



**United States Service Academy  
Congressional Nomination Application**

**Congresswoman Diana DeGette  
First District of Colorado**

**Return to:  
Service Academy Nominations**

**District Office  
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Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone: (303) 844-4988  
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# SERVICE ACADEMY INFORMATION

U.S. Representative Diana DeGette

State of Colorado

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## Application Information for Nominations to the United States Service Academies

### APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 9, 2015

Each year, Members of Congress nominate young men and women to become eligible for an appointment to a U.S. Service Academy. The academies are seeking future cadets and midshipmen who possess “whole person” qualifications: good moral character, a commendable academic record, evidence of strong leadership potential, physical aptitude, medical fitness, motivation to achieve academically, and eventually, the desire to serve as an officer in the Armed Forces.

Later this year, I will make ten nominations for each House of Representative vacancy at:

- The United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- The United States Military academy, West Point, New York
- The United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland
- The United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, New York

Nominations will be based entirely on the recommendations of my Merit Selection Committee which consists of community representatives from Colorado. The nominating process begins with the accompanying application packet. All required forms and documents **must** be on file in my office by the deadline: October 9, 2015. If your file is complete at that time and you are eligible, you will be scheduled for a personal interview with my Citizen Advisory Board. I will announce my nominations before the end of the year.

After my nominations have been submitted to the academies, the Admissions Office of each academy will offer the actual appointments to successful nominees. The announcement of appointments can begin as early as January and will continue for several months until the ranks of the next entering classes are full.

Because the nomination process is **extremely competitive**, be sure to apply to all nominating sources available to you. Also, you should indicate your alternative choices in case you do not receive a nomination to your first academy choice. Give yourself the benefit of every opportunity! Please read this application packet thoroughly and follow instructions carefully. Do not hesitate to call my staff with any questions or concerns: (303) 844-4988.

## U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for an appointment to any service academy, an applicant must meet the following statutory criteria:

- American citizenship
- At least 17 years of age and not yet 23 years old on July 1st of the year the applicant would enter an academy (25 years old for the USMMA)
- Unmarried
- Not pregnant, and without legal obligation to support children or other dependents

In addition to statutory requirements, each academy has established academic, physical, and leadership requirements for admission. Candidates for appointment to each academy must:

- Demonstrate comprehensive academic preparation
- Demonstrate leadership, athletic ability, and participation in extracurricular activities
- Take the SAT or the ACT Assessment
- Be in good physical and mental health
- Pass a comprehensive medical examination
- Pass a physical aptitude examination

Specific requirements in each of the academic, physical, and leadership categories vary by academy and are revised regularly. In preparation for making appointments, a Congressional office might review each academy's most recent class profile for specific information on scores and class rankings and activities of recently admitted students. Some of this information is available on the website for each academy.

To be eligible for an appointment to a U.S. Service Academy, you **MUST** follow two procedures at the same time; apply to the service academy and receive a Congressional Nomination.

### **Service Academy Application**

In addition to requesting a nomination from a Member of Congress or another nominating official, an individual seeking appointment to a service academy must separately apply to each service academy in which he or she seeks to be appointed. Each academy requires the submission of a preliminary application to initiate the admission process. Preliminary application materials are available from each academy website listed below. Acceptance of a service academy nomination requires at least a nine-year service obligation, including four years at an academy and five years of active duty service.

**United States Naval Academy**  
USNA Candidate Guidance Office  
Annapolis, MD 21402-5018  
<http://www.usna.edu/Admissions>

**United States Air Force Academy**  
Admissions Office  
USAF Academy, CO 80840-5025  
<http://academyadmissions.com>

**United States Military Academy**  
Admissions Office  
600 Thayer Road West Point, NY 10996-9902  
<http://admissions.usma.edu>

**United States Merchant Marine Academy**  
Office of Admissions  
Kings Point, NY 11024-1699  
<http://www.usmma.edu/admissions/default.shtml>

**United States Coast Guard Academy**  
Admissions Office  
New London, CT 06320  
<http://www.cga.edu/admissions>

### **Congressional Nomination**

**You must submit the following to my office by Friday, October 9, 2015**

1. An official application that includes concise (one page only) answers to the essay questions (Résumés *cannot* be substituted for an official application).
2. The School Recommendation Form (found in this packet).
3. The School Recommendation Form must include your ***official high school transcript bearing an official seal or stamp or the signature and title of a school official.***
4. Two letters of recommendation from a teacher, principal, guidance counselor, employer, coach, extracurricular faculty advisor, community leaders, church leaders, scout/CAP/JROTC leaders, or other adults you know well. ***These two letters are in addition to the counselor/principal's information on the School Recommendation Form in the application packet.***
5. Official ACT or SAT scores. To apply for a nomination, one of the two test scores must be submitted. A ***certified copy of the high school record*** of these scores will be accepted.
6. A wallet sized picture of yourself along with your application.

**Your completed original application with all components MUST be received by my District Office on Friday, October 9, 2015 at 5:00PM. Faxed or scanned copies will not be accepted.**



Name and Addressed of all High Schools and/or Colleges Attended:

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year you are requesting nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a United States citizen? Yes  No

Are you a Colorado First Congressional District Resident? Yes  No

Which of the academies are you interested in attending? Please number according to your preference. You will be considered only for those academies for which you have indicated an interest and in the order in which you have ranked them below.

