutenants with at least three years of Army service) visit the homes of academically promising students to promote the academy and present firsthand accounts of academy life. They also speak at high schools and to civic groups.

USMA Preparatory School (USMAPS)

The United States Military Academy Preparatory School (USMAPS) at Fort Monmouth NJ, prepares and trains selected personnel to successfully compete for appointments to USMA. An applicant for USMAPS must meet the basic requirements for nomination to the Military Academy or have already received a nomination. Acceptance of an applicant by USMAPS normally ensures a nomination under the Regular Army or Reserve Component categories.

Members of the Regular Army, Army Reserve or National Guard who are unsuccessful in obtaining admission to West Point will be automatically considered for admission to USMAPS.

USMAPS emphasizes instruction in mathematics and English. The academic program readies the candidate for the standardized tests required for admission to USMA, and improves the candidate's ability to meet the Military Academy's rigid academic course load. Detailed information about the preparatory school may be obtained by contacting the admissions office at West Point, attention: Soldier Admissions.

Civilian Preparatory Scholarships

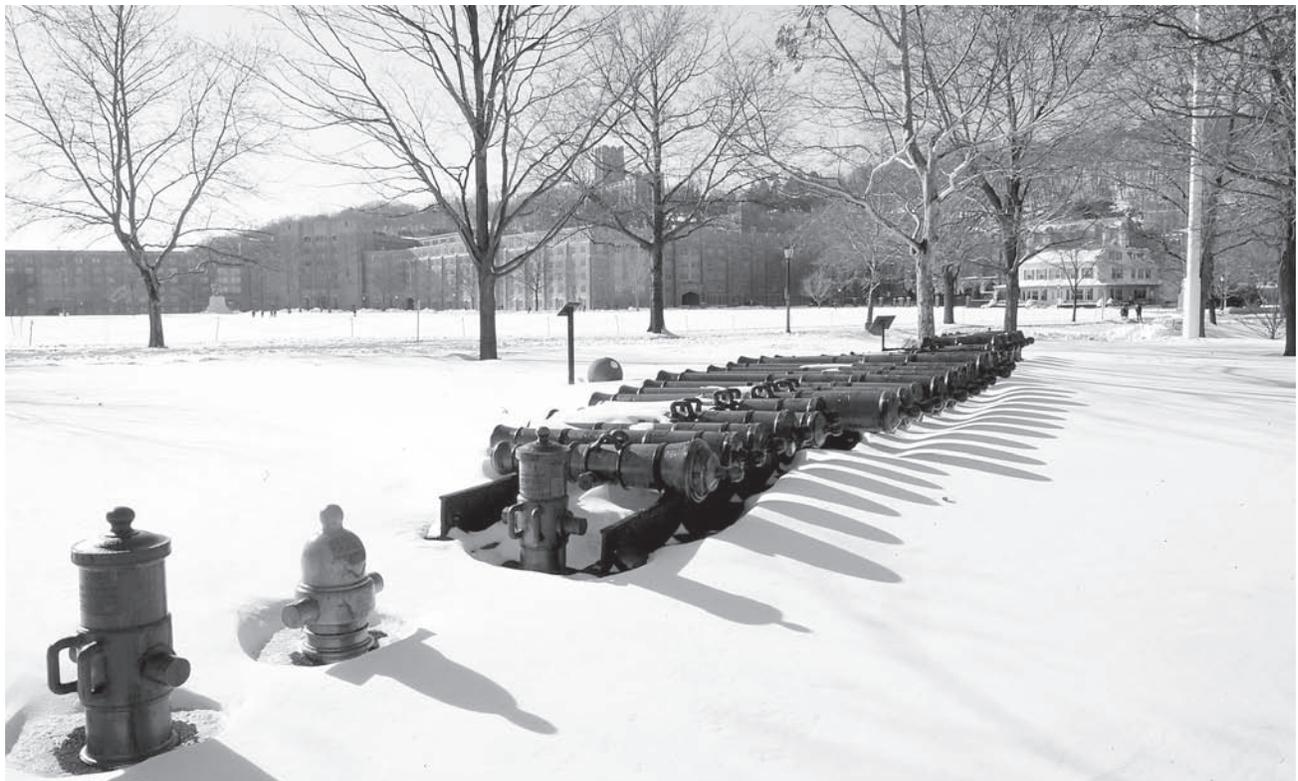
Candidates who are not selected for admission may also be considered, if eligible, for a partial scholarship awarded by the USMA Association of Graduates (AOG) for attendance at selected colleges and preparatory schools. Selection is founded upon the expected benefit of such a program in making the candidate competitive for the following year's nationwide qualified alternate pool.

