



U.S. Congressman Brian Mast  
21<sup>st</sup> District of Florida

## U.S. Service Academy Nomination Process

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The selection process for a Service Academy nomination varies with each congressional office. All nomination applications by Congressman Mast are processed in his Port St. Lucie District Office. If you have any questions or need assistance in completing the application process, please contact this office utilizing the information below.

#### **The Honorable Brian J. Mast (FL-21)**

121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984  
(772) 336-2877

It is your responsibility to ensure that your completed application and all required documentation are received in our Port St. Lucie office by ***November 01, 2024***. Please advise those providing recommendations that they, too, must meet this deadline.

### NOMINATING AUTHORITY

Competition for nominations is competitive, therefore, we urge you to apply to every nominating authority for which you are eligible. Members of Congress may nominate applicants who meet the eligibility requirements established by law. United States Senators nominate from applicants in their entire state. United States Representatives nominate from applicants residing in their

congressional districts as constituted at the time of their election. Applicants may apply for and receive nominations from both their United States Senators and from their United States Representative. Applicants may also apply to the Vice President of the United States, who can nominate applicants from across the country. An unlimited number of presidential nominations are available for children and legally adopted children of career officer and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces, Active or Reserve, including the Coast Guard. One hundred candidates may be appointed with these nominations each year. A parent in the Reserves must be serving as a member of a reserve component and be credited with at least eight years of service or must be entitled to retired pay except that he or she is not yet sixty years old. Otherwise, the parent must currently be on active duty (other than for training) and have served continuously for at least eight years or have been retired with pay or granted retired or retainer pay. The President may also nominate the children of Medal of Honor winners.

Congressman Mast must submit his nominations to the Service Academies by *January 31, 2025*. For each vacancy, he will be allowed a maximum of ten nominations. The final ranking and subsequent appointments will be at the discretion of the Academies. The Service Academies notify candidates of their selection by mid-April. The deadline for candidates to accept or decline their offers of appointment is May 1st. Alternate appointments will be considered after that date.

#### SERVICE ACADEMY CONTACT

Your first priority should be to contact the Academy of your choice to request a pre-candidate application. Each respective Academy will provide you with general information and detailed requirements for admissions.

#### NOMINATION INTERVIEW

Eligible applicants will be required to have a panel interview. Interviews are typically conducted on the first Sunday of December. If qualified, you will be notified of the interview date, time, and specific location.

#### PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT

Individuals seeking a Service Academy nomination from Congressman Mast will be required to participate in a physical fitness assessment and complete an obstacle course. The assessment is fashioned after the Army Combat Fitness Test and the Marine Combat Fitness Assessment. Exercises include but are not limited to the Standing Power Throw, Hand Release Push-Ups W/ Arm Extension, Sprint-Drag-Carry, Pull-Ups, the Maneuver Under Fire drill