

**SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION INFORMATION SHEET
CONGRESSMAN DENNIS ROSS**

**Mail All Application Items to:
170 Fitzgerald Road, Suite 1
Lakeland, FL 33813
PHONE: 863-644-8215**

Those individuals wishing to apply for appointment to the U.S. Service Academies must fulfill all of the requirements listed below. These are basic criteria required by each of the United States Service Academies: US Air Force Academy, US Military Academy at West Point, US Naval Academy, US Merchant Marine Academy, and the US Coast Guard Academy.

- 1) **Applicant must be a citizen of the United States.**
- 2) **Applicant must be a permanent resident of the State of Florida and Congressman Ross' Congressional District.** One of the requirements of the Academies in making Nominations is that the applicant be a legal resident of the district represented by the Congressman making the Nomination. When I make my Nominations, I sign a statement saying the young man or woman being nominated is a bona fide resident of my Congressional District. If your permanent address is within the 15th Congressional District, but for some reason, such as school or military service, you have a temporary address, please be sure BOTH ADDRESSES are properly listed on the Application Form. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP ME ADVISED OF ANY CHANGE IN YOUR ADDRESS.
- 3) **Applicant must be at least 17 years of age** and must not have reached his or her 23rd birthday by July 1 of the year he or she is seeking admission to an Academy.
- 4) **Applicant must be unmarried**, never have been married and shall not marry (if he/she enters an academy) prior to graduation.
- 5) **Applicant must be of good moral character.** I require each applicant to submit to me two (2) letters of recommendation. I prefer at least one of those letters be from an educator. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND MORE THAN THREE LETTERS** as they will not be entered into your file. DO NOT SEND PETITIONS.
- 6) **Applicant must be a graduate of a secondary school** or one who will graduate prior to July 1st of the year he/she is seeking admission to an academy. You should have at least 15 credits including Algebra I & II, Plane Geometry I, English I, II, III, and IV, and American History I. However, any deficiency will not prevent anyone from being nominated, but he/she will have to be able to pass the regular Academy Entrance Examination before being given an appointment.

Each element of a candidate's academic record is carefully evaluated. These elements include the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and the American College Testing (ACT) test scores. **We have been assigned the following numbers by the Educational Testing Service and the American College Testing Program: Please use Testing Code Number 0368 for SAT, and Testing Code Number 7335 for ACT.**

- 7) **Applicant must pass a preliminary physical examination.** Since I do not authorize this exam, any problems with the designated date, time, and place of the exam must be settled between you and the Director, Service Academies Central Medical Review Board, US Air Force Academy, Colorado 80840. The Medical Review Board will notify you regarding the scheduling of your exam.
- 8) **Each applicant must plan to make the military a career.** Enclosed you will find a CERTIFICATE OF INTENT. Each applicant must sign this form stating that he/she has every intention of, if selected for admission, completing the education and making a career in the military.
- 9) **Each applicant must be interviewed by my Academy Selection Committee.** Once I have received all the items in your Applicant Checklist, my office will arrange for you to be interviewed by my Academy Selection Committee. In order to be eligible for consideration for nomination, you must appear for this interview which is conducted in the month of November.

Nomination Process

I make my nominations to the various US Service Academies during the month of December for the class entering in July. I use the **Competitive Method** of nominating whereby I name ten (10) candidates for each vacancy at each Academy, and the Academies themselves then make the final decision.

Each Congressman may not have more than five midshipmen or cadets at each Academy at any one time. Therefore new applicants are considered only when a vacancy occurs in the quota through graduation or other causes. Acceptance of an appointment commits an applicant to a ten year obligation to the Service (four years at the Academy and six years on active duty).

Prospective applicants must establish contact with the Admissions Office at the Academy of their choice. Once this is accomplished, the Academy will open a file for the candidate and transmit general information on the Academy plus detailed admission requirements, including a Prospective Candidate Questionnaire. The Questionnaire provides sufficient preliminary information for the Academy to initiate a file.

Candidates seeking nomination through Congressman Ross are urged to begin filing basic required documents with our office at the outset and to supplement the file as updated

data becomes available. **It is requested that the applicant not wait until near the deadline to file the application and related materials with the Congressional office.**

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS.

