

# Congressman Elijah E. Cummings

## U.S. Service Academy Nomination Newsletter

VOL. 10 No. 3

Fall/Winter 2006

### ACADEMY REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for a nomination, all applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a citizen of the United States, never married, have no dependents and not pregnant.
2. As of July 1, 2007, must be at least 17 years of age and not have passed their 23rd birthday. For the Merchant Marine Academy only, you must be at least 17 years of age and not have passed your 25th birthday by July 1.
3. You must have taken either the ACT or SAT no later than January of the year of admission to the Academy.
4. Your permanent/principal home must be in the 7th Congressional District in order to apply for my nomination, i.e., your parent's legal voting address must be in my specific district.
5. You must also demonstrate leadership potential, moral character, physical fitness, and active participation in extracurricular and community activities.

### ACADEMY INFORMATION

#### ☆U.S. Air Force Academy

Colorado Springs, Colorado  
800.443.9266  
www.usafa.edu

#### ☆U.S. Coast Guard Academy

New London, Connecticut  
800.883.8724  
www.cga.edu

#### ☆U. S. Merchant Marine Academy

Kings Point, New York  
866.546.4778  
www.usmma.edu

#### ☆U. S. Military Academy

West Point, New York  
845.938.4041  
www.usma.edu

#### ☆U. S. Naval Academy

Annapolis, Maryland  
410.293.4361  
www.usna.edu

### STEP 1: PRE-CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

In order to "Open a File" at the Service Academy of your choice, you should contact the Admissions Office and request a Pre-Candidate Questionnaire. After completing and returning the Questionnaire, the Academy will notify you of its application requirements.

### STEP 2: 7<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT NOMINATION PROCESS

Once you have contacted my office, in writing, requesting a nomination to a U.S. Service Academy, a folder will be created for your materials. All required information **must** be submitted to my Catonsville district office by **November 10, 2006**.

Your completed packet should include:

- **Typed Nomination Request Letter (example on reverse side)**

- **High School Transcript**

- **SAT/ACT Scores**

SAT report code: 5471

ACT report code: 7449

- **2 Letters of Recommendation**

Written by individuals who can comment on your motivation, abilities, character and potential. Examples: letters from teachers (especially math or science), coaches, counselors, or ministers.

- **Typed Essay**

Explain why you want to attend a United States Service Academy. The essay should be 2 pages, double-spaced.

*Please forward all information to:*

**Congressman Elijah E. Cummings**

**ATTN: Mrs. Katie Malone**

**754 Frederick Road**

**Catonsville, MD 21228**

**Ph: 410.719.8777**

**Fax 410.455.0110**

### STEP 3: REVIEW PROCESS

I have a limited number of nominations available each academic year. To assist me in determining the most qualified candidates, I use a Service Academy Review Board. The Board meets with each candidate and makes recommendations to me based on interviews and the academic materials noted above.

**Only candidates with a completed file as of November 10, 2006 will be considered by the Academy Review Board.** Applicants will be notified in late December, 2006 as to the time and place of the interviews.

### ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS

Most students seek nominations from several sources. Aside from Congressmen, nominations are also available from U.S. Senators, the Vice President, and the President. I encourage you to contact Senator Paul Sarbanes (410.962.4436) and Senator Barbara Mikulski (410.962.4510) to find out more about their nomination processes.

### FINAL PREPARATIONS

Please be aware that a nomination from me does not necessarily mean that a candidate will be appointed to an Academy. **Final acceptance into one of the U.S. Service Academies is made by the individual Academy.** Because of the extremely competitive admissions environment at the Academies, I encourage you to also apply to other colleges and universities.

