



# VAN TAYLOR

Texas' Third Congressional District

## U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY INFORMATION



### Background

The United States is the proud home to five federal Service Academies including: The United States Military Academy (USMA), the United States Naval Academy (USNA), United States Air Force Academy (USAFA), the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA), and the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA). A Member of Congress may nominate students to all academies with the exception of the Coast Guard Academy, which appoints individuals on the basis of an annual nationwide competition.

Please be aware that there are various nominating authorities, and applicants are encouraged to seek out and apply for a nomination from each eligible source. Applicants should, at a minimum, apply to their designated Member of Congress, and both United States Senators from their home state. Additionally, highly qualified applicants should consider applying for a nomination from the Vice President. Other nominating sources include Military Affiliated, U.S. Territory, and International categories.

With respect to the Congressional nominations category, each Congressional Representative and Senator is allowed to have five persons charged to his or her quota at any given time for each of the academies. For each vacancy that occurs, the Member may nominate up to 10 candidates to be considered for an appointment.

Applicants to the academies must meet eligibility requirements established by law and receive a nomination from an authorized person or entity including a Member of the United States House of Representatives or Senate.

Congressman Van Taylor may only nominate applicants who are legally domiciled within the boundaries of the Third Congressional District of Texas.

### Eligibility

Per the academies, eligible applicants for a nomination must meet the following requirements set forth by law as of July 1st of the year of admission to a service academy. He or she:

- Must be 17 years of age, but not have passed their 23rd birthday;
- Must be a U.S. citizen;
- Must be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents.

### Congressional Nomination Process

It is encouraged that students interested in applying for a nomination to a service academy plan early. Students should open a file in the Congressman's office the spring of their junior year of high school, by contacting Congressman Taylor's Collin County office for details on the process and to obtain an application packet.

## Congressional Nomination Process Continued

Please note, to be considered for a nomination through the Congressman, the completed application including required documentation, should be returned in its entirety to Congressman Taylor's Collin County office **no later than Monday, November 15, 2021.**

Additionally, the student must manage their application with the service academy separately from their application process for a nomination through Congressman Taylor. It is important to distinguish that they are two completely separate processes.

For those students seeking to be considered for a nomination to a service academy for the class entering in summer 2022, the completed application must be mailed or hand-delivered in one packet (excluding SAT/ACT test scores as the appropriate testing organization will send scores separately) to the Congressman's district office for receipt no later than **Monday, November 15, 2021 by 5:00 pm.**

Congressman Taylor's Candidate Selection Board will not review incomplete applications. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the office has received all required components of the application by the deadline.

Please do not submit items piecemeal, stapled materials, items in presentation folders/binders, or by trying to lodge items under the door after hours. All correspondence should be submitted directly to:

**U.S. Congressman Van Taylor  
5600 Tennyson Parkway  
Suite 275  
Plano, Texas 75024**

## Application Checklist

### □ Application

- Applications must be complete and signed by the applicant or a parent or guardian if the applicant under the age of 18 years of age at the time the application is signed.
- Application must be typed or neatly printed. Illegible applications may result in incorrect information being reviewed by the Board.
- Student should rank the four military academies in order of preference. Please rank only those schools to which you are applying and intend to complete an application for.
- It is highly encouraged that students apply to more than one service academy given the similar career options that exist in the different branches of service.

### □ Professional Resume

- A professional resume must be attached to the application.  
The resume should include all high school activities since the 9th grade, including elected or appointed leadership positions, and athletic activities including team and individual awards and recognitions. Students should also list all employment, volunteer experiences, and outside of school activities. Students should not list activities prior to high school.
- Resumes should not exceed two pages maximum.

### □ Personal Statement

- Students must enclose a typed personal essay on why they wish to attend a service academy.
- Personal statement should be limited to one page.

### □ Recent Wallet-Sized Photograph

- Paperclip a photograph, no larger than 2.5" x 3.5" to the first page of your application. Photographs will be used for identification purposes only and should include the student's name on the back.

#### □ Certified Copy of High School Transcript

- Transcript must include GPA on a 4.0 scale through the end of your junior year.
- Class rank must be included. If your school does not rank, the registrar or counselor must denote that information on the transcript.
  - Please confirm with your school that the class rank includes all grades including the spring semester of your junior year.
- Many high schools will choose to mail the certified transcript directly to the Congressman's office after you make the request. However, it is the student's responsibility to ensure the transcript has been received by the Congressman's office.

