

Service Academy Overview



US Service Academy Snapshot

US News Best Colleges of 2020:

Military Academy at West Point

#21 National Liberal Arts College

#2 Top Public School

#4 Engineering Program (tie)

83% Graduation Rate

90 Rhodes Scholars

US Naval Academy

#17 National Liberal Arts College (tie)

#1 Top Public School

#4 Engineering Program (tie)

91% Graduation Rate

49 Rhodes Scholars

54 Astronauts

US Air Force Academy

#39 National Liberal Arts College

#3 Top Public School

#6 Engineering Program

81% Graduation Rate

38 Rhodes Scholars

39 Astronauts

Academic Preparation

1. Students should take challenging courses, when possible, throughout their high school career. Some schools do not offer advanced placement courses. That is taken into account with the congressional office and with the academies.

Guidelines for courses

- a. Four years of English
 - b. Four years of Mathematics
 - c. Four year of Laboratory sciences
 - d. Three years of social sciences
 - e. Two years of a foreign language
 - f. One year computer science
2. Students should be well-prepared for the SAT/ACT. The service academies and congressional offices **super score**. It is in the best interest for them to begin the standardized tests early and work to increase the scores in the individual subject areas. The academies and congressional offices will accept the ACT and/or the SAT. If possible, we recommend that the student take both tests once, see which one they prefer, and concentrate on bringing that score up.
 3. Encourage students to work on their resume early. The service academy process is not a time for them to be humble. We recommend highlighting all high school achievements (not just junior year achievements).

What are the academies looking for in applicants?

The academies and congressional offices are looking for the ‘whole person’ aspect of an applicant. Someone who excels in academics, has participated in athletic endeavors, has leadership in school or the community. For a student who has the grit and determination to be a leader in the military and beyond.

What is the commitment?

If the student is accepted by one of the academies, he/she will attend with very little out of pocket expenses. Upon graduating from the academies, he/she will be commissioned as an Officer in your respective branch. There is a minimum requirement to serve for five years on active duty. This can change depending on the path you take.

Resources

www.serviceacademyforums.com

An online forum to connect with other applicants and parents to ask advice, and to learn more about what to expect.

www.usafa.edu

Official website of the US Air Force Academy (applicants will utilize www.academyadmissions.com during the application process).

www.usna.edu

Official website of the US Naval Academy

www.usma.edu

Official website of the Military Academy at West Point

www.usmma.edu

Official website of the Merchant Marine Academy

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STAR

May 2019



Service Academy Rundown

Do you have a desire to be a **leader**? To **serve**? The United States Service Academies offer an opportunity for students to receive a first class **college education** and upon graduation will commission as an officer in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, or the Navy. *Rising seniors should apply now!*

Every one of these institutions provides students with an unparalleled educational experience and an opportunity to lead other brave men and women in uniform. The best and the brightest students, from all walks-of-life, emerge from these schools as college graduates and officers in the U.S. military.

This summer...

Plan to complete your application by the end of summer break.

Ask for more letters of recommendation than required. Pick the **best** letters to submit.

Hone your message for each essay. What is your **why**?

Stay organized and keep copies of EVERYTHING you submit.

Begin your application with each academy you are interested in attending.

This is your time to shine, do not be humble!

"For me, West Point is about joining something bigger than myself. It is about becoming a part of a family that will always have my back no matter what. I wanted to go to West Point because I knew I wanted to serve my country, but also because I knew it was the only place that could turn me into one of the best leaders the world has ever seen." R.F., West Point, Class of 2022

Application Requirements

Senator Portman

- ❖ Application Form
- ❖ One essay
- ❖ Three letters of recommendation
- ❖ HS Transcript
- ❖ SAT/ACT scores

Senator Brown

- ❖ Application Form
- ❖ Two essays
- ❖ Two letters of recommendation
- ❖ HS Transcript
- ❖ SAT/ACT scores

Ask your MOC about his/her requirements!

Did you know?

The service academies develop you mentally, physically, and morally to become a leader. Unlike traditional colleges and universities, you must receive a nomination from an authorized nominating source (congressional or Service-Connected).

Applicants should always apply to both senators and their congressional representative.

US News ranked the service academies among the best Engineering Programs, Public Schools, and Liberal Arts Colleges in the country!

You should apply for a nomination while simultaneously applying to each of the academies you are interested in attending.

You can download the applications from Senator Brown and Senator Portman by visiting our websites!

Not everyone who receives a nomination receives an offer of appointment by the academies; make sure you have a solid back-up plan!

Nomination Application Process

- ✓ March – September - Rising seniors/re-applicants should open/complete their applications.
- ✓ Friday, September 20, 2019 – DEADLINE for Senator Portman and Senator Brown
- ✓ September – November – Interviews
- ✓ January – Nominations announced
- ✓ June – Cadets/Midshipmen report

For more information:

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www.portman.senate.gov – www.brown.senate.gov
– www.usma.edu – www.usna.edu –
www.usmma.edu – www.academyadmissions.com

Find your congressional representative by visiting:
www.house.gov

FAQs

1. Do I have to know my Member of Congress (MOC) to receive a nomination?

NO. We determine nominations on a competitive basis. It is in your best interest to apply to ALL possible nominating sources.

2. What is the commitment?

If you are accepted by one of the academies, you will attend with very little out-of-pocket expenses. Upon graduating, you will commission as an officer in your respective branch. There is a minimum requirement to serve for five years on active duty. This can change depending on the path you take.

3. What is a nomination? An appointment?

A nomination is required in order to receive an appointment. Applying for a nomination is a separate process than applying to the academies. If you receive a nomination and complete your application with the academy/academies you are interested in attending, you will then be eligible for an appointment. The Service Academies (SA's) make the final decision on offers of appointment (acceptance).

4. Do I need to submit all of my test scores?

Like the SA's, congressional offices will **super score**. We encourage you to take the ACT or SAT as often as possible to increase your super score. Since the deadline for Senator Brown and Senator Portman is in September, the last test score our offices will accept is September 14, 2019. However, we encourage you to continue taking the tests as the academies and other congressional offices have later deadlines.

5. I am homeschooled, can my parent write the letter of recommendation?

Whichever parent is listed as the administrator may write the letter of recommendation from the perspective of the educator.

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For more information:

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