



Seeking a nomination through a Congressional Office

Our country needs the service of the best and the brightest our nation has to offer.

As members of Congress, we have the honor and privilege of nominating candidates to the United States military service academies.

Year at a Glance

- **January-April:**
 - Congressional Offices open applications for the new year.
- **May-August:**
 - Students prepare application packets for each Congressional/Senate office and each academy.
 - Try to visit the academy or attend a seminar.
- **September:**
 - Submit applications to each office and academy.
 - Even if applications are not completed - start medical evaluation process (this can take up to 2 months!)
- **October-November:**
 - Conduct interviews with each office.
- **December-January:**
 - Congressional offices submit nominations to academies.
- **January- June:**
 - Academy Admissions Office will offer the actual appointments to successful nominees.
 - Announcement of appointments can begin as early as January and continue to June until next entering classes are full .

Application Process

- **We recommend you apply through both your Senate and Representative Offices**
 - Each office has their own application process to complete.
 - All offices require the candidate to begin the application process to the academy prior to submitting their application.
 - **Candidates who are applying to multiple academies must initiate that process with each academy.**
- **Read the application carefully and ensure it is complete!**
 - Read and follow instructions carefully!
 - How you complete the application could determine your nomination.
 - Rank your academy preferences accurately!
- **Submit your application on time!**

Selection Process

- **Candidates will be evaluated using a competitive system to include:**
 - A personal interview, a review of your application, essays, academic records, letters of recommendation, community involvement, character and leadership experience.
- **A nomination is not a guarantee of admission!**
- **The final decision will be made by the academy.**
 - A "whole-person" evaluation is used to consider a candidate's character, scholarship, leadership, physical aptitude, medical fitness, goals and motivation.
- **Double nominations:**
 - We make every effort not to double nominate a candidate to the same academy.
 - If a candidate receives a nomination from one office, they will not receive the same nomination from another office – they may be nominated to a different academy, but under most circumstances, they will not receive two nominations for the same academy.
- **Nominations will be made by all offices prior to January 31, 2015**
 - After this date, the academies begin to fill their classes and appointment announcements will be made from January –June.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE NOMINATIONS PROCESS

1. Know your Deadlines!

From the spring semester of your junior year to the spring semester of your senior year – this is the process for applications

- **Most offices begin their application process in the spring.**
 - Complete an application through each office .
- **Candidate interviews occur between October-November**
 - Take your ACT/SAT tests early!
 - Allow enough time for the scores to be sent directly to the offices.
 - Allow enough time for Letters of Recommendation to be sent to the offices.

2. Be Organized

- **Start your inquiries early**
 - Contact the Congressional offices
 - Attend seminars
 - Attend academy information events
- **Ask questions**
 - If you have questions – it is YOUR responsibility to contacts the office – do not rely on your parents or friends!

3. Be Prepared

- **Apply through each office.**
 - The nomination process is extremely competitive.
 - Apply to all nominating sources available to you.
 - Give yourself the benefit of every opportunity.
- **Prepare for the interview.**
 - Practice with Mock Interviews .
 - Take it seriously – prepare your resume, prepare yourself.
 - Every office has a different method of interviewing candidates.
 - Be prepared to talk to one person or a panel of three people.
- **Dress to impress.**
 - This is a formal interview – dress appropriately for a business setting – suit and tie, conservative dress/skirt/slacks.

WHAT SHOULD YOU WEAR?



WHAT NOT TO WEAR



"Dressy" Shorts

Rompers



TOMS[®]



Halter Tops



Jeans



Strapless Necklines



Low-cut Tops



Athletic Shoes



T-shirts



Uggs[®]

Mini-skirts



Leggings