Important Phone Numbers

Director of Admissions (845) 938-4041
including Regional Admissions Officers
and Minority Recruiting
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics,
Admissions Support Office (845) 938-4136
Admissions Public Relations (845) 938-5759
Association of Graduates (845) 938-4600
USMAPS, Fort Monmouth NJ (732) 522-5307

Website

www.usma.edu





United States Air Force Academy Colorado Springs, Colorado

Academic Requirements

To aid Members of Congress in selecting applicants who have a reasonable chance to compete for an appointment to the Air Force Academy, the following data on college admission test scores is furnished.

The middle 50 percent of candidates with appointments to the Air Force Academy in previous years have had SAT-I verbal aptitude scores ranging from 590 to 670 and math aptitude scores ranging from 620 to 700. Comparable ACT scores range from 26 to 29 in English, 28 to 32 in math, 27 to 32 in reading and 27 to 31 in science reasoning.

Academic preparation and performance are very important. Competitive candidates typically average five college preparatory courses per semester and will complete four years of English, four years of mathematics through trigonometry, four years of science (with a laboratory), three years of social studies and two years of a foreign language. Students must rank in the upper 40 percent of their class, but most successful candidates rank in the upper 10 percent.

Medical Requirements

Approximately 55 percent of the nominees admitted to the Air Force Academy will attend pilot training following graduation. Those who are eligible and wish to attend pilot training must meet the requirements of a medical examination taken in their junior year.

Potential Pilot

Qualification for potential pilot duties requires uncorrected visual acuity of no worse than 20/50 correctable to 20/20 in each eye. Uncorrected near visual acuity of worse than 20/20 must be correctable to 20/20 in each eye.

Commission only (Nonflying)

Distant vision: Correctable to 20/40 in one eye and 20/70 in the other, or 20/30 in one and 20/100 in the other, or 20/20 in one eye and 20/400 in the other.

Admission Information

Admission Standards

Competition for the limited number of appointments to the United States Air Force Academy is keen and admission standards are high compared to most civilian universities and colleges. In a recent class, approximately 9,000 young people were nominated

to the Academy. Of this number more than 2,400 met all minimum qualifications for admission, and appointments were offered to 1,600 candidates with 1,300 cadets actually entering.

Applicant Evaluation

The Air Force Academy uses an application (the Precandidate questionnaire or PCQ) as the first step in the admissions process. A student in the spring semester of the junior year in high school should apply on-line at www.academyadmissions.com.

The Academy will not send additional admissions forms to individuals or schedule medical examinations until an evaluation of their application indicates they have the potential to qualify for admission. Applicants who do not appear to have the potential to qualify will be informed of the area(s) in which they need to improve and will have until 15 February of the year of entry to submit new test scores and/or additional data which may raise their qualifications. Those who become qualified initially, or overcome the deficiency (or deficiencies) later, will be sent instructions for the next processing step. As soon as applicants become qualified, they are scheduled for a medical examination by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB), are sent a kit of additional admission forms and information and are scheduled for a physical fitness test beginning in early Fall. No further action will be taken in the case of applicants who do not correct their deficiencies or who do not return an application. Members of Congress will receive reports from September through January showing the current status of their constituents who have returned applications to the Academy.

Appointments

Notification of Appointment

Candidates who hold principal nominations will be notified of their appointment as soon as they meet all entrance requirements. All other qualified candidates will be considered for an appointment as soon as their admissions file is complete. Since some appointees may decline their appointment offers, it is possible that some qualified candidates may not be notified of appointment until shortly before the new class enters in late June. Candidates are normally informed in early April that they will not be selected for an appointment. Disqualified candidates may submit additional data until 1 March, such as updated ACT/SAT-I scores, a higher rank-in-class or a passing CFA which corrects the noted deficiency(ies). Upon receipt of this information, and if there are no other disqualifying factors, the candidate

will be reinstated and notified accordingly. However, until additional data which corrects the deficiency(ies) is received, the candidate will not receive further correspondence from the Admissions office. Candidates whose records (except medical status) are not completed by 1 March may be considered for an appointment at a later date only if a vacancy should occur after their records are complete and they are qualified for admission.

