

Applying to a U.S. Service Academy – DMA Handbook

Applying to a service academy is a complicated process and it can be overwhelming. The good news is that you are not alone and we are going to help you through the process. Each service academy is different and if you are going to apply, you need to apply to more than one academy so the Senators and/or Congresswoman have options when it comes time to award nominations. It is important that you have a valid, and appropriate, email address before you start the process. If you get a lot of junk in your mailbox, you may want to create an email that is specific to this process and share access with your parents. The extra set of eyes will ensure you don't miss something important.

There are FIVE federal service academies:

- The United States Military Academy at West Point (Army)
- The United States Naval Academy (Navy and Marine Corps)
- The United States Coast Guard Academy (Coast Guard)
- The United States Air Force Academy (Air Force)
- The United States Merchant Marine Academy (Maritime service and access to all service branches)

Think outside the box ... if you want to be a pilot and think the Air Force Academy is the only place you can apply, remember that the Navy has planes too! You should apply to multiple academies during this process.

In order to attend most of the service academies, you need **BOTH** a nomination from one of our Senators or from our Congresswoman and an offer of admission. Once you have both (along with medical clearance), you can receive an appointment. These are two separate processes that you need to manage concurrently. The one exception is the US Coast Guard Academy - they do not require a nomination but their admissions process is highly competitive. Let's start with the nomination process since it opens first.

What is a nomination?

A nomination is an endorsement by a congressional representative based on your academic ability, proven leadership and potential for service. A nomination is **not a guarantee** that you will be admitted to a service academy. In Delaware, Senator Carper and Congresswoman Lisa Blunt-Rochester award nominations to ten students for each of the service academies. The Academy will then determine which nominees (max of 1-2 per representative, per year) are awarded an appointment. Senator Coons awards a Principal Nominee and nine alternates for each academy. A principal nomination means that as long as the candidate is academically, medically and physically qualified, they will receive an appointment. At any given time, a nominating source can have no more than five students at a given service academy.

How do I get a nomination?

The process is different for each nominating source. It will be important that you pay attention to the details and stay in communication with Mrs. Certesio. You should pursue any and all nomination sources to give yourself the best chance to attend a service academy. The more nominations you have, the more opportunities you have to enter the academy if you are academically, physically and medically qualified. Here are the nomination sources you can pursue as a student in Delaware:

To qualify for a nomination from a congressional source, applicants must be:

- unmarried citizens of the United States with no dependents and;
- at least 17 years old but not past their 23rd birthday on the first of July of the year they wish to be admitted and;
- a resident of Delaware. You, or your parents, must claim Delaware as your primary state of residence.

Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester (online) – Opens April 19, 2021

Deadline: October 15, 2021

Office of Congresswoman Blunt Rochester

Contact Person: Krista Weed

LBRServiceAcademy@mail.house.gov

302-830-2330

To be eligible to receive a nomination from Congresswoman Blunt Rochester all of the items below must be received in her Wilmington office by the deadline:

- Online Application survey (<https://bluntrochester.house.gov/forms/serviceacademynomination/>) - you can complete that survey at any time. However, the Congresswoman's office will not start contacting candidates until early summer. The email you receive will ask for additional materials (listed below)
- Official high school transcript, including junior year grades– let Mrs. Certesio know when you have completed the online survey so she can email the transcript
- SAT scores – they are included in your transcript and do NOT need to send from College Board
- 2 letters of recommendation – at least one (1) recommendation from core subject teacher. The other recommendation can be from a teacher, coach or other adult (non-family member)
- An essay describing why you want to attend a service academy (500 words or less)

HINT: You will have an initial interview with a member of the selection board to get to know you better. This person will meet with you at a NCC location (possibly at DMA) and will be responsible for introducing you and your credentials to the rest of the selection panel. You will have a short (15-20 minute) interview with the entire selection panel in November or December.

Senator Coons (electronic) – Opens April 15, 2021

Deadline: October 18, 2021

Office of Senator Chris Coons (Dover office)

Contact Person: Desiree Burritt

Desiree_Burritt@coons.senate.gov

302-736-5601

To be eligible to receive a nomination from Senator Coons all of the items below must be received in his office by the deadline:

- Online Application completed at <https://www.coons.senate.gov/services/academy-nominations>
- Official Transcript – you will be asked to put your counselor information in during the application. The office will send a link to Mrs. Certesio to upload your official transcript which must be signed
- Official SAT scores – you will need to log in to your college board account and send your official scores
- Two (2) teacher recommendations – you will input the teacher names and email addresses to the application and the teachers will receive a request to upload their recommendation. Your recommendation letters should also be emailed to Mrs. Certesio in the event there is a problem during the process.
- One (1) non teacher recommendation – this could be a coach, scout leader, Naval Science instructor, church leader, etc. You will input the recommender's names and email address to the application and they will receive a request to upload their recommendation. Your recommendation should also be emailed to Mrs. Certesio in the event there is a problem during the process. All recommendation letters must include contact information for the recommender.

HINT: You will have an initial interview with a member of the selection board as well as an interview with the entire selection panel in November or December. You will be required to provide picture ID at the board interview.

Senator Carper (electronic) – Opens April 15, 2021

Deadline: October 15, 2021

Office of Senator Tom Carper (Dover office)

Contact Person: Lauren Gutierrez

lauren_gutierrez@carper.senate.gov

302-674-3308

To be eligible to receive a nomination from Senator Carper all of the items below must be received in his office by the deadline:

- You should begin the nomination process by creating your online account with your personal password. By creating this account, you are notifying Senator Carper of your interest in a nomination to a U.S. Service Academy. You can access the application at <https://oampublic.senate.gov/constituent/login/70116bc1-6284-4154-9487-f38b5540410b/>.
- You will complete an essay as part of the online application
- Official Transcripts – the transcript will be mailed by Mrs. Certesio at your request
- Official SAT scores – you will need to log in to your college board account and send your official scores
- Two (2) school based/teacher recommendations – you will input the teacher names and email addresses to the application and the teachers will receive a request to upload their recommendation. Your recommendation letters should also be emailed to Mrs. Certesio in the event there is a problem during the process.
- One (1) non-school recommendation – this could be a coach, scout leader, church leader, etc. You will input the recommender's names and email address to the application and they will receive a request to upload their recommendation. Your recommendation should also be emailed to Mrs. Certesio in the event there is a problem during the process.
- **BE SURE TO HIT SUBMIT AT THE COMPLETION OF YOUR ONLINE APPLICATION**

HINT: Senator Carper is the only Delaware nominating source that only has ONE interview, with the entire selection panel. You will only get one chance to make a good impression so make it a good one!

