

# SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION FAQs



## 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:

(1) a member of the U.S. House of Representatives who represents the district in which the candidate resides, (2) both U.S. Senators from his or her state, or (3) applying directly to the Vice-President's Office.

## WHAT ARE THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS?

Each applicant must meet the following criteria as of July 1st of the year of admission to an academy:

- ✓ Be at least 17 years old, but not past the 23rd birthday
- ✓ Be a U.S. citizen
- ✓ Live in CA's 52nd Congressional District
- ✓ Be unmarried, not pregnant, and without legal obligation to support children other dependents
- ✓ Meet the medical, physical, and academic requirements of the Academy

## WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR A NOMINATION?

Applications open in the spring for candidates who are high school juniors and will be seniors the following school year, or who have already graduated.

## WHAT MUST BE INCLUDED IN MY APPLICATION?

- ✓ Current photo
- ✓ Two letters of recommendation
- ✓ American College Testing (ACT) results/College Board Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) results
- ✓ Resume of extracurricular activities
- ✓ High school transcript

## WHO SHOULD I ASK TO WRITE A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION?

Applicants typically seek recommendations from teachers, counselors, employers, coaches, clergy, scout leaders, etc. I do not require a specific recommendation form - a letter of recommendation is sufficient.

## WHAT CRITERIA ARE 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.

## HOW MANY ACADEMIES ARE THERE?

There are a total of 5 service academies: (1) U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, (2) U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, (3) U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO, (4) U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY, and (5) U.S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, CT.

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## 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 guidelines. Visit the official websites for each academy's admissions qualifications. It's not necessary to seek a nomination to the Coast Guard Academy, as the U.S.C.G.A. accepts candidates based on their own criteria.

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I'VE COMPLETED MY NOMINATION PROFILE?

Applicants who submit a completed nomination file by the deadline will be scheduled for an interview in early December. Applicants will be notified of their interview date in mid-November.

## 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 you match up against this year's other candidate submissions.

It is possible to win multiple appointments.

## WHEN WILL I BE NOTIFIED OF MY NOMINATION RESULTS?

Applicants will be notified in early January.

## WILL I AUTOMATICALLY BE SELECTED BY THE ACADEMY AFTER I RECEIVE A NOMINATION?

No. You will be placed among a group of nominees, and the academy of your choice will make the final decision. If selected, you will receive an offer of admission (an appointment) directly from the academy.

## WHEN WILL I KNOW IF I'VE BEEN OFFERED AN APPOINTMENT TO AN ACADEMY?

Academies will begin to notify candidates of admission status in February. All offers of appointment are generally sent out by May.

**APPLY HERE:**

**[scottpeters.house.gov/services/academynominations](https://scottpeters.house.gov/services/academynominations)**