Conditional Appointments

Candidates selected for an appointment will be in a conditional status pending determination of their medical status, receipt of college or preparatory school transcript, obtaining U.S. citizenship and successfully completing the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA). The conditional offer of appointment will be withdrawn if it is determined that a candidate does not meet the above criteria by their class entry date.

Selection Factors

Candidates must rank in the upper 40 percent of their high school class and/or have a satisfactory post-high school record in preparatory school or college, if applicable.

Academic Composite

The Academic Composite is a combination of the admission test scores (SAT-I or ACT) and high school record. Relatively low scores on components of the Academic Composite will often result in an Academic Composite below the qualifying standards.

Candidate Fitness Assessment Score

Each event on the CFA has a qualifying standard and each individual must be able to achieve that standard. Achieving only the minimum score in each event will result in a passing but not necessarily competitive score. Consequently, candidates must perform to the best of their abilities in each event.

Extracurricular Composite Score

Participation in high school extracurricular activities (athletic and non-athletic), or in such activities as scouting, Civil Air Patrol, church, after school employment, etc., make up the Extracurricular Composite Score.

Reports of Candidate Status

Members of Congress will receive a monthly report showing the current status of each of their nominees starting in February. A report will be provided about 15 July showing the final status of each nominee. Those nominees who are fully qualified but did not win an appointment or did not place competitively in

the national Qualified Alternate Pool will be noted as "Qualified--No Appointment Vacancy."

USAFA/ROTC Counseling

Competition among colleges and universities for talented high school graduates is increasing. Therefore, the Air Force Academy places emphasis on assistance at the local level for identifying and counseling qualified young men and women. The Academy looks to the growing number of alumni and to an affiliate Air Force Admissions Liaison Officer (ALO) Program for leadership in field support organizations.

The ALO organization is composed primarily of Air Force Reserve Officers located in all 50 states and some foreign countries. These individuals help identify prospective candidates, encourage them to seek admission to the Academy, and assist candidates actively seeking admission. In addition, they attend "college nights," assist in organizing and escorting educator visits to the Academy, coordinate admissions officer visits to their areas, sponsor cadets on local speaking engagements and support the Cadet Parents' Clubs. When requested to do so, the ALOs may also serve the Members of Congress in whose districts or states they reside on nomination panels. They also provide counseling to students interested in applying for Air Force ROTC scholarships. If you need the name of the ALOs in your area contact the Admissions Office at the Air Force Academy (719) 333-2640 or (719) 333-2520.

Congressional Staffers' Visits

Congressional staffers are scheduled to visit the Air Force Academy several times a year between September and May. The purpose of this program is twofold: to inform the Congressional Staffers about admissions procedures and requirements, and to broaden their awareness of the scope of academic and military programs, and facilities available, and opportunities for young people at the Air Force Academy. In addition, the Academy, through the USAFA Admissions Liaison Office, conducts 2-3 staffer training workshops each year. These workshops are one day in duration and take place in various metropolitan areas.

USAFA Admissions Liaison Office

The Air Force Academy Admissions Congressional Liaison Office maintains continuous liaison between Members of Congress, the Air Staff and the Air Force Academy regarding candidate nomination, cadet vacancies, appointments and separations. Specific areas of interest to this liaison staff include informing Congressional sponsors of nominees' selections prior to notification of nominees, cadet admissions procedures, and answering Congressional questions on procedures for selecting Academy cadets and Academy Preparatory School students.

The Air Force Admissions Liaison Office notifies Congressional sponsors of cadet separations. It determines, in the case of Congressional redistricting, the cadet domiciles, making the necessary Congressional District shifts, and notifying the appropriate Member of Congress of the adjusted cadet quotas. The Liaison Office also organizes the congressional staffer visits and escorts the staffers to the Air Force Academy.

The Air Force Academy Admissions Liaison Office may be reached by calling (719) 333-8850.

USAFA Preparatory School

The Air Force Academy Preparatory School is located on the Academy site about five miles south of the main cadet area. The purpose of the school is to provide intensive instruction in English, mathematics and science, and to assist members of the regular and reserve components of the Air Force and other eligible nominees in preparing for the Academy entrance examinations. It also prepares students for the academic, military and physical training programs of the Academy. The school starts in July and continues until May.