Vice Presidential Nomination (Vice President Harris)

Application is open from March 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022

At any one time, five students may attend the academy based on a vice presidential nomination. Competition for a vice presidential nomination is nationwide, therefore, it is very competitive. A Vice Presidential nomination cannot be used for admission to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

Application dates: Applicants must complete the online nomination application between March 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022. The Office of the Vice President will not accept paper applications. Please do not send applications for the Vice Presidential nomination to any of the Service Academies. Any additional letters of reference are sent directly to the military academy. The letters submitted in your admission application will be sufficient. The essay, as well as all other materials, must be submitted via the online application at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/service-academy-nominations/service-academies-application/>

DMA NJROTC Unit Nomination

As a distinguished unit, with academic honors, we are entitled to nominate three candidates to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, three to the U.S. Air Force Academy and **SIX** to the United States Naval Academy. This should not be the only nomination source you pursue. In fact, if you have not actively sought a nomination through one or more of the other sources, DMA will not give you a nomination. If you would like a nomination from DMA, please let Mrs. Certesio, in writing, no later than December 31st.

DO NOT wait until you have a nomination to complete your application for admission!!

Admissions

The admission process is different for each academy so you will have to stay organized and make sure everything is in your file. The majority of admissions reps are willing to assist you in the process and will respond to emails and phone calls (as long as they are not constant). It is a good idea to touch base with each admissions officer once every 4-6 weeks if there have been a change or there is something new you need to update. Be sure to check out the Helpful Hints page at the end of the packet.

Here is an overview of each academy:

US NAVAL ACADEMY (Annapolis, Maryland):

If you are planning to apply to the USNA, keep the following curriculum suggestions in mind:

- 4 years of Math: Algebra I/II, Geometry, and Pre-Calculus or Calculus if offered.
- 4 years of English
- 2 years of a Foreign Language
- 1 year each of Chemistry and Physics (with a lab if available)
- 1 year of US History and 1 year of World or European History
- Computer instruction is very helpful
- USNA recommends Honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate courses if offered.

Your application for the US Naval Academy must be started by December 31st and your file must be complete no later than January 31st.

USNA Steps for Admission (start in April/May of Junior Year)

- Make sure you have your social security number – you will need it for the application and will need to bring it to I-Day if admitted to USNA.
- Be sure you meet the basic requirements for eligibility:
 - United States citizen;
 - At least 17 and not past their 23rd birthday on 1 July of the year they would enter the academy;
 - Unmarried;
 - Not pregnant; and No dependents.
- You must submit a preliminary application to become an official candidate for next year's class. You can submit a preliminary application if you...
 - will be a senior in high school next year

- are currently in your senior year of high school
- are a current college student looking to transfer
- You will need the following information to complete the preliminary application:
 - Social Security Number
 - High School Educational Testing Service (ETS) Code – DMA is 080171
 - High School Class Rank
 - Congressional State and District – Delaware is an ‘At Large’ Congressional District
 - Full Zip Code
 - SAT, ACT or PSAT scores
- Upon completion of your preliminary application, Admissions will review it to determine your competitiveness for receiving a candidate number. Receipt of a candidate number will then indicate your designation as an Official Candidate for admission. Within your candidate letter, there will be important instructions on how to proceed with completing your official application.

If you have applied for the USNA Summer Seminar program you do not need to submit a preliminary application, as they are the same application.

- To receive an offer of appointment to the Naval Academy, an applicant must obtain a nomination from an official source (see previous section). **Do not wait until you receive a nomination to complete your application for admission. You can complete your application before receiving an appointment.**
- Official test results are required for admission. Non-standard tests are not accepted for admission. This includes untimed ACT or SAT tests. You should have your scores forwarded to the Naval Academy using the appropriate College Code Numbers. The SAT-I school code is 5809. The ACT school code is 1742. You must log in to your College Board account and pay the \$12 to send the official scores. You can take the SAT multiple times and the academy will “super score” your results. Make sure you send all scores directly to the Naval Academy. USNA does not have a minimum SAT or ACT score but the higher the scores, the more competitive you will be for admission.
- In your online application, you will be need to identify the following people (with email address):
 - a. Candidate Academic Verification – Debra Certesio – debra.certesio@dma.k12.de.us
 - b. Candidate Activities Verification – Debra Certesio – debra.certesio@dma.k12.de.us
 - c. Candidate Fitness Assessment – Head NSI – sean.easley@dma.k12.de.us
 - d. Teacher Recommendations – You will need to identify recommenders and input their email addresses – be sure that the teachers also send a copy of the recommendation letter to Mrs. Certesio
- All candidates should contact their Blue and Gold Officer immediately upon receipt of their official candidate letter. **Our Blue Gold officer is Brad Boyd – 302-377-4479.** You will meet with Mr. Boyd and he will submit his evaluation directly to the USNA. His information, including his email address, is located at the bottom of your online portal. He has a full time job so please give him plenty of time to get the interview scheduled and completed.
- Once your application reaches 51% complete, the Admissions Department will submit your name to the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) who will contact you regarding where you may call to schedule your medical examination. DoDMERB will carefully review your medical exam to determine if you meet our medical standards for admission. Approximately one month after your physical is completed, you will receive (by mail) a status report of the DoDMERB findings. DoDMERB may

request you provide additional information/records regarding illnesses, injuries, surgery, familial diseases, and other factors that could affect your medical status. You may also be asked to schedule follow-up appointments to determine your current medical status. You may check on the status of your medical exam by referring to the DoDMERB website at <https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil/>. DoDMERB will mail you a letter with the results of their evaluation of your medical examination.

If you have a disqualifying condition, you will be automatically considered for a waiver if/when you receive a Conditional Offer of Appointment. You need not write to request a waiver, nor should you send additional medical information to the Naval Academy for review. A waiver of the medical standard may be granted if both your academic record and medical history suggest the risk introduced by the disqualifying condition is justified by your potential for success as a midshipman and as a naval officer. Many candidates will be required to provide additional information to DoDMERB after their first disqualifying medical condition has been waived. This additional information may result in other disqualifying conditions - which will also be considered for waiver.