#### □ Official SAT/ACT Scores

- Official SAT/ACT scores must be sent directly from the college boards.
- Students must plan early to ensure that their test scores arrive from the appropriate testing organization no later than the November 15, 2021 deadline.
- The Office of Congressman Taylor will only accept scores sent directly to the office by a testing organization or those listed on a certified high school transcript.
- **Photocopies or printed online copies of your test scores are not acceptable.**
- **Scores listed on the back of your certified high school transcript are acceptable and are considered official.**

Both, Congressman Van Taylor's Academy Selection Board and the academies, consider your highest scores from all tests taken.

Each testing organization will send your scores to the Congressman's Collin County office if you list the following codes when registering/taking the test:

**SAT: 6061**  
**ACT: 7684**

#### □ Recommendations

- Recommendations are accepted by utilizing the Congressman's official recommendation form. Two recommendation forms should be submitted in a signed, sealed envelope from each recommender.
  - The Selection Board will only accept a maximum of two recommendation forms. Additional recommendations will not be reviewed.
  - Letters of recommendation accompanying the official form are acceptable. However, letters of recommendation absent the required form will not be considered.
  - The absence of two recommendation forms will result in the classification of an incomplete application. The Board will not review incomplete applications, so applicants should plan early to ensure that recommendations are complete.

#### □ Contact An Official Academy Representative

- It is the student's responsibility to contact each academy of interest to find out who their assigned representative is and confirm with their preferred academies what may be required as part of their application with that particular academy.

### **Congressman Taylor's Academy Selection Board**

The Congressman's Academy Selection Board will only review completed applications. Completed applications are evaluated extremely carefully and a multitude of factors are considered when selecting the most competitive applicants to represent Texas' Third Congressional District.

## **Congressman Taylor's Academy Selection Board Continued**

Congressman Taylor utilizes the competitive method of nominating. For each vacancy, the Congressman will make ten nominations on a strictly competitive basis.

The ten nominees then compete amongst themselves for the final appointment as determined by the academies' admissions authorities. Once again, please note each Congressional office is allowed to have five persons charged to his or her quota at any given time for each academy.

The Board carefully evaluates all facets of a candidates file including:

- Academic record
- Athletic activities
- Extracurricular activities
- Leadership abilities
- Official SAT/ACT scores
- Physical aptitude

Students who apply through multiple nominating sources or who apply for a nomination to more than one academy, may receive and accept multiple nominations.

No applicant will be offered admission if they do not meet the physical standards as set forth by the academy unless awarded a medical waiver. The Congressman's office does not have the ability to intervene in this requirement.

## **Applying to Academies**

Applicants should open a pre-candidate file with any service academy they plan on applying to. Students must reach out directly to the academies for materials related to admission.

Applicants must have application on file at one of the academies listed below in order to be considered for a nomination by U.S. Congressman Van Taylor. The two processes must be managed separately but simultaneously.

### **U.S. Military Academy**

Admissions Office  
606 Thayer Road  
West Point, NY 10996  
(800) 822-2769  
[www.westpoint.edu/admissions](http://www.westpoint.edu/admissions)

### **U.S. Naval Academy**

Admissions Office  
52 King George Street  
Annapolis, MD 21409  
(888) 249-7707  
[www.usna.edu/admissions](http://www.usna.edu/admissions)

### **U.S. Air Force Academy**

Admissions Office  
2304 Cadet Drive, Ste. 2300  
USAF Academy, CO 80840  
(800) 443-9266  
[www.usafa.edu](http://www.usafa.edu)

### **U.S. Merchant Marine Academy**

Admissions Office  
300 Steamboat Road  
Kings Point, NY 11024-1699  
(866) 546-4778  
[www.usmma.edu/admissions](http://www.usmma.edu/admissions)

As previously mentioned, it is to the student's benefit to apply for a nomination with each available nominating source including their US. Representative, and U.S. Senators. The final selection of appointees is made solely by the individual service academies based on the competitive evaluation of all applicants who have received nominations.

For additional questions, please contact Congressman Taylor's Academy Coordinator, Gabriella Pate at (972) 202-4150 or via email at [Gabriella.Pate@mail.house.gov](mailto:Gabriella.Pate@mail.house.gov).



