

**The Honorable C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress**

**The following information is needed to complete your file
All material must be received by November 12, 2008**

_____ Application for Nomination to the U.S. Service Academy

_____ Essay/Personal Statement

_____ Notarized Affidavit of Residence

_____ Letter of Recommendation (Counselor)

_____ Letter of Recommendation (Math/Science Teacher)

_____ Letter of Recommendation (Personal Choice)

_____ Official Transcript (High School with GPA)

_____ Official SAT/ACT Scores

Congressional Nominations to the United States Military Academies

Introduction

Admission to one of our Nation's Military Academies is highly competitive and individuals nominated from the 2nd Congressional District of Maryland must meet the high standards set by the Academy. While it is admittedly a lengthy and arduous process, the rewards for those who qualify are great.

Nomination

Members of Congress may nominate candidates who are legal residents of their district for admission to the Academies. The number of nominations, if any, which a Representative may make in a particular year depends upon how many vacancies, if any, exist at the particular Academy in the quota allocated to each Representative's office.

To be considered for a nomination to a United States Service Academy, you must submit a letter requesting an application to my 2nd Congressional District Office at 375 West Padonia Road, Suite 200, Timonium, Maryland 21093. Because of the keen competition for nominations, you are urged to apply to any other nominating source available. These include Senators Mikulski and Cardin, and the Vice President of the United States. It is important to stress that a Senator or a Representative only nominate candidates to be considered for admission to the Academies. Admission itself is determined by each Academy through an established admission procedure, and those nominated must meet the Academy's requirements to receive further consideration.

Basic Academy Requirements

- 1- Citizen of the United States of America.
- 2- Not married, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support a child or dependent.
- 3- As of entry date, applicant must be at least 17 years of age and less than 23 years of age.
- 4- Must be a legal resident of the Second Congressional District of Maryland. If you are under 18 years of age, the legal residence of your parents is considered your legal residence.

Basis for Nomination

Many factors enter into the judgment as to which of the candidates meet the criteria to be nominated to one of the Academies. Academic ability, moral character, leadership potential, physical vigor and the like are among the criteria when considering nomination. Since competition is extremely keen, the objective is to identify those young citizens who are most qualified for an Academy education and subsequent military career.

In selecting candidates for nomination, a competitive method is applied. The candidate's record, including SAT or ACT scores, extra-curricular activities, class rank and so forth are all factors considered in the nomination process. An interview with a Second District Academy Selection Board is also required.

1. **School Records:** School records, including grade point average and class rank are important. The average competitive candidates stand in the upper fifth percentile of his/her class.
2. **College Boards:** SAT and ACT scores will be considered in the selection of academy nominees. The Academies will accept the higher of these test scores. Test scores should be sent directly to my district office. My SAT code is **4265**. My ACT code is **7444**.
3. **Extra-curricular activities:** This includes after school work participation in athletics, community service, and school clubs/organization members are considered.

You are required to furnish the following:

- 1- **Completed Application:** Enclosed is a copy of the required application. Formal candidacy is established upon receipt of this completed application.
- 2- **Three Letters of Recommendation:** One letter must be from your guidance counselor, one from a math or science teacher, and the third from someone of your choice. It cannot be written by a member of your family.
- 3- **Up-to-Date Official Transcript:** The transcript must be official and should include your grade point average.
- 4- **Up-to-Date SAT/ACT Scores:** College board scores are required by the Academies for consideration for an appointment. Applicants are responsible for requesting the testing service to provide scores to my office.
- 5- **Qualifying Medical Examination:** After you send your completed pre-candidate questionnaire to the Academies, they will schedule a medical examination with the Department of Defense Medical Review Board (DODMRB). You should be participating in an ongoing fitness program to do pull-ups, push-ups, sit-ups, and 300 yard runs.
- 6- **Completed Affidavit of Residence:** This must be completed verifying that you are a resident of the Second Congressional District of Maryland.
- 7- **Essay:** This essay should not be more than 300 words and should include your goals and why you are interested in becoming a military officer. A second essay should be prepared and included according to the instructions in the application.

Instructions for Reapplying Applicants

If you are reapplying for a nomination, please include a letter of recommendation from the college or prep school you are currently attending, in addition to the previous information required. Please also include current academic information available. Since the files from the previous year are still available, it is not necessary to provide answers to the detailed essay questions on the application.

8. Father's Name _____
Occupation _____
9. Mother's Name _____
Occupation: _____
10. High School _____ (Name)
_____ (Address)
_____ (City, State, Zip)
_____ (Telephone)
11. Grade Point Average _____ Class Rank _____ / _____
12. Highest SAT Scores Verbal _____ Mathematics _____
Highest ACT Scores English _____ Mathematics _____
13. Recommendations enclosed from:
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
14. Did you apply for a nomination during the previous year? _____
15. Did you receive a nomination from any other source? _____
If yes, please provide details.
16. Are you currently attending college? _____
If yes, please provide details.
17. Have you had any active or reserve military experience? _____
If yes, please provide details.
18. Other nominating sources to which you are applying: _____

Academics

19. What do you consider your strongest academic area and why?

20. What do you consider your weakest academic area and why?

21. List any academic honors or prizes you have received.

22. Should you be appointed to a service academy, which academic area would you select as a major?

23. Have you applied to any other colleges or universities? Please list below.

Athletics

24. List all school and community athletic activities in which you have participated. Include any personal or team achievements which demonstrate your athletic or leadership potential.

School and Community Activities

25. Describe fully any other extra-curricular activities in which you have participated. Include length of involvement, positions of responsibility or leadership in which you served, and any honors or recognitions you received.

26. Describe any community activities in which you have participated, including the same information as in the above question.

27. Describe your other pursuits or hobbies.

28. Which of your activities do you consider the most rewarding?

29. List a non-required book you have read during the past year which was of particular significance to you, and explain.

30. If you have worked during your high school years, list your salaried jobs as well as any volunteer work you have done. Describe the jobs and the amount of hours worked per week.

31. Describe your summers while you were in high school. If you were employed, describe your employment.

32. Describe any significant travel experiences you may have.

Essays

33. Please prepare an essay outlining your goals in a concise and direct manner as to why you are interested in becoming a military or merchant marine officer. Concentrate your thoughts on your service following your graduation from one of the Service Academies. (Do not exceed 300 words)

34. Please prepare an essay outlining under what circumstances you would advocate the use of the American military forces in another country. (Do not exceed 500 words)

I hereby certify that my answers in this application are true and that this application has been fully completed by me without outside influence.

Applicant's Signature

Date