- The Candidate Fitness Assessment is a component of your application and will be submitted electronically by Commander Easley. The test consists of a one-mile run, a 'shuttle' run, a kneeling basketball throw, abdominal crunches, push-ups, and pull-ups or a flexed-arm hang for women (when pull-ups cannot be accomplished). The purpose of the test is to evaluate coordination, strength, speed, agility, and endurance. The test can be administered by anyone with a physical education degree, an active duty officer, or a blue and gold officer. Candidates accustomed to regular physical activity should have no difficulty with the Candidate Fitness Assessment. Being properly conditioned prior to Induction Day cannot be overemphasized. You will be far better prepared to meet the stringent physical demands of Plebe Summer if you maintain a high level of physical fitness during high school. Our Head Naval Science Instructor will set up multiple times during the school year for you to take the test. You can take it multiple times, if needed, to ensure you meet the standards. If you do this early enough, our admissions rep will happily review the scores and let you know if they need to be taken again. Here is the order of the CFA:

Events	Test Start Time	Testing Time	Rest	Total Elapsed Time
Basketball Throw	0:00	2 minutes	3 minutes	5:00
Pull-Ups	5:00	2 minutes	3 minutes	10:00
Shuttle Run	10:00	2 minutes	3 minutes	15:00
Crunches	15:00	2 minutes	3 minutes	20:00
Push-Ups	20:00	2 minutes	3 minutes	25:00
1-Mile Run	30:00	10 minutes	5 minutes*	40:00

- If you are found scholastically qualified but do not receive a Letter of Assurance, you will be competing for an Offer of Appointment from within your nominating sources. Approximately 3,000 candidates are found fully qualified (scholastic, medical, CFA, and have obtained a nomination) each year. Of that number, about 1,400 will receive appointments and approximately 1,200 become midshipmen. Most candidates will be notified of their final status by April 15.



SNAPSHOT CLASS OF 2024

APPLICATIONS

11,121
MEN

15,699
TOTAL

4,578
WOMEN

OFFERS OF APPOINTMENT

1,426



996 MEN

430 WOMEN

CLASS SIZE

830
MEN

1,194

364
WOMEN

NOMINATING CATEGORIES

Presidential	665
Congressional	5,056
Secretary of the Navy	421
ROTC/JROTC	379
Children of Deceased/Disabled Veterans	94

RACIAL/ETHNIC BREAKDOWN

White	855
Hispanic	148
Multiple Races	121
African American (in conjunction with other races)	78 (124)
Asian American (in conjunction with other races)	96 (159)
Declined to Respond	19
Native American	5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5
International	15

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Midshipmen were admitted from every state in the Nation, as well as the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico. The Class of 2024 also includes fifteen international students from: Albania (1), Cameroon (1), Fiji (1), Georgia (2), Jordan (1), Maldives (1), Mongolia (1), Montenegro (2), Peru (1), Philippines (1), Poland (1), Republic of Korea (1), and Sri Lanka (1).

MILITARY BACKGROUND Former Enlisted*

64
NAVY



15
MARINE
CORPS



79

*This figure includes 19 who entered directly from the Fleet (17 Navy, 1 USMC), and 61 from the Naval Academy Prep School (47 USN, 14 USMC).

COMPOSITION

Varsity Athletics	91%
Community Service	90%
Captain/Co-Captain of Sports Team	73%
National Honor Society	67%
Student Body Leader	66%
Dramatics, Public speaking or debating	66%
Church Group	47%
Tutoring	44%
Work Experience (>10 hrs/week)	35%
Musical Activities (Band, Chorus, Etc.)	26%
Primary Language in Home Not English	20%
Boy/Girl Scouts	16%
ROTC/JROTC/Sea Cadets/Civil Air Pat.	15%
First to Attend College in Family	13%
School publication	13%
First Generation American	12%
Hardship or Adverse Life Experience	11%

ALUMNI SONS AND DAUGHTERS



The class of 2024 includes 52 sons and 20 daughters of alumni. Six members of the entering class have both parents who are alumni of the Naval Academy.

STANDARDIZED TEST DATA



MIDDLE
50TH
PERCENTIAL*

SAT VERBAL 630-760
SAT MATH 620-750

ACT ENGLISH 27-34
ACT MATH 27-34

*50% of the class achieved SAT/ACT scores within the range between the 25th and 75th percentile

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

The Class of 2024 includes 337 (28%) from college and post-high school preparatory programs which include:

198 From Naval Academy Prep School in Newport, RI

46 From the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation and Civilian Preparatory Programs

82 Additional students have completed at least one semester of study at a college or university, and 11 at a post-secondary prep school

USNA General Advice for Grades 9-12

9th Grade:

Although it is too early for you to apply, it is not too early to prepare. By starting now, you will get a head start on making yourself a competitive candidate. The key to candidacy at the Academy is simple: achieve good grades in challenging college prep courses, hone your competitive spirit by participating in athletics, and practice your leadership skills in clubs and serving your community. For now, please have a look at our STEM Website, which provides information regarding the Naval Academy Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math camp. You may apply for STEM as a rising 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th graders. We recommend that you apply for this wonderful opportunity to see the Naval Academy and explore the world of STEM!

10th Grade:

If you are in 10th grade, you should continue focusing on your academics, extracurricular activities, leadership roles and taking the PSAT. 10th grades also have the ability to apply for Summer STEM. When planning your high school curriculum, you should keep the following suggestions in mind:

To improve your chances of board qualification, your high school preparation should include the following:

- **Mathematics - four years of mathematics courses, including a strong foundation in geometry, algebra, and trigonometry. Courses in pre-calculus and calculus are also very valuable and are highly encouraged.**
- **Science - one year each of chemistry and physics, with lab if possible.**
- **English - four years of coursework with special attention to the study and practice of effective writing. Surveys of English and American literature are especially helpful as background for the future study of literature.**
- **To further enhance your competitiveness for admission, the following courses are also recommended:**
 - **Foreign language - at least two years.**
 - **History - one full year of U.S. history and, where possible, a full year of European or world history.**
 - **Introductory computer and typing courses are recommended because all midshipmen are required to use personal computers in most courses.**

We recommend **Honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate courses** if offered.

11th Grade:

Please keep the following timeline in mind if you are currently in 11th grade:

- **Starting in December of your junior year (if not sooner):** Take the ACT and SAT exams early and often. If you do not score well on one, take the other. The Naval Academy combines the highest math and verbal scores from either test to evaluate your competitiveness. Results are accepted as late as February of your application year.
- **January-March of your junior year:** Complete a USNA Summer Seminar application. This application also serves as the preliminary application so there is no need to submit another one.
- **April of your junior year:** Complete a preliminary application (if you did not apply to Summer Seminar). If you meet the minimum academic standards, you will be notified that you are an official candidate and you will be given instructions on how to complete the remainder of your online application.
- **Spring of your junior year:** Begin contacting the offices of your Representative and both of your US Senators to request a nomination. Many Congressional members set an early fall deadline for nomination requests. Check their websites to determine their procedures.
- **June of your junior year to February of your senior year:** Complete your online application, medical examination, and Candidate Fitness Assessment.

US MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

If you are planning to attend West Point, keep the following suggestions in mind:

- Continue to perform your personal best in high school academics, athletics and extracurricular activities.
- Earn A's and B's in the toughest courses you can take.
- Do well in calculus, trigonometry (part of our pre-calculus course) and physics.
- Excel on the athletic field.
- Become a leader in student government, clubs or other organizations.