Enlisted nominees in a regular or reserve Air Force status who are unsuccessful in obtaining an appointment to the Air Force Academy are considered automatically by the Academy for admission to the Preparatory School. No special request for this consideration is necessary.

Additionally, each year the Air Force Academy selects a number of the most promising and highly motivated of those civilian nominees who were unsuccessful in obtaining an appointment to the Academy. Those selected are offered the opportunity to enlist in the Air

Force Reserve for the express purpose of attending the Preparatory School. Consideration for admission to the Preparatory School is automatic. No special request is required.

The Air Force Academy selects students for the Preparatory School. Selection is based on the applicant's high school record, extra-curricular activities, military performance, and the results of academic, physical and medical examinations. Selection for the Preparatory School does not guarantee the student an appointment to the Academy. Students still must meet qualifying admission standards and compete in the appropriate nomination categories the following year. Cadet candidates attending the Preparatory School should make application to their two U.S. Senators and their Representative to be considered for a nomination.



The Falcon Foundation

The Falcon Foundation, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado, assists highly motivated young men and women to qualify and compete for admission to the Air Force Academy through intensive post-high school education at selected civilian preparatory schools. A portion of those scholarships are reserved for children of active duty or deceased career members of the Armed Forces. It provides partial scholarships for sponsored candidates. Contact the President, Falcon Foundation, 3116 Academy Drive, Suite 200, USAF Academy, CO 80840-4480, telephone (719) 333-4096.

Contact Offices

Director of Admissions

This officer has executive responsibility for directing the Academy's admission program. The Director supervises the following offices which are often contacted by Members of Congress and members of their staffs.

Selections Office

Manages the admissions process and provides reports to Members of Congress to assist them in nominating potentially qualified candidates. Maintains admissions files, evaluates records and selects nominees for appointment consideration. Notifies candidates of their admissions status and sends Members of Congress candidate status reports.

Admissions Enrollment Programs

Supervises the Air Force Academy Admissions Liaison Officer program and conducts the Grass Roots speaking program. Manages the educator airlift and Summer Scientific Seminar (SSS) programs and hosts the Congressional staffers visits.

Minority Enrollment Office

Assists in identifying prospective minority candidates.

USAFA Association of Graduates (AOG)

The AOG maintains an office at the Academy to coordinate the activities of graduates. The AOG assists in locating, counseling and motivating candidates through the network of graduates. A number of graduates, both on active duty and reserve status, serve as official Admissions Liaison Officers.

USAFA Athletic Department

The Athletic Department handles administration of intercollegiate athletics. The Athletic Department is interested in obtaining names and addresses of promising student athletes. Congressional staff offices may report such information to the Candidate Counseling Division (AHD), 2169 Field House Drive, Suite 111, USAF Academy, CO 80840-9500, telephone (719) 333-2843.

Important Phone Numbers

Director of Admissions	719-333-3070
Selections Office	719-333-2520
Admissions Enrollment Program	719-333-2643
Minority Enrollment Office	719-333-2233
Association of Graduates	719-333-2067
Candidate Counseling (Athletics)	719-333-2843
Admissions Congressional Liaison Office	719-333-8850

