

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I. General Information:

What are the United States Service Academies?

The United States Service Academies are federal academic institutions for the undergraduate education and training of commissioned officers for the United States armed forces. The five Service Academies are:

- **The United States Military Academy** [in West Point, NY](#)
- **The United States Naval Academy** [in Annapolis, MD](#)
- **The United States Air Force Academy** [in Colorado Springs, CO](#)
- **The United States Merchant Marine Academy** [in Kings Point, NY](#)
- **The United States Coast Guard Academy** [in New London, CT](#)

How do I apply?

Admission is open to all eligible young men and women. Eligibility requirements vary by service academy. Please contact Service Academies directly for more information. Applicants will be evaluated based on academic, physical and leadership potential. Those candidates who are deemed fully qualified will receive appointments to the Service Academy. High school students should apply for admission between the spring of their junior year in high school and the fall of their senior year. Admission is rolling and students are encouraged to apply early. Each Service Academy has its own admission process. Please follow up with the admissions department at the specific Service Academy to which you are applying.

- **The United States Military Academy: (800) 822-ARMY**
www.usma.edu
- **The United States Naval Academy: (888) 249-7707**
www.usna.edu
- **The United States Air Force Academy: (719) 333-2520**
www.usafa.af.mil
- **The United States Coast Guard Academy: (800) 883-8724**
www.cga.edu
- **The United States Merchant Marine Academy: (800) 732-6267**
www.usmma.edu

In order to be considered for admission to the US Military, US Naval, US Air Force and US Merchant Marine Academies, an applicant must obtain a nomination from an official source. Please see below for more information. **The US Coast Guard Academy no longer requires a congressional nomination for admission.**

II. Nomination Process:

In addition to your requisite Service Academy application, in order to be considered for admission an applicant must obtain a nomination from an official source. The nomination process is competitive and

applicants are encouraged to apply to all available sources (**Exception: The US Coast Guard Academy no longer requires a congressional nomination for admission**).

Where can I apply for a nomination?

Students can seek a nomination through the following sources and are encouraged to apply to all available sources:

- **U.S. Senators**
 - U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand (NY) – (212) 688-6262
<http://gillibrand.senate.gov/services/nominations/>
 - U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer (NY) – (212) 486-4430
http://schumer.senate.gov/new_website/academynominations.cfm
- **U.S. Representative**
Find your local representative: <http://www.house.gov/>
- **The Vice President of the United States** (only for USMA, USNA and USAFA)¹
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/vice-president-biden/academy-nominations>
- **The President of the United States**
Presidential Nominations are awarded to sons and daughters of career military personnel. Applicants must meet specific eligibility requirements. Please contact the Service Academies directly for more information.
- **ROTC/ JROTC**
ROTC/ JROTC Nominations are awarded to students currently enrolled in a ROTC/ JROTC program. Please contact your professor of Military Science or Senior Instructor and the Service Academy directly for more information.

What are the eligibility requirements to apply for a nomination from your office?

Each applicant 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. (25th birthday for the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy)
- Citizenship: Must be at U.S. citizen, and a permanent resident of New York State
- Marital Status: Be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents.

III. The Application:

What is the application deadline?

Applications and all supporting materials must be received by November 1, 2012. This is not a postmark date. Your application must be complete and received by this deadline.

¹ The Vice President is the only authorized source who can nominate U.S. citizens without geographical restrictions. The Vice President is authorized to nominate students to the US Military Academy, US Naval Academy and US Air Force Academy; however, he cannot nominate students to the US Merchant Marine Academy and does not nominate students to the US Coast Guard Academy.

I plan to take my SAT or ACT in October 2012. Will that score be considered?

Please remember that if you are taking an SAT or ACT in October 2012, it will take several weeks before your scores reach my office. To ensure that your October scores are received by the November 1, 2012 deadline, please contact my New York City office at 212-688-6262.

I plan to take my SAT or ACT in November 2012. Will that score be considered?

All standardized test scores must be received by the application deadline, November 1, 2012. Unfortunately standardized tests taken in November 2012 will not be considered.

I am unable to submit my application electronically. Is there a paper application?

Yes. Please contact my New York City office at 212-688-6262 and a paper application will be mailed to you.

I have submitted my application online. How can I confirm that your office received it?

After submitting your application electronically, you will receive a confirmation within 24 hours of online submission. If you do not receive this notification, please contact my New York City office at 212-688-6262.

What is an official transcript?

An official transcript is signed and submitted by an official at your school. My office will not accept unofficial transcripts.

My school included my SAT or ACT scores on my official transcript. Will those scores be considered official?

Yes. My office will accept SAT or ACT scores submitted on your official transcript as official scores.

Can I submit my student score report as my official score report?

No. My office requires official SAT or ACT scores. If your scores are not included on your official transcript, then please have College Board send your scores to my New York City office. The codes are **SAT (score code: 2425)** or **ACT (score code: 7164)**.

Can I email my recommendations or transcripts?

Recommendations – Yes. You can submit your recommendations by email on behalf of your recommender. Please remember that each letter of recommendation must be submitted as an Adobe PDF or Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) attachment and emailed individually. This means that you should be sending three separate emails – one for each recommendation.

Transcript – No. Your transcript must be emailed by a school official.

My school will be emailing my letters of recommendation. Can all three letters be submitted in one email?

No. To accurately track the materials that are being sent, my office requires that each letter of recommendation be emailed individually. Please ask your school official to send three separate emails, one for each recommendation.