If you are a student in one of the Academy preparatory schools, **it is still necessary for you to seek a Congressional Nomination.**

OTHER WAYS TO RECEIVE AN APPOINTMENT

- 1) **Senators.** Even though you apply through only one Congressman (the one representing your district), I would encourage you to also apply through both of your Florida Senators (currently Sen. Bill Nelson and Sen. Marco Rubio).
- 2) **Qualified Alternates.** There is often the possibility of an applicant becoming a QUALIFIED ALTERNATE. Once the opening which I hold at the Academy is filled, all of the remaining nominees who pass the Academy Entrance Examination are in competition with each other and the entire United States for the various openings the Academy may have. Many young men and women become Qualified Alternates and are placed on the waiting list; however, if their standing is not high enough among the other alternates, they will not be eligible for an appointment. Also, the President and Vice-President have openings to fill at the Academies. Further details are in the Academy catalogues.

Please notify me if your father or mother is an Academy graduate, a Medal of Honor recipient or was killed in action while in military service.

US MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Candidates applying to the US Merchant Marine Academy must be at least 17 years of age and less than 25 years of age on July 1 of the year of admission. However, a waiver may be granted for veterans of the Armed Forces on the basis of one month for service up to the age of 24. Individuals desiring a nomination are urged to request an application from the Academy at the same time they seek nomination through Congressman Ross. The Congressman will submit up to 10 names for consideration each year to the Merchant Marine Academy.

US COAST GUARD ACADEMY

The **US Coast Guard Academy** does not use the Congressional nomination system. If you are interested in attending the Coast Guard Academy you must apply directly to the Academy. Congressman Ross's Office will gladly assist any candidate interested in admission.

The deadline for the submission of all pertinent data will be **October 6, 2016**. **It is very important that all material and data be sent directly to the Lakeland office.** By sending materials to Washington, you will cause delays in maintaining your file.

Each finalist will be notified as to the specific appointment time for a personal interview with the Academy Selection Committee, to be held in November. Finalists will also receive information regarding the appointment location, with driving instructions and a map.

The Academy Selection Committee will select qualified candidates on the basis of their SAT score, scholastic records, athletic and extracurricular activities. Motivation, character and leadership abilities will also provide major elements in the final selection. Final recommendations will be made by the Committee. The Committee will recommend to Congressman Ross up to 10 nominees for each appointment available at the respective Academies, but final selection for appointment will be made by the Academies.

Please retain these instructions for information purposes. If you have any questions, please contact Congressman Ross's office at 863-644-8215.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

In order to be considered for the next class, the following information must be received in the Congressman's Lakeland office (or postmarked) prior to **October 6, 2016**.

- ✓ Completed Application Form.
- ✓ 350-600 word essay, on "Why I Desire to Attend the Academy."
- ✓ At least two (2) letters of recommendation (maximum of three letters will be accepted) from teachers, employers, coaches, clergy, etc. Letters must be written on official letterhead (if applicable). The writer must identify himself/herself by including his/her name, title and relationship with the applicant. You may not use letters from family, family friends and/or peers. Such letters will be disregarded.
- ✓ College Entrance Examination Scores, SAT and ACT. These must be current. It is to your advantage to take these tests as often as possible. Your highest combined scores will be used. Have a copy of your scores sent to the Congressman's Lakeland district office. Please use Testing Code Number **0368** for SAT, Testing Code Number **7335** for ACT.
- ✓ High School Transcripts, which must include standing in class and grade point average. (Both of these must be in your file by the deadline.)
- ✓ Recent Photograph.

***** NOTE: DUE TO THE HIGH VOLUME OF SUBMISSIONS, APPLICANTS WITH A GPA UNDER 3.0 AND SAT SCORE UNDER 1150 (MATH AND VERBAL COMBINED) WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

HOW TO CONTACT THE ACADEMIES

United States Air Force Academy

HQ USAFA/RRS 1-800-443-9266
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200 719-333-2520
USAF Academy, Colorado 80840-5025
Website: www.usafa.edu

United States Coast Guard Academy

Director of Admissions 1-800-883-USCG
United States Coast Guard Academy
15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, Connecticut 06320-4195
Website: www.cga.edu

United States Merchant Marine Academy

Admissions Office 1-866-546-4778
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy 516-773-5391
Steamboat Road
Kings Point, New York 11024-1699
Website: www.usmma.edu