Website

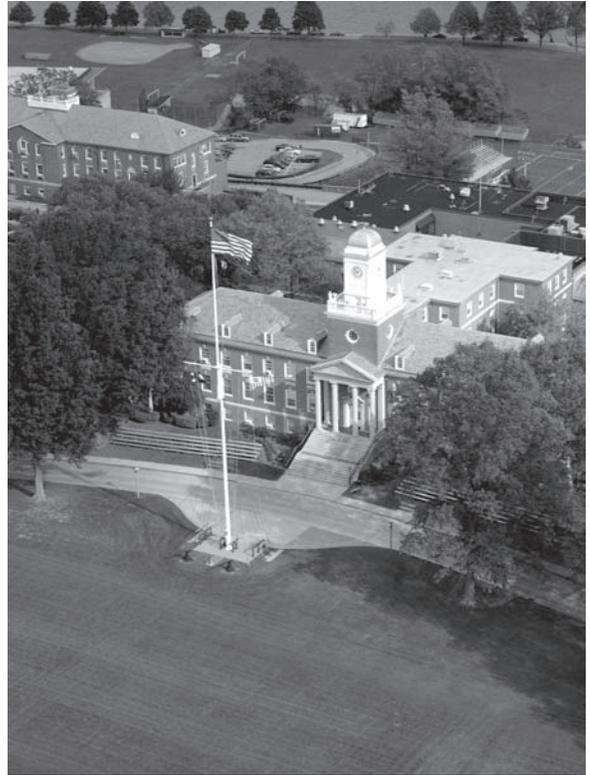
www.academyadmissions.com



SECTION II

Department of Homeland Security Academy

U.S. Coast Guard Academy



United States Coast Guard Academy New London, Connecticut

Admissions Information

Requirements

The U.S. Coast Guard Academy is the only one of the armed forces service academies that offers appointments solely on the basis of a nationwide merit-based competition; there are no congressional nominations or geographic quotas involved. Applicants must be U.S. citizens between 17 and 22 years old upon entering the academy. They must meet basic eligibility requirements, consisting of satisfactory SAT-I or American College Testing (ACT) Program examination results, high school standing and leadership potential as demonstrated by participation in extracurricular activities and community affairs or part-time employment. Most successful candidates graduate in the top quarter of their high school class and demonstrate proficiency in both the mathematical and applied science fields. Either the ACT or SAT-I must be completed prior to or during the January test administration of the year of application.

Application

Applicants can access the on-line application directly from the academy's website www.cga.edu. A non-binding Early Action program is available for students who are able to complete their application by November 1st; the final admissions deadline is March 1st. Applicants must submit the on-line application, an official high school transcript, three teacher recommendations, and complete a standard Physical Fitness Exam.

Medical Requirements

A service academy medical examination must be passed before a candidate can receive an appointment. The examination is scheduled and conducted locally by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB). Once taken, the examination results may be used for the other service academies and any four-year ROTC scholarship program. If an applicant is found medically disqualified by DoDMERB, a request for a medical waiver can be made via letter to the Director of Admissions. The Director will review each request on a case-by-case basis. The most frequently encountered problem areas include:

Visual Acuity: All candidates accepted shall have an uncorrected visual acuity no poorer than 20/400 in either eye and must be correctable to 20/20 in each eye.

Color Vision: Color blindness, complete or partial, is cause for disqualification.

Asthma: Any history of asthma, since age 13, is cause for disqualification.

Field Support/Introductory Programs

Because the Coast Guard is the smallest military branch (40,000 active duty members), resources are limited. However, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Reserve Officers, and the Academy Alumni Association play important roles in recruiting and assisting prospective cadets.

The Coast Guard Academy conducts a one-week summer program for students between their junior and senior year of high school. The Academy Introduction Mission (AIM) Program is jointly run by the Coast Guard Auxiliary and CGA Admissions; 2/c [junior] cadets act as mentors and supervisors for all attendees. Students who participate in AIM are exposed to cadet life, given tours of operational Coast Guard units, and complete an engineering project sponsored by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). Applications are available on the academy's website and are due by April 15th of a student's junior year. Additional information about the AIM Program can be found on the academy's website www.cga.edu.

Preparatory Programs

The Coast Guard Academy utilizes two preparatory programs: Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) and Coast Guard Recruiting Initiative for the Twenty-First Century (CGRIT).

NAPS is located in Newport, Rhode Island and is a ten-month program of study in mathematics, physics, chemistry and English. Athletic and military training are also included in the school's curriculum. Each student is enlisted, receiving full military pay and benefits, in the Coast Guard for the sole purpose of attending the school. Upon acceptance, students complete a ten-day program at the academy for uniform issue and basic indoctrination prior to reporting to NAPS. After successful completion of the ten-month program, the student will report to the academy to begin the four-year program.

CGRIT utilizes a number of private military institutions located throughout the United States. Similar to NAPS, students take academic courses in mathematics, physics, chemistry and English in order to prepare them for the rigorous academic program at the academy. Each student is enlisted, receiving full military pay and benefits, in the Coast Guard for the sole purpose of attending the school. Upon acceptance, students complete a ten-day program at the academy for uniform issue and basic indoctrination prior to reporting to their individual preparatory school. After successful completion of the program, the student will report to the academy to begin the four-year program.

