



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE  
**TOM COTTON**

# **NOMINATION APPLICATION**

FOR THE  
**UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES**

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## **PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING APPLICATION:**

Accepting an appointment to a Service Academy involves a minimum nine-year obligation: four years of study at the Academy followed by no less than five years of service on Active Duty in the respective branch of the U.S. military. It is to your advantage to apply to more than one academy and to request a nomination through all sources available to you: Presidential, Vice Presidential, Senatorial and Congressional.

## **OFFICIAL DEADLINE POLICY**

Application packets must be post-marked on or before SEPTEMBER 30. Please contact Lesley Nelms if you should experience technical difficulties which might prevent you from meeting this deadline. *Applications that are postmarked after this September 30 deadline will automatically be disqualified.*

## **HAVE YOU CONTACTED YOUR LOCAL ACADEMY LIAISON?**

The Congressional nomination materials are separate from the materials you must provide to the academies. The service academies delegate alumni within each congressional district to pre-screen candidates and assist with the academies' applications. To receive the academy's Candidate Kit or Application, candidates *must* directly contact the academies to open an admissions file.

If you are still unsure what this means or would like help contacting your liaison(s), please contact Lesley Nelms at (501) 520-5892 or by e-mail at [Lesley.Nelms@mail.house.gov](mailto:Lesley.Nelms@mail.house.gov).

## SECTION I.

# **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

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AS OF JULY 1 OF THE YEAR OF ADMISSION, APPLICANTS MUST BE:

- ✓ 17 years of age, but not yet 23
- ✓ A citizen of the United States
- ✓ Unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support a child or dependent
- ✓ A legal resident of Arkansas

NOTE: If your father or mother served eight years in the military, or was killed in action, you may be eligible for a Presidential or Vice Presidential nomination. Please contact the Service Academies for more information.

## SECTION II.

# **INTERVIEWS**

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Interviews will be scheduled for the week of October 27, 2014. Applicants who complete a nomination file on or before SEPTEMBER 30 will be reviewed by Representative Cotton's Academy Liaison, Lesley Nelms.

Eligible candidates will be invited to meet with Representative Cotton's Academy Nomination Board for an interview. This professional, non-partisan board ensures a fair and impartial process for all applicants.

Applicants are expected to dress appropriately for the military academy interviews. Young men may wear dress slacks and shirt, and a tie. A coat is optional. Young women may wear a dress or a skirt or dress pants with a blouse.

Nominations will be announced in November.

## SECTION III.

### **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS INDEX**

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#### ITEMS INCLUDED IN THIS PACKET:

- ✓ APPLICATION FORM (PAGES 5-6)
- ✓ EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WORKSHEET (PAGE 7)
- ✓ NOMINATION BOARD QUESTIONNAIRE (PAGES 8-9)
- ✓ FINAL CHECKLIST (PAGE 11)

#### ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS PACKET:

- ✓ 3 LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: One letter should be written by your High School Principal or Guidance Counselor. The other letters may be written by teachers, coaches, scout masters, clergy or community leaders who can accurately comment on applicant's character, abilities and potential for success at an Academy.
- ✓ SAT/ACT SCORES: Scores may be submitted with the candidate's official high school transcript. You are encouraged to take the SAT or ACT exams "early and often" in order to improve your academic competitiveness. Academies will accept the highest scores in each academic area, regardless of testing date.
- ✓ OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT: Please include a copy of your senior class schedule. Senior grades may be submitted as soon as they are available. Counselors may fax or email them and only the senior grades may be forwarded after the September 30 deadline.

## SECTION IV.

### **CONTACT**

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U.S. REPRESENTATIVE  
**TOM COTTON**

**ATTN: LESLEY NELMS**  
100 Reserve Street, Suite 307  
Hot Springs, AR 71901

**Ph: (501) 520-5892**  
**Fax: (501) 520-5873**  
**Lesley.Nelms@mail.house.gov**



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**OFFICIAL NOMINATION APPLICATION**

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FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(LAST) / (FIRST) / (MIDDLE)

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER: M / F

**I wish to be nominated to the following academy(s) in this order of preference**

\*NOTE: Rank only the academies for which you have filed an application and intend to interview.

\_\_\_\_ U.S. Air Force Academy      \_\_\_\_ U.S. Naval Academy  
\_\_\_\_ U. S. Military Academy      \_\_\_\_ U. S. Merchant Marine Academy

**I am applying for a nomination from the following nomination resources (other than Congressman Tom Cotton):**

\_\_\_\_ Senator John Boozman      \_\_\_\_ Vice Presidential  
\_\_\_\_ Senator Mark Pryor      \_\_\_\_ Presidential  
\_\_\_\_ None      \_\_\_\_ Other\*

\*If you have selected "other", please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CONTACT INFO**

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APPLICANT INFO

Student's Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_      Applicant's Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Permanent Mailing Address      Temporary Address (if student is away)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT INFO

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_      Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_      Parent's Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Email \_\_\_\_\_      Parent's Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

HS Phone: \_\_\_\_\_      Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**EDUCATIONAL HISTORY**

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Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Class Rank & Class Size: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Scale Used: \_\_\_\_\_  
SAT Scores: Total: \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
ACT Scores: Total: \_\_\_\_\_ English: \_\_\_\_\_ Math: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reading: \_\_\_\_\_ Science Reasoning: \_\_\_\_\_

*Grade point Average, Scale, Class Rank & Size must be included on your high school transcript.  
Home schooled students – simply mark rank in class as 1 of 1 if official ranking is unavailable.  
ACT/SAT scores reported on your official certified transcript are acceptable.*

College (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

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Starting with most recent; use additional sheets if necessary.