Steps for admission:

1. Determine whether you meet the Basic Requirements. If you are eligible, fill out and submit the initial screening application, called the Candidate Questionnaire. Candidates must:
 - a. Be at least 17 but not older than 22 on July 1 of the year they enter West Point.
 - b. Not married.
 - c. Not pregnant.
 - d. Not legally responsible for child support
2. West Point will start your candidate file upon receiving a completed Candidate Questionnaire (middle of your junior year). You must have the following items to begin the candidate questionnaire:
 - a. Social Security Number
 - b. Your ACT, SAT or PSAT scores – must include a writing score
 - c. Your 9-digit zip code
 - d. Your high school's ETS Code – DMA is 080171
 - e. Your high school address – Our address is 112 Middleboro Road, Wilmington, DE 19804
 - f. Your congressional district – Delaware is listed as an 'At Large' district
3. Complete your Candidate Questionnaire to open your application to West Point – this is open as of mid-January of your junior year. You can complete the questionnaire at https://candidate.westpoint.edu/guest/cq/dad_pcq_part1.cfm?field1=BW
4. Once you complete the questionnaire, your file will be reviewed, and you will be notified (via email) if you have the qualifications to compete for admissions. If qualified, you will be given a West Point Candidate Number – please share this number with Mrs. Certesio
5. Reach out to our field force representative to schedule an interview. They are volunteers and you should give them plenty of time to schedule the interview. Our field force representative is Mr. Stephan G Murphy and he can be reached at Stephan.G.Murphy@gmail.com. When you interview with Mr. Murphy, you should be in your DMA uniform.
6. Apply for a Nomination - You must obtain a nomination in order to compete for admission to West Point, and you should apply for all nominations for which you are eligible during the spring of your junior year. At a minimum, candidates are eligible for a congressional nomination from their representative in Congress, their two U.S. senators, and the vice president of the United States. For more information about nominations in Delaware, see the first section of this document.
7. The Admissions Office reviews Candidate Questionnaires, and candidates who pass the initial screening will receive instructions about the remaining admissions requirements, including being qualified by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB). All procedures and forms must be completed promptly. Candidates who do not pass the initial screening will be notified. As part of this process, you will receive a letter from the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board,

known as “DoDMERB.” It will give you the location and date of your exam. You will be scheduled at a civilian medical facility or at an Army, Air Force or Navy facility near your home. Afterward, DoDMERB will forward the test results to you. You can track your medical status at <https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil>.

8. **Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA)** – the Candidate Fitness Assessment – The CFA is administered by the Head Naval Science Instructor at DMA (Commander Easley) and includes:
 - a. Basketball throw (from a kneeling position)
 - b. Cadence pull-ups or flexed-arm hang (women's option)
 - c. 40-yard shuttle run (for time)
 - d. Modified Sit-ups (number completed in 2 minutes)
 - e. Push-ups (number completed in 2 minutes)
 - f. 1-mile run (for time)
9. **Take College Entrance Exams** – The SAT, ACT or PLAN tests must be times and include a writing score. DMA recommends that you take both the SAT and ACT (with writing) at least once. It's to your advantage to take the tests as many times as practical, since West Point only considers your highest sub-scores, so you can only improve. Try for scores of at least 600 in math and verbal for SAT and 29 or higher for ACT. You must have your scores sent directly to West Point from the College Board using the appropriate College Code Numbers. The SAT code is 2924 and the ACT code is 2976. You must log in to your College Board account and pay the \$12 to send the scores directly to the academy.
10. **There's no room for “oops”.** Be sure to frequently check your West Point Candidate Portal for notifications or updates on your application status. Also, you want to ensure you've uploaded all the required documents. Required documents include:
 - a. Transcripts
 - b. School official evaluation
 - c. Candidate statement
 - d. Candidate Fitness Assessment
 - e. Medical Exam (DODMERB)
 - f. Nominations
 - g. Interview

West Point no longer conducts rolling admissions. The majority of offers of admission are made between November and June of the following year. However, for those fully qualified, outstanding candidates who have completed all admissions requirements, you may receive offers as early as November. The next page has a timeline for all admission to the USMA at West Point as well as a profile of the Class of 2024.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TIME LINE



@westpointadmissions



CLASS PROFILE

Typical demographic make up of Incoming class, averaged from historical data since 2012.

HIGHLIGHTS

BOYS/GIRLS STATE DELEGATE	235
CLASS/STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT	232
NEWSPAPER EDITOR OR STAFF	107
YEARBOOK EDITOR OR CO-EDITOR	92
DEBATING	172
DRAMA	104
SCOUTING PARTICIPANT	EAGLE SCOUT 239 / GOLD AWARD 159
Varsity Athletics	TEAM CAPTAIN 777 Varsity Letter 1,040
COMBAT VETERAN	29
INTERNATIONAL CADET	17

RANK IN HIGH SCHOOL

FIRST FIFTH	71%
SECOND FIFTH	19%
THIRD FIFTH	8%
FOURTH FIFTH	2%
BOTTOM FIFTH	0%

ACADEMIC HONORS

CLASS VALEDICTORIAN	91
CLASS SALUTATORIAN	60
NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP	171
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	709

VOLUME OF APPLICANTS

	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
APPLICANT FILES STARTED	12,283	3,215	15,408
NOMINATED	3,461	705	4,066
QUALIFIED (ACADEMIC & PHYSICAL)	1,818	347	2,165
ADMITTED	1,002	181	1,183

SAT SCORES*


	READING	MATH	WRITING
RANGE: 700-800	25%	25%	13%
RANGE: 600-699	41%	41%	44%
RANGE: 500-599	30%	30%	35%
RANGE: 400-499	3%	3%	3%
RANGE: 300-399	0%	0%	0%
RANGE: MEAN	634	653	608

ACT SCORES*

	ENGLISH	MATH	SCIENCE	READING	WRITING
RANGE: 31-36	42%	39%	31%	55%	20%
RANGE: 26-30	39%	49%	48%	33%	48%
RANGE: 21-25	18%	12%	20%	11%	30%
RANGE: 16-20	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%
RANGE: 11-15	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
RANGE: MEAN	29	29	29	30	27

* Includes only scores used as a basis for admission.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT.



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Initial Eligibility:

To apply to the Academy, you must be of good moral character and meet these basic eligibility requirements:

- a. At least 17 but not past your 23rd birthday by July 1 of the year you enter the Academy
- b. A United States Citizen
- c. Unmarried with no dependents
- d. Be of good moral character

Read complete eligibility details to confirm that you meet these requirements as defined by the Academy.
If you do, you may proceed to the next step.