Contact Information

Director of Admissions	(860) 444-8500
Director of Processing	(860) 701-6778
Director of Recruiting	(860) 701-6781
Toll Free (Automated System)	(800) 883-8724
Website	www.cga.edu

SECTION III
Department of Transportation Academy
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy



United States Merchant Marine Academy Kings Point, New York

The United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA), located at Kings Point, NY, exists to serve the national interest that is inherent in America's commercially based, logistical sea power. Established in 1943, it is under the Maritime Administration, an agency within the Department of Transportation.

The academy offers a four-year undergraduate program which leads to a bachelor of science degree, a U.S. Coast Guard license as a third mate or third assistant engineer, and a commission as an ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve. The academy is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and its Marine Engineering Systems curriculum and its Marine Engineering & Shipyard Management curriculum is accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

Student Life

Military life at the United States Merchant Marine Academy is a vital part of the total educational experience, and all midshipmen are required to meet high standards of conduct and discipline. The student body is organized along military lines as a regiment, under command of the senior class, and the military program is carefully designed to develop leadership ability, self-discipline and a sense of responsibility.

While the academic program is a demanding one, there is also ample time to participate in a wide variety of extracurricular activities. In addition to varsity athletics in 26 intercollegiate sports, an extensive program of intramurals permits all students to enjoy physical activity and competition. Student publications and the Radio Club, Camera Club, Regimental Band and Chess Club are a few of the special interest groups on campus. The band, with a national reputation for excellence, plays for morning colors and at parades and performs in concert. The band also has performed in presidential inaugural parades, at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Texas, for the National Horse Show in New York, the opening of the D-Day Museum in New Orleans, the Changing of the Guard at the Citadel in Quebec City, Canada (the only non Canadian band afforded that honor), and in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Under the guidance of a professional sailing master, the Kings Point Sailing Squadron offers midshipmen an opportunity to participate in top competitive intercollegiate and ocean racing, as well as gain experience in small and large boat handling and develop a "sea sense." The academy hosts the two largest intercollegiate regattas in the nation, the Nevins Trophy and the Admiral's Cup. Kings Point's sailing team currently ranks as one of the best in the nation.

For those interested in arts and world affairs, a stimulating series of lectures and concerts is provided on campus, and the academy's proximity to New York (20 miles) places rock concerts, symphonies, Broadway shows, professional sports, museums, opera and ballet within easy reach.

Midshipmen are granted liberty on weekends, a fall break in early November, leave periods during Thanksgiving and the winter holidays in December, and a spring break in March, as well as annual leave during the month of July.

Enrollment

950 men and women.

Officer Programs

The USMMA is the largest single source of U.S. Naval Reserve officers for the Merchant Marine Naval Reserve. Each candidate must meet physical, moral and other requirements to become a Naval Reserve midshipman. He or she must apply for and accept a Reserve officer commission in the Navy or other branch of the armed services. Graduates are subject to a statutory obligation that requires the maintenance of the Naval Reserve status for eight years.

Admission Requirements

A candidate must be an American citizen and should be at least 17, but not have attained 25 years of age as of 1 July of the year of entry. Candidates must be nominated by a Member of Congress and compete for vacancies allocated to their state in proportion to its representation in Congress. A candidate's competitive standing is determined by his or her high school academic record, rank in class, SAT-I or ACT standardized test scores, recommendations, leadership development potential, interest in the maritime industry, and the potential to develop into a competent Merchant Marine and Naval Reserve officer. Required tests must be taken within 18 months of the application deadline.

Minimum Requirements

1. All candidates must have completed the following: four years of English, three years of mathematics, to include Algebra I and II, geometry and trigonometry; and one year of either laboratory chemistry or physics.

2. To be considered minimally qualified, a candidate must meet the following criteria:

ACT: English-21

Mathematics-26

Composite ACT: a least 23

SAT-I: English-480

Mathematics-550

Combined SAT: at least 1050

3. Class Rank: Candidates should be in the top 40 percent of their class or have compensating (better than mean) SAT-I or ACT test scores and above-average

math and science grades to be considered minimally qualified.