Place of employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates Employed: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Worked per Week: \_\_\_\_\_  
Motivation for Working: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates Employed: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Worked per Week: \_\_\_\_\_  
Motivation for Working: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates Employed: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Worked per Week: \_\_\_\_\_  
Motivation for Working: \_\_\_\_\_

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**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

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**ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES:** Mark "JV" Junior Varsity or "V" Varsity in the appropriate space.  
Also specify with an "L" if you lettered in the sport.

<u>HIGH SCHOOL</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
Baseball/Softball	—	—	—	—
Basketball	—	—	—	—
Cheerleading	—	—	—	—
Cross Country	—	—	—	—
Drill Team	—	—	—	—
Football	—	—	—	—
Golf	—	—	—	—
Soccer	—	—	—	—
Swimming/Diving	—	—	—	—
Tennis	—	—	—	—
Track/Field	—	—	—	—
Volleyball	—	—	—	—
Wrestling	—	—	—	—
_____	—	—	—	—
_____	—	—	—	—
_____	—	—	—	—

<u>NON-SCHOOL ATHLETICS</u>	
Baseball	_____
Basketball	_____
Football	_____
Golf	_____
Gymnastics	_____
Running	_____
Karate	_____
Racquetball	_____
Skiing	_____
Soccer	_____
Softball	_____
Swimming	_____
Tennis	_____
Track/Field	_____
Volleyball	_____
Wrestling	_____

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

*(Please mark an "X" to indicate activity involvement.)*

Student Body Representative	_____
Scouting	_____
Church Activities	_____
Band/Orchestra	_____
Music/Singing	_____
Drama	_____
School Yearbook/Newspaper	_____
Key Club	_____
Language or Science Club	_____
Jt. ROTC	_____
Civil Air Patrol	_____

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

National Honor Society	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**LEADERSHIP ROLES**

Boys/Girls State	_____
Student Body President	_____
Class President	_____
Student Body Officer	_____
Athletic Team Captain	_____
Eagle Scout	_____
Jr. ROTC	_____
Other Military Officer	_____
Other School Club Officer	_____
Non-school Club Officer	_____
Editor, Yearbook/Newspaper	_____

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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**ACADEMY PANEL QUESTIONNAIRE**

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Answer the following questions in the space provided below. Please type or print legibly in **blue or black ink** and return your responses to Representative Cotton's office on or before September 30.

Why are you interested in attending a military service academy? What have you done to learn more about what a commitment to one of the academies entails?

What do you feel is your strongest personal attribute?

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**QUESTIONNAIRE**

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*(Continued from page 7)*

What characteristic do you perceive to be a personal weakness and what do you do to compensate and/or improve it?

What role does competition play in your life?

What qualities do you feel are important in a leader? Describe a leadership role you have held and how you've exhibited any of these leadership qualities.



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**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

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*List three individuals who will write a letter of recommendation supporting your nomination. One letter must be written by your High School Principal or Guidance Counselor.*

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>TITLE / ORGANIZATION</u>
1)	_____	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____	_____

**TERMS OF AGREEMENT**

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I recognize that I have read the terms of the document that I am signing.

I understand the deadline for the receipt of the application packet, official high school transcript, college aptitude test scores and all recommendation letters is SEPTEMBER 30.

I understand that application packet must be submitted to the Hot Springs, Arkansas, Office of U.S. Representative Tom Cotton on or before SEPTEMBER 30. I also understand that if my packet is post-marked after SEPTEMBER 30, 2014, I will automatically be disqualified from Congressman Tom Cotton's Nomination Application cycle for the year 2014.

I am a legal resident of the State of Arkansas.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **FINAL CHECKLIST**

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*Please complete before submitting application.*

- 1) \_\_\_ PHOTO ATTACHED TO APPLICATION\*  
*\*Photo Policy:* Unless specifically requested, photographs will not be returned to the candidate.
- 2) \_\_\_ COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM (PAGES 5-6)
- 3) \_\_\_ EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WORKSHEET (PAGE 7)
- 4) \_\_\_ INTERVIEW BOARD QUESTIONNAIRE (PAGES 8-9)
- 5) \_\_\_ HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT
- 6) \_\_\_ SENIOR CLASS SCHEDULE
- 7) \_\_\_ ACT/SAT SCORES (MAY BE ON TRANSCRIPT)
- 8) \_\_\_ THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please mail your completed application,  
required attachments and recommendations to:



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE  
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ATTN: LESLEY NELMS  
100 Reserve Street, Suite 307  
Hot Springs, AR 71901  
Phone (501) 520-5892  
Fax (501) 520-5873  
[Lesley.Nelms@mail.house.gov](mailto:Lesley.Nelms@mail.house.gov)