Pre-Candidate Phase:

Complete Your Pre-Candidate Questionnaire

To become a candidate for appointment to the Academy, you must complete and submit a Pre-Candidate Questionnaire. You may begin as early as March 15 of your Junior year of high school. It must be completed by December 31st. You must have the following information available to complete the Pre-Candidate Questionnaire:

- e. Full Legal Name, Birth Date and Social Security Number
- f. Mailing Address, Home Phone and Email Address
- g. High School Name, Class size
- h. Class Rank and Grade Point Average (on a weighted 4.0 scale)
- i. One or More Test Scores: PSAT, PLAN, SAT, and/or ACT
- j. Your class rank, grade point average, test scores and answers to questions regarding your situation and activities will determine whether you will be granted candidate status.

Starting in July between your junior and senior years, instructions are emailed to candidates who have submitted an **approved** Pre-Candidate Questionnaire. These candidates have met the initial criteria to enter into the candidate phase of the application process. Those applicants whose Pre-Candidate Questionnaires are not competitive for appointment will not receive notification of candidate status. If you have not moved to the candidate phase, you may wish to contact your U.S. Air Force Academy counselor to gain insight into your admissions record and whether you can do anything to improve your application.

Candidate Phase:

Applicants who have achieved candidate status will receive notification by email and their online application. Candidates will also gain access to the full online application which contains valuable information and instructions on how to complete their official application to the United States Air Force Academy.

Application deadlines are based on when you entered the candidate phase. Your specific deadline to complete your file is posted on your portal. You must complete the required items by the deadline posted. During this phase, previously self-reported information will be verified and expanded upon. There are many steps to the process, some of which—such as nominations and medical evaluations—may take four to six months to complete. We advise you to take the application process and timeline seriously. Work with your family to reserve time to complete it and use our checklist to help ensure all materials are completed in a timely manner.

Seek Your Nomination early - To be eligible to accept an offer of appointment to the Academy, you must be nominated by a legally authorized nominating entity. The process of securing a nomination is competitive and lengthy. It is recommended that you begin applying for a nomination at the same time that you are completing your

Pre-Candidate Questionnaire. Begin your nomination application as soon as possible. The deadlines of your nominating sources vary and could be as soon as early September. Regardless of when you initiate the process, your nomination must be received by the Academy no later than January 31. See the first section of the handbook on nominations.

Transcripts and Teacher Evaluations

In the Pre-Candidate phase, you self-reported your grade point average and class rank. Now, in the Candidate phase you will request official transcripts from your school to verify your past academic record. You will be provided with a Request for Secondary School Transcript (USAFA Form 148) to give to your high school counselor. Ensure that your counselor completes and mails it to us, including your high school's profile and senior class schedule. For more details, see the Academic Performance admissions factor.

To gain further insight into your academic preparation and character, USAFA requires three teacher evaluations. If you are in high school, the instructors evaluating you **MUST** be your:

11th or 12th grade English instructor

11th or 12th grade Math instructor

One other instructor (preferably Science, but may be History, etc.)

You will be able to print the form for them from the USAFA admissions page. For more details, see the Character Evaluation admissions factor.

Academic Requirements:

The following academic courses are recommended:

- 4 years of English (with a college prep class in writing)
- 4 years of Mathematics (geometry, algebra, trigonometry and precalculus at a minimum)
- 4 years of Science (lab based biology, chemistry and physics)
- 3 years of Social Studies (to include US History)
- 2 years of a foreign language
- 1 year of computer study

USAFA recent classes have averaged in the top three percent of their high school classes. Adjustments are made to the PAR (Prior Academic Record) for students attending unusually competitive schools with a rigorous college prep curriculum and/or where honors and advanced placement courses are NOT weighted in the school's calculation of class rank and/or GPA. To ensure that USAFA makes the accurate adjustments to your PAR, please ask your counselor to include a profile of last year's graduating class from your high school with your transcript. Note: A solid foundation in algebra is more valuable than exposure to calculus.

SAT TESTS		AVERAGE SCORE	
SAT Verbal		670	
SAT Math		695	

ACT TESTS		AVERAGE SCORE	
ACT English		31.3	
ACT Reading		31.3	
ACT Math		30.0	
ACT Science Reasoning		30.6	

Students may take the SAT and ACT as many times as they'd like. Only the highest scores will be counted. When you register for the tests, request your scores be sent to the U.S. Air Force Academy. The SAT code for the Academy is 4830, and the ACT code is 0530. Students who score below 620 Evidence-based reading and writing or below 580 math on the SAT reasoning test and below 24 English/reading and 25 math/science on the ACT normally will not be competitive for an appointment directly into the Academy. However, they will be considered for the prep school or a Falcon Foundation Scholarship.

Candidate Fitness Assessment

Once you have entered the candidate phase, you must take the Candidate Fitness Assessment by the deadline posted on your portal. Also, follow the instructions to be eligible for your Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) medical exam. Once your name has been submitted to DoDMERB, schedule and complete your medical exam as quickly as possible. Delaying the exam will delay an appointment decision.

Become familiar with the six events in this fitness test and practice them to score well. The events are administered consecutively with specified start, finish, and rest times. Although the CFA is Pass-Fail, it is imperative that you perform to the best of your ability on each of these events, failure can disqualify you in the application process:

- Basketball Throw
- Pull-Ups/Flexed Arm Hang
- Shuttle Run
- Modified Sit-Ups (Crunches)
- Push-Ups
- One-Mile run

Note that you are responsible for finding your own examiner (at DMA, this is the Head Naval Science Instructor) and providing them with official instructions on how to set up and administer the test.

EXERCISE	MEN AVG	WOMEN AVG
Basketball Throw	69'	42'
Pull-ups	12	2
Flexed Arm Hang (women)	—	31 sec
Shuttle Run	8.1 sec	9.4 sec
Modified Sit-ups (crunches)	81	78
Push-ups	62	41
One-mile Run	6:29	7:30

Extracurricular Activities Record

Participation in athletic and nonathletic activities isn't just vital in preparing you for the demanding Academy program, it also gives your application a competitive edge. Sustained participation and leadership in a few activities is desirable. Complete the Candidate Activities Record to receive credit for any activities you have participated in at school, in organizations outside of school or at work.

Writing Sample and Personal Interview

As part of the admissions process, you are required to submit a writing sample and conduct a personal interview with an admissions representative. Both of these steps allow you to speak to the selection panel in your own words.

If you have not done so already, connect with your Admissions Liaison Officer (ALO) and schedule your personal interview. Treat this like you would a job interview, as it is an important factor in our overall review.