United States Military Academy

Attn: Director of Admissions 845-938-4041
United States Military Academy
Official Mail and Distribution Center
546 Swift Road
West Point, New York 10996-9902
Website: www.usma.edu/admissions

United States Naval Academy

Candidate Guidance Office 410-293-4361
United States Naval Academy
117 Decatur Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21402-5018
Website: www.usna.edu

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Temporary Address: _____
(if applicable) _____

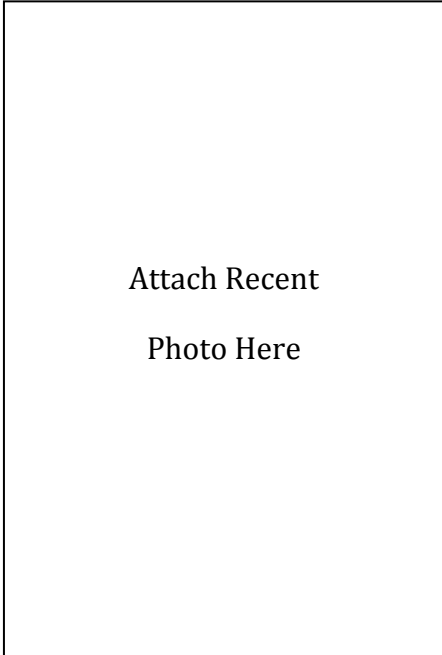
Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____



Father's Name: _____ Mother's Name: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

Occupation: _____ Occupation: _____

Work# _____ Work# _____

Has either parent served in the military? ___ No ___ Yes If yes, which Branch? _____

Has either parent attended a United States Service Academy? _____ No _____ Yes

If yes, please identify which parent, the Academy attended and dates of enrollment.

If you wish, you may apply for appointment to more than one of the Service Academies. The Academy Selection Committee will give particular attention to your first selection. Please number below your choice of Academy, or Academies, in order of preference.

- ___ US MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT ___ US NAVAL ACADEMY
- ___ US AIR FORCE ACADEMY ___ US MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

ARE YOU A REGISTERED CANDIDATE WITH THE ACADEMY (ACADEMIES) YOU ARE SEEKING A NOMINATION TO? _____

*** PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED AS AN OFFICIAL CANDIDATE, I CANNOT SUBMIT YOUR NAME FOR A NOMINATION. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE, PLEASE CONTACT THE RESPECTIVE SCHOOL'S ADMISSIONS OFFICE.**

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES

Current Education Information: High School, College, Prep School (circle one)

Name	Address	
City, State	Telephone	Year of Graduation
GPA	Class Standing (H.S.)	Class Size (H.S.)

*If you are currently enrolled in college, please provide your High School information as well:

Name	Address	
City, State	Telephone	Year of Graduation
GPA	Class Standing	Class Size

Your Employment Experience: (please attach a resume if needed)

Do you intend to make the military a career? _____

Number of years you have lived within Florida's 15th Congressional District: _____

Have you applied for nomination from any other source? ____ No ____ Yes

If so, please list:

Do you have any medical problems which you feel might hinder your acceptance into the Service Academies? ____ No ____ Yes

If yes, give details

I have fully read and understand the requirements and procedures for appointment to the United States Service Academies by Congressman Dennis Ross, and do hereby apply for nomination with the full intention of serving as a career officer upon graduation.

Date

Signature

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES

NAME:

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITES

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AWARDS</u>
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APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES

NAME: _____

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AWARDS</u>
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IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Young men and women who are selected for training at one of the U.S. Military Service Academies receive an outstanding and costly education at the expense of the United States government. For this reason, Academy graduates are required to serve a minimum of five (5) years after graduation in the Armed Services.

In making my Nominations, I am most anxious to select young men and women who sincerely want a service career and who intend to make it their life's work. For this reason, I am requesting every applicant to sign the Certificate of Intent below:

CERTIFICATE OF INTENT

I, _____, a candidate for Nomination to one of the United States Service Academies, do hereby certify that my application is motivated primarily by a desire to serve my country as a career officer. I further certify that it is my intention, if appointed, to graduate from the Academy and make the military or naval service my profession or career. I make this pledge in good conscience and without mental reservation.

Date

Signature

RETURN ALL APPLICATION ITEMS TO:

**Congressman Dennis Ross
170 Fitzgerald Road, Suite 1
Lakeland, FL 33813**