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## U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION 2021 APPLICATION FORM

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANTS LEGAL NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)		BIRTHDATE (MM/DD/YR)		HEIGHT/WEIGHT		GENDER ____ MALE ____ FEMALE	
LEGAL ADDRESS (HOME)			APT/UNIT#	CITY	STATE	ZIP	
PHONE (CELL)			PHONE (HOME)		E-MAIL ADDRESS		
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (000-00-0000)			PLACE OF BIRTH			U. S. CITIZEN ____ YES ____ NO	
NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL					GRADUATION (MM/YR)		
HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS					IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME TO APPLY FOR A NOMINATION? ____ YES ____ NO		
HIGH SCHOOL GPA:				CLASS RANK: ____ OF ____			
IF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE, CURRENT SCHOOL (OFFICIAL COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT MUST BE INCLUDED):							
PARENT OR GUARDIAN (FIRST, LAST) Mr./Ms.				PARENT WORK OR CELL PHONE NUMBER			

### ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES (ATTACH SHEETS IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS REQUIRED)

ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES	POSITIONS	DATES	LETTERS EARNED	HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS
1.				
2.				
3.				

### ACTIVITIES NON-ATHLETIC, HIGH SCHOOL, CHURCH, EMPLOYMENT, OTHER (ATTACH SHEETS IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS REQUIRED)

ACTIVITIES	MEMBERSHIP OR POSITION	DATES	HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS
1.			
2.			
3.			

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ARE YOU REQUESTING A NOMINATION TO A SERVICE ACADEMY FROM SOURCE OTHER THAN CONGRESSMAN TAYLOR? IF SO, LIST BELOW.  
(Include name and/or type of nominating source, i.e. Presidential, Foundation, etc.) \_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_ NO

NUMBER YOUR ORDER OF PREFERENCE FOR **ONLY** THE ACADEMIES YOU ARE SEEKING A NOMINATION AND HAVE **COMPLETED** AN APPLICATION: 1, 2, 3, 4

\_\_\_\_ WEST POINT      \_\_\_\_ ANNAPOLIS      \_\_\_\_ AIR FORCE      \_\_\_\_ MERCHANT MARINE

**- ANY DESIRE TO CHANGE YOUR ORDER OF PREFERENCE REQUIRES A NEW APPLICATION -**

I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 are waived to the extent of sharing this information with the service academies, their representatives, and members of the Candidate Selection Board. Additionally, I understand that if a nomination or an appointment is offered to me by a service academy, any announcement to the news media will be made by Congressman Taylor only.

CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE _____	DATE (MM/DD/YR) _____
PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE (IF MINOR) _____	DATE (MM/DD/YR) _____

**APPLICATION POSTMARK DEADLINE:  
Monday, November 15, 2021**

**RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:**  
Congressman Van Taylor  
5600 Tennyson Parkway, Ste. 275  
Plano, Texas 75024



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## U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION 2021 RECOMMENDATION FORM

**To the Applicant:** This form is to be completed by a teacher, employer, coach or someone (non-family member) who is familiar with your academic, leadership, athletic aptitudes. Two recommendation forms must be included with the completed application packet you submit to Congressman Taylor's office no later than Monday, November 15, 2021. Recommendations that do not include this form will not be considered by the Selection Board.

**To the Recommender:** The questions listed below are for the purpose of assisting Congressman Taylor's Selection Board in determining the best qualified students to nominate for consideration to attend one of the four U.S. Service Academies. Students must submit two recommendation forms. Please keep in mind the Monday, November 15, 2021 deadline as you return these form in signed, sealed envelopes. Forms can be returned in a signed, sealed envelope either directly to the applicant to be submitted with their completed application. Alternately, you may return the envelope directly to the address below. Please note, you are welcome to include a letter of support with your recommendation form. However, a letter of support will not be accepted as a substitute for this completed form.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
2. Has applicant demonstrated leadership skills or individual strengths in your presence?
3. How does the applicant accept responsibilities assigned?
4. How does the applicant respond to challenging situations and/or failures?
5. Do you believe this student is qualified to spend four years at one of the U.S. Service Academies? Please explain your answer:  Yes  No
6. Please select the phrase that best describes the applicant: (assume an "exceptional" rating to be that of the highest caliber)  
 EXCEPTIONAL     VERY DESIRABLE     DESIRABLE     AVERAGE

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Recommender: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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