As for your writing sample, you will have the choice of providing a written response to two out of three questions provided in your online application. Responses should reflect who you are, using specific, concrete details while demonstrating critical thinking, organizational and grammatical abilities.

Submit Your Personal Data Record and Drug/Alcohol Abuse Statement

The Academy wants individuals of high moral character to further develop into future leaders of the U.S. Air Force and our nation. The Candidate Personal Data Record and Drug/Alcohol Abuse Statement are two critical aspects of your admissions file. You must provide details of your personal record, including any legal issues, such as arrests or citations. The Candidate Personal Data Record must be completed including details of any and all incidents. If selected as a cadet, a complete background investigation will be accomplished for purposes of granting a security clearance.

Medical Evaluation

All candidates admitted to the U.S. Air Force Academy must meet the medical and weight standards for a commission in the United States Air Force. The Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB) is responsible for determining your medical qualification. Note you must complete three of the following five application steps BEFORE your name will be forwarded to DODMERB to schedule your examination

- Candidate Fitness Assessment (USAFA Form 158)
- Candidate Personal Data Record (USAFA Form 146)
- Candidate Activities Record (USAFA Form 147)
- Teacher Evaluations (USAFA Form 145)
- Writing Sample (USAFA Form 0-878)

You should know that it can take up to 30 days to schedule your initial medical evaluation, 60 days for completion and possibly another 30 days for a medical waiver if required. This can result in up to a 4-month process for candidates. Applicants should become familiar with examination requirements and medical standards to ensure a complete and competitive application to the Academy. For more detail on this admissions requirement, see the Medical Evaluation overview at <https://www.academyadmissions.com/requirements/medical/examination/>.

US COAST GUARD ACADEMY

Unlike applications to other U.S. service academies, admission to the Coast Guard Academy is driven strictly by merit. Congressional nominations are not required or considered, so we are free to choose the absolute best applicants for our service. And unlike traditional colleges, as part of your Coast Guard application, you'll be required to complete both a Physical Fitness Exam as well as a thorough Medical Exam.

To be considered for admission, you must submit all required application material by January 15 of the year of entrance. The application will open in July.

The Academy's broad program of intellectual, professional, physical, and character development prepares the future leaders of the Coast Guard and the United States of America. Thus, we seek to enroll students of high moral character who have a background strong in academic, leadership, extracurricular, and athletic preparation. Each year, the Academy admits about 300 cadets from thousands of applicants. Each application is reviewed by the Cadet Candidate Evaluation Board, which conducts a thorough, holistic review. The board members pass their findings to the Director of Admissions, who makes an appointment recommendation to the Superintendent. All offers of appointment must be approved by the Superintendent.

Highly Selective Admissions Process

The Coast Guard Academy is ranked among the nation's elite undergraduate colleges. This is reflected in our highly selective admission process. So what distinguishes those who are accepted to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy?

- Proven academic accomplishment, particularly in math and the sciences
- Leadership skills
- An unwavering desire to serve the country and humanity
- Physical fitness and athleticism
- Well-rounded interests and experiences
- Commitment to achieve one's full potential

Steps to Apply

1. **Request Information** – you will want to create a login for your personalized student portal, the Bears Den, which will facilitate communication and access to information about the academy experience. Click [here](#) to create a Bear's Den login.
2. **Check your Eligibility to Apply**
 - a. A U.S. citizen of sound moral character
 - b. Unmarried with no dependents or financial debt
 - c. A high school graduate, 17 - 22 years of age
 - d. An individual who has submitted standardized test scores (SAT or ACT) taken without special accommodations
3. **Schedule A Visit** - To make an informed decision as to whether this is the right college experience for you, please visit the Coast Guard Academy in person. Click [here](#) to view opportunities to visit USCGA. Once COVID is over, we will again be scheduling a visit to the USCGA.
4. **Contact your Admissions Officer** – each member of our staff has unique experiences as a member of the Coast Guard. Your admissions officer will help you put your best foot forward in the selection process. DMA's admission representative is Lt. Brad Nelson and he can be reached at (860) 448-5093 or via email at Bradley.J.Nelson@uscga.edu

5. **Apply to the US Coast Guard Academy** – The USCGA application for the class of 2026 will open in July 2021. You can access the online application at <https://www.uscga.edu/apply/>

The Coast Guard Academy is ranked among the nation's elite undergraduate colleges. This is reflected in the highly selective admission process. So what distinguishes those who are accepted to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy?

- Proven academic accomplishment, particularly in math and the sciences
- Leadership skills
- An unwavering desire to serve the country and humanity
- Physical fitness and athleticism
- Well-rounded interests and experiences
- Commitment to achieve one's full potential

The Academy's Early Action review group is non-binding. All applicants appointed in this group will still have until May 1st to accept or decline.

Required Forms - available online as you complete the online application

- a. High school transcript(s)
- b. Math instructor letter of recommendation
- c. English instructor letter of recommendation
- d. Guidance counselor letter of recommendation
- e. Physical Fitness Examination (PFE)
- f. Official SAT/ACT (writing section optional)

Admissions may request to interview applicants and prospective applicants in order to best meet your needs and the Academy's enrollment goals. If so, a representative of Admissions will contact you. If selected for an interview, participation is required. The format of the interview - online, by phone, or face-to-face - will be based on the mutual consent of all parties, with health and safety the paramount concern.

Standardized Test Scores - There is no minimum test score requirement for the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Scores reported must be achieved without the benefit of testing accommodations. Successful candidates usually score at least 1120 combined Critical Reading and Math on the SAT, or have an ACT Composite of at least 24. The average score of admitted applicants is 670 Math and 650 ERW. To send your scores from the testing agency, contact SAT or ACT, or list our code when you take the test. Our SAT code is 5807 and our ACT code is 0600. You must log in to your College Board account and pay the \$12 to send the scores directly to the Coast Guard Academy.

Keep these important dates in mind as you complete your application:

- October 15 – Early Action deadline
- By December 23 – Early Action decisions released
- January 29 – Regular Admission deadline
- By April 1 – Regular Admission decisions released
- April 15 – Medical Examination deadline
- May 1 – Appointment acceptance deadline
- May 15 – Medical Exam qualification/waiver deadline
- June 1 – Enrollment paperwork due
- June 28 - Swab Summer starts for the Class of 2025
- July 15 - Application opens for the Class of 2026

Physical Fitness Exam (PFE)

The Physical Fitness Exam (PFE) is a measure of your physical aptitude. You are responsible to arrange for the PFE. Find an adult (at DMA, this is administered by Commander Easley – head NSI) to administer the PFE and submit your scores. The Academy will email instructions to this person after you submit your online application.