Shipboard Training Program

All midshipmen participate in this most unusual training program whereby they are assigned, during three (3) of the six (6) Trimesters of their sophomore and junior years, to commercially operated American-flag merchant ships. While aboard ship, in addition to shipboard duties, midshipmen are required to complete special written assignments in a wide variety of professional subjects. This unique program takes them to many parts of the world (usually 15 to 18 different countries) and provides them with practical experience on several different types of ships. During the combined ten months of travel aboard ships, their campus is the Seven Seas. Midshipmen are paid while sailing on board their ships.

Service Obligation

All midshipmen, in accepting the four-year program, must serve five years in the maritime industry or on active duty as an officer in the U.S. Navy or another branch of the armed services. Commissions may be obtained to the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force or U.S. Coast Guard. Service as an officer on active duty in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is also acceptable. If graduates choose the maritime industry, they have a military Reserve obligation of eight years. Graduates must also maintain a current (valid) license as either a 3rd Mate or 3rd Assistant Engineer (or higher) for six years after graduation.

Careers

Graduates of the Academy seek employment as licensed ship's officers on American-flag merchant vessels. It should be noted, however, that employment in the maritime industry is cyclical along with the nation's economy, and seagoing jobs are at times not readily available. At those times, the secretary of transportation may authorize shore-side employment in maritime and transportation-related industries.

Many graduates, after fulfilling their obligations, attain leadership positions in the maritime industry. Some areas in which they are typically employed include: canal and harbor pilots, cargo broker, dredging, inter-modal transportation, marine engineering, maritime insurance, maritime labor, marine surveyor, maritime training, admiralty law, nuclear propulsion, oceanography, offshore drilling, shipbuilding and repair, ship chartering, steamship company management, stevedoring and terminal operations, towing and barging and naval architecture.

Nominations

Candidates must be nominated by a Member of Congress. The two U.S. Senators and each U.S. Representative, including each U.S. Delegate to the House of Representatives for Guam, the Virgin Islands, the District of Columbia, American Samoa as well as the Resident Commissioner from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, may each annually nominate ten candidates for the academy.

Nominations should be forwarded on Form MA-423, to the academy on or by 31 January. Consequently, candidates should be encouraged to return the application immediately to the academy. The deadline for applications is 1 March.

Important Phone Numbers

Admissions Office	(516) 773-5391
Toll-free	(866) 546-4778
Fax:	(516) 773-5390

Website

www.usmma.edu

U.S. Department
Of Transportation
**Maritime
Administration**

NOMINATION FOR THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

<p>After completion by the nominating authority, the original and all copies of this form are to be returned to the Director of Admissions, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, where after acceptance copies should be distributed as noted at bottom of this form.</p> <p>The copy marked 'Congressional Copy' will be returned to the nominating authority.</p>	<p>DATE (Day, Month and Year)</p> <hr/> <p>RETURN TO:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Director of Admissions U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Kings Point, New York 11024</p>
<p>NAME OF CANDIDATE (Last name, First name, Middle name)</p>	<p>DATE OF BIRTH (Day, Month and Year)</p> <hr/> <p>SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</p>
<p>ADDRESS (Number, Street, Town or City, State and Zip Code)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOR ACADEMY USE ONLY</p> <p>Congressional Code _____</p> <p>Resident Code _____</p>
<p>TELEPHONE NUMBER</p>	
<p>TEMPORARY ADDRESS (if any)</p>	
<p>I hereby nominate the above-named individual as a candidate for admission to the United States Merchant Marine Academy as Midshipmen.</p> <p>The nominee () is () is not a resident of any constituency and, after due inquiry, I believe that he/she is in every respect qualified for appointment.</p> <p>I understand that the Superintendent, United States Merchant Marine Academy will be informed of my candidate's nomination, and that I am his/her sponsor. The Superintendent will furnish the candidate with all necessary instructions regarding the competitive and physical examination.</p> <p>I understand that the application records created for my candidate are subject to the Privacy Act of 1975 (5 U.S.C. 5528).</p> <p>However, the fact of this nomination and this nomination form is considered to be public information by my office.</p>	
<p>TYPE FULL NAME OF NOMINATION AUTHORITY AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT</p>	<p>SIGNATURE OF NOMINATING AUTHORITY</p>
<p>SPACE BELOW FOR ACTION BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, USMMA</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> NOMINATION ACCEPTED</p>	<p>DATE</p>
<p>APPROVAL</p>	
<p>SUPERINTENDENT - USMMA PART 1 Form MA-423 (Rev 8-04)</p>	