**AIR FORCE** \_\_\_\_\_ **MERCHANT MARINE** \_\_\_\_\_ **NAVAL** \_\_\_\_\_ **MILITARY** \_\_\_\_\_

Have you requested that a pre-candidate file be initiated for you at any of the academies?  
If so, which one(s)?

### **ACADEMIC HISTORY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Latest cumulative grade point average: \_\_\_\_\_ on a scale of \_\_\_\_\_

Rank in class: \_\_\_\_\_ in a class of \_\_\_\_\_ (# of students) as of \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

#### **SAT Scores**

Date (s) Taken \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal \_\_\_\_\_ Mathematics \_\_\_\_\_

#### **ACT Scores**

Date (s) Taken \_\_\_\_\_ English \_\_\_\_\_ Mathematics \_\_\_\_\_ Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Science \_\_\_\_\_

Composite \_\_\_\_\_

You do not need to take both tests, but you must provide officials copies of either your SAT or ACT scores. If you have already taken either examination, you should contact the College Entrance Examination Board for SAT scores, or ACT for ACT scores, and request that a copy of your scores be sent directly to **7300 (ACT) or 4766 (SAT)**. If you have not yet taken these examinations, please list **7300 (ACT) or 4766 (SAT)** as one of the recipients of your scores at that time.

**Please answer all questions completely (use another sheet of paper if necessary):**

**AWARDS AND HONORS (be specific):**

**SCHOOL RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (Please indicate years of participation.  
1=Freshman, 2=Sophomore, 3=Junior, 4=Senior):**

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (please indicate duration and hours per week):**

**WORK EXPERIENCE (please indicate duration and hours per week):**

**MILITARY EXPERIENCE (e.g. JROTC or Civil Air Patrol):**

## Essay Questions

Your answers to these questions combined with your application and all other official records and documentation will provide my Merit Selection Committee with the most complete information to determine your suitability for an academy nomination.

Your answers should reflect **your own beliefs** and **convictions**, not what you think someone else might want to hear. Feel free to do research. Although the **content** of your answers is of greatest importance; grammar, spelling, punctuation and writing style will also be considered.

Please limit each answer to one (1) page, double-spaced, and answer all four questions. When completed, attach your four essay pages to this cover page with a paper clip (*not a staple*) and return it with your application.

**Please print the numbered questions, with your answers on four separate pages.**

1. Why have you selected attendance at a service academy rather than a civilian college or university?
2. Identify an experience that posed as a risk you needed to take or placed you in an ethical dilemma, how did you handle this situation and what was the personal impact this experience had on you?
3. How do you define military leadership and how do you embody this definition?
4. Given your personal background and experience, what skills or personal characteristics do you possess that would enhance your chances for success in a military service academy?

APPLICATION SIGNATURE PAGE

I am a legal resident of the state of Colorado.

I have read all of the information in the application packet, and I am aware of the procedure and requirements necessary for obtaining a service academy nomination from U.S. Representative Diana DeGette.

If I have not submitted all required documents to the District office of U.S. Congresswoman Diana DeGette by the deadline:

**FRIDAY, October 9, 2015**

I understand that I will not be given further consideration for a nomination this year.

SIGNATURE ..... DATE.....

**Note:** Information submitted with your application cannot be returned. Information submitted with your application is subject to the privacy act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. Section 552(a), as amended and to the freedom of Information Act, Section 552, as amended.

**SCHOOL RECOMMENDATION FORM  
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DIANA DEGETTE  
UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS**

**This recommendation form must be completed by the applicant's high school principal or guidance counselor.**

**Please send this completed form and the applicant's official transcripts directly to the address of my District Office before the deadline of Friday, October 9, 2015.**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Numerical Class Rank at End of Junior Year: \_\_\_\_\_ in class of \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average (GPA) at End of Junior Year: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT Scores: Verbal \_\_\_\_\_ Mathematics \_\_\_\_\_

ACT Scores: English \_\_\_\_\_ Mathematics \_\_\_\_\_ Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Science \_\_\_\_\_ Composite \_\_\_\_\_

**Please respond to the following questions. (You may use another page if needed). Thank you.**

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what setting?
2. What is your overall assessment of this application as a candidate for admission to a service academy?
3. Please describe any personal circumstances or characteristics that might affect the applicant's performance at an academy.
4. Please describe and evaluate the applicant's leadership abilities, talents, strengths and limitations.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION PACKET CHECKLIST

Suggestion: Maintain a “*Service Academies*” file at home. Keep this checklist in your file to help obtain documents, letters, etc., in advance of deadlines.

Required Document	Date Due	Date Completed
Application form (with photo) completed and submitted to my district office.		
Completed essay questions submitted to my office.		
Applications filed with your U.S. Representative and your U.S. Senators in Colorado using <b>their</b> application forms.		
Request a Pre-candidate questionnaire from each service academy to which you are considering applying (to be returned to each academy). <b>Make Requests directly to Service Academies</b>		
School recommendation form completed by your Principal or Guidance Counselor and returned to my District office. Your counselor should include your official transcript and test scores with this form.		
Two personal recommendation letters from people who know you well should be sent to my District Office.		
SAT or ACT scores directed to my District Office.		

For additional information or to check on the status of your file in my office, please call my Service Academies staff at 303-844-4988.