It consists of three elements worth a maximum score of 100 points each (300 pts total) and must be administered in the following sequence:

- Cadence Push-Ups (Audio file)
- Two-Minute Sit-Ups
- 1.5 Mile Run

Medical Exam

Though not required for review of your application, a qualifying **DoDMERB Medical Exam** must be on file before an appointment to the Academy can be offered. The Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) determines the medical fitness of all applicants to the five United States federal service academies. The names of applicants deemed competitive for an appointment to the Coast Guard Academy (or one of our preparatory school programs) will be provided to DoDMERB once they have completed the application process. Within two weeks, you will receive instructions from DoDMERB (or their contractor Concorde, Inc.) about how to schedule your medical examination.

If the exam is not done by April 15, or your qualifications are still uncertain by May 1, you will not be eligible for further consideration.

US MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

A United States Merchant Marine Academy education is one of the great adventures of a lifetime. For half a century young individuals have come to Kings Point to acquire the knowledge, experience, discipline, and skills that strong leadership demands. Students may begin applying to the Academy on 1 May of your Junior Year of High School. The application deadline is 1 February of the year you wish to enter the Academy. The earlier you start the application, the sooner all related processes can begin (scheduling for your DoDMERB physical, for example). The later you apply, the greater the chance that you will not complete all processes by our established deadlines.

To be appointed to the Academy, candidates must have satisfactorily completed their high school education at an accredited secondary school or its equivalent. They must have earned at least 16 units of credit. Four of these credit units must be in English; three units in mathematics (from algebra, geometry and trigonometry); and one unit in physics or chemistry with a laboratory. These requirements are minimal. The Academy strongly recommends that candidates take four years of mathematics and both physics and chemistry. Courses in mechanical drawing and machine shop are also desirable. Successful completion of pre-calculus or calculus satisfies the trigonometry requirement. Other recommended courses would include engineering-based courses, business courses such as Economics and Statistics, and other technical subjects.

Steps to Admission

1. Confirm Eligibility
 - a. Be at least 17 years of age and must not have passed your 25th birthday before July 1 in the year of entrance.
 - b. Be a citizen of the United States either by birth or naturalization, except for a limited number of international midshipmen specially authorized by Congress.
 - c. Meet the physical, security, suitability and character requirements necessary for commission in the U.S. Navy Reserve.
 - d. Obtain a Congressional nomination to the Academy (DMA nominations cannot be used for USMMA); submit a completed application; and qualify scholastically.
 - e. Be of good moral character.
2. Create an account and submit Part 1 on-line to determine your initial eligibility
(<https://onlineapp.usmma.edu/Account/Login.aspx>) - You will need the following information to complete Part 1:
 - a. Social Security Number
 - b. SAT or ACT scores
 - c. High School Rank
 - d. Cumulative GPA
 - e. Congressional State and District (we are what is called an 'At Large' district)
3. Apply for a nomination - Nominations from a proper nominating authority (either a U.S. Representative or a U.S. Senator from your State of Residence/Domicile). USMMA does not accept school-based, Vice Presidential or Presidential nominations for admission.
4. Qualifying test scores from the SAT or ACT- you can take multiple times and your highest will be used:
The current minimum qualifying scores are a 29 on the Reading subsection and a 580 in Math. Scores can be sent from College Board to USMMA using code **2923**.
The current minimum qualifying scores for the ACT are 23 English and 24 Math. You must also achieve a minimum composite score of 23. Each of the three minimum scores must be achieved individually in order to meet the Academy's minimum test score requirements. Scores can be sent from ACT to USMMA using code **2974**. The academy will accept scores through February of the year for which you are seeking appointment.

USMMA Class of 2023 Statistics:

SAT	Middle 50% Range
Reading	30-34
Math	600-660
ACT	Middle 50% Range
English	25-31
Math	26-29

The Class Profile for the USMMA Class of 2024 can be found here: <https://www.usmma.edu/class-profile>

5. DMA will mail, at your request, your official high school transcript to:
*Admissions Office
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
300 Steamboat Road
Kings Point, New York 11024-1699*
6. Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA) - [DIRECTIONS](#)
 - a. Satisfactory completion of the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA) is one of the requirements for admission to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Passing results must be received in the Admissions Office by the application deadline.
 - b. The CFA is a test of strength, agility, speed and endurance. The results of this test are important in the overall assessment of your admission file, so you should become familiar with the six events in the CFA and practice them to score well. At DMA, your CFA examination is administered by the Head Naval Science Instructor (NSI), Commander Sean Easley. It is your responsibility to ensure that the results are submitted the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Admissions Office by the application deadline.
 - c. Candidates have two (2) chances to pass the CFA. If you wait until the deadline to submit your CFA scores, you will not have an opportunity for a retest. Taking the CFA early and submitting scores well in advance of the application deadline is in your best interest.
 - d. Fourth classmen (freshmen) must demonstrate the capability of swimming 100 yards using two basic strokes, and 15 minutes of flotation. Non-swimmers must devote a part of their time to learning basic swimming strokes, and it is therefore recommended that applicants learn to swim before entering the Academy. This requirement must be fulfilled prior to a midshipman's first shipboard training period.
7. Medical Exam –
 - a. A candidate for admission to the Academy must be in good medical condition and must meet the requirements for an Appointment as a U.S. Navy Reserve midshipman.
 - b. The Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB) is responsible for determining the medical qualification of Academy applicants. Medical examinations are conducted by a service academy examining facility designated by DODMERB.
 - c. To be considered for the DoDMERB medical exam, the Admissions Office must receive your high school transcript, official SAT/ACT scores AND a passing Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA). It is the candidate's responsibility to pursue medical processing in a timely manner to its conclusion. It can take several weeks to schedule your initial medical evaluation and several more weeks to determine medical qualification.
 - d. Applicants can visit the DODMERB website at <https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil/FAQs.aspx> to obtain additional information. Failing to disclose pre-existing medical conditions that you were aware of which are discovered after reporting to the USMMA may result in medical separation and you may be ineligible for readmission.
 - e. For more information on USMMA medical requirements, visit usmma.edu/admissions/7-medical-exam

8. Complete your online application

- a. Complete your Activities Record. The United States Merchant Marine Academy looks for well- rounded candidates that demonstrate exemplary character. Your extracurricular activity is an important part of your assessment. Be prepared to provide detailed information on the following:

Athletic Activities: Approximately 84 percent of entering midshipmen have earned a varsity letter and 66 percent are team captains.

