



Service Academy Nominations – FAQ

Frequently asked questions for those seeking a Service Academy nomination.

What is a nomination?

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

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

A nomination is only one part of your Military Service Academy Application. It is the student's responsibility to notify each respective service academy of your interest by applying through their Admissions Portal as soon as possible and keeping them up to date on your progress.

What are the basic eligibility requirements?

Each applicant for a nomination must meet the following eligibility requirements as of July 1st 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: Must be unmarried, not pregnant, and without legal obligation to support children or other dependents.
- Residence: Must reside within the boundaries of Congressman Thompson's Congressional District
- Skill / Fitness: Must meet the medical, physical, and academic requirements of the Academy

Who do I contact to request an application?

Contact the Santa Rosa District Office at (707) 542-7182 to request a nomination packet. You can also email Rebecca Hermosillo Senior District Representative at Rebecca.Hermosillo@mail.house.gov.

When do I apply for a nomination?

The nomination application period opens June of each year for those candidates who have completed their high school junior year and will be seniors the following school year, or who have already graduated high school.

What is the deadline for completing a nomination file?

All applications with required supporting documents must be hand-delivered or postmarked by the first Monday in October.

What must be included in my nomination packet?

A complete nomination file consists of the following items:

- High school transcript
- American College Testing Program (ACT) results and/or College Board Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) results
 - SAT CODE: 4164
 - ACT CODE: 7244
- Personal statement requesting a nomination and why you want to attend the service academy
- Request for Nomination form
- Extracurricular form
- Three Evaluation forms
- Photo

Candidates should limit their submission to only the requested documents listed above.

Where do I submit my nomination packet to?

Mail completed nomination packets to Congressman Mike Thompson's office at: 2300 County Center Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. All packets need to be received or post marked by the due date. If you are hand delivering your nomination packet call (707) 542-7182 to schedule a time to drop off your packet. You will be notified within the week that your packet was received and if is complete.

What happened after I have completed my nomination file?

Candidates who meet the minimum guidelines and who have turned in a complete nomination packet will be scheduled for a nomination interview in November.

What criteria is used in selection 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 five service academies.

- U.S. Military Academy (<http://www.usma.edu>) at West Point, New York
- U.S. Naval Academy (<http://www.usna.edu/>) at Annapolis, Maryland
- U.S. Air Force Academy (<http://www.usafa.af.mil/>) at Colorado Springs
- U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (<http://www.usmma.edu>) at Kings Point, New York
- U.S. Coast Guard Academy (<http://www.cga.edu>) at New London, Connecticut – does not accept congressional nominations

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 that academy accepts candidates based on their own testing criteria.

What happens after my interview?

The nomination panel will notify their congressman of their nomination recommendations. Candidates will be notified in December if they will receive a nomination and to which branch(es) of service. During the last few weeks of December, all nominations will be submitted to the service academy portal.

Will I automatically be selected by the academy after I receive a nomination?

No. You will be placed among a select 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.

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 also possible to receive multiple appointments.

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

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

Appointments are made solely by that the Service Academies, as such Congressman Thompson cannot guarantee appointments; he can only provide nomination(s) to the service academies.