Non-Athletic Activities: Examples include but are not limited to:

Student Government
National Honors Society
Scouting (Eagle/Gold Award)
JROTC
Naval Sea Cadet Corps
Civil Air Patrol
Band

Community Service

Work Experience

- b. Submit the Academic Information Request. The information requested includes official transcripts and a school profile. You will always put Mrs. Certesio (debra.certesio@dma.k12.de.us) in for this piece.
- c. Request School Official Evaluations – You will need recommendations from the following junior or senior teachers:
- i. English
 - ii. Math
 - iii. Lab science (either chemistry or physics)
- d. Submit your Biographical Essay. Your essay must be at least 500 words. Include your name and candidate ID at the top of the page

Important Contacts

DMA Counselor for ALL Academy and ROTC Candidates: Debra Certesio

Email: debra.certesio@dma.k12.de.us

112 Middleboro Road

Wilmington, DE 19804

Phone: 302-998-0745

Our School Code: 080171

Senator Carper's Office Contact: Lauren Gutierrez

Email: lauren_gutierrez@carper.senate.gov

555 E Loockerman St, Suite 300

Dover, DE 19901

Phone: 302-674-3308

Senator Coons' Office Contact: Desiree Burritt

Email: Desiree_Burritt@coons.senate.gov

555 E Loockerman St, Suite 330

Dover, DE 19901

Phone: 302-736-5601

Congresswoman Blunt Rochester's Office Contact: Krista Weed

Email: LBRServiceAcademy@mail.house.gov

Phone: 302-830-2330

Important Websites/Links

Nominations:

Carper: <https://oampublic.senate.gov/constituent/login/70116bc1-6284-4154-9487-f38b5540410b/>

Coons: <https://www.coons.senate.gov/services/academy-nominations>

Congresswoman Blunt Rochester: <https://bluntrochester.house.gov/forms/serviceacademynomination/>

Academy Admission Offices:

West Point - <https://www.westpoint.edu/admissions>

Naval Academy - <http://www.usna.edu/Admissions/index.php>

Coast Guard Academy - <http://www.uscga.edu/admissions/>

Merchant Marine Academy - <https://www.usmma.edu/admissions>

Air Force Academy - <http://www.academyadmissions.com/admissions/>

Helpful Hints

Here are a few tips and pointers as you move through the process. Also, some helpful information about recommendation letters and how to request them.

- For nominations, you will likely have multiple interviews (individual and with a panel). Be prepared, schedule a time to work with Commander Easley to do mock interviews. Here is what we anticipate for 2021-2022:
 - Carper's nomination office will do one interview with an entire panel
 - Coons' nomination process will include an individual (preliminary) interview and a second interview with the entire panel
 - Blunt-Rochester's process will include an individual meeting (get to know you) to prepare you for the larger board interview with a panel
- Create a detailed resume – don't just list the things you are doing but emphasize your involvement level. You should be looking to take on leadership roles in the organizations you are involved in. Some examples include: Varsity Captain, NJROTC Regimental Staff, Student Government officer, BPA officer, etc.
- Once any one of your service academy applications reaches 51% complete, you will get an email (there is a delay and they don't start coming out until late summer) from the Department of Defense. It is VERY EASY to miss this email because it is not obvious it is regarding your medical exam. This is why we recommend you create a new email address and make sure your parents also have access. The email will likely come to you from info@concorde2000.com. The subject should be DODMETS.com | Applicant Approval Letter. **IT IS CRITICAL THAT YOU WATCH FOR THIS EMAIL.**
- Once you complete your DoDMERB medical and eye exam, the results will be loaded in to another DOD system which can be accessed here: <https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil/Default.aspx> - IT IS CRITICAL THAT YOU WATCH FOR THIS IN YOUR EMAIL OR CHECK IT REGULARLY – This is where the results and any required remedial action will be listed. If you have a known medical issue, make sure you get on your applications early. You will likely go through a remedial process for your medical clearance, be turned down, and need to get a waiver from the specific academy. A large number of applicants are initially turned down by DoDMERB and need a waiver from the academy. If you wait too long to start the application process, you may not get the medical process in time to be offered an appointment.
- Check in with your admissions officers - most admissions reps would like to hear from you every 4-6 weeks or when new things are happening that may strengthen your application file.

Recommendation Letters:

- You will need between three and five recommendations for each nomination and admission file. Some teachers will write a generic one and others will write one that they can tailor to each office. Either way, a copy of every SIGNED teacher recommendation for academy admissions, nominations and ROTC should be given to Mrs. Certesio (digitally).
- You should ask a teacher to write a recommendation letter and ask that they give a copy of the completed recommendation letter to Mrs. Certesio. You will input the teacher's email address in the system and they will be sent a link to upload the letter to the Service Academy, ROTC program or nomination office. They should write them and hold on to them until they receive a the email link. They will not provide these letters to you.
- **ALWAYS** provide a copy of your brag sheet AND resume to all teachers at the time you request the recommendation.
- Select at least one MATH and one ENGLISH teacher to write a recommendation. Others should be selected based on your interests or application requirements.

Academy Contact Information

Air Force Academy

Delaware Admission Reps: Abram Jacons (A-K) 719-333-9474 & Albert Alire (L-Z) 719-333-3801

Admissions Office

HQ USAFA/RRS

2304 Cadet Drive, Ste. 2300

USAF Academy, CO 80840

www.usafa.edu

Admissions Liaison Officer (LAO) – Maj. Dennis Philapavage, denphil@gmail.com

Merchant Marine Academy

Delaware Admissions Rep: Lt. Joseph Becker 866-546-4778 / beckerj@usmma.edu

Office of Admissions

300 Steamboat Road

Kings Point, NY 11024-1699

www.usmma.edu

Local Representative – John Fusco john.f.fusco@gmail.com

Military Academy at West Point

Delaware Admissions Coordinator: Captain Jae Kim– 845-938-5721 admissionsne@westpoint.edu

Delaware Candidate Technician: Ms. Cathy Muller – 845-938-5753 catherine.muller@westpoint.edu

Admissions Office

600 Thayer Road

West Point, NY 10996-9902

<http://www.usma.edu>

Local Field Representative – Mr. Stephan Murphy – Stephan.G.Murphy@gmail.com

Naval Academy

Delaware Admissions Counselor –Lauren Zaccheo - region1b@usna.edu or zaccheo@usna.edu

Office of Admissions

52 King George Street

Annapolis, MD 21402-5018

<http://www.usna.edu>

Blue Gold Officer (BGO) – Major Brad Boyd 302-377-4479

Coast Guard Academy (no nomination required)

Delaware Admissions Rep Lt. Brad Nelson- 860-448-5093 Bradley.J.Nelson@uscga.edu

Admissions Office

31 Mohegan Ave

New London, CT 06320

www.uscga.edu

Admissions Partners : Lt. Hunter Warren – 302-668-5321 – Hunter.C.Warren@uscg.mil

Lee Dawkins 215-348-1085 // dawkinslee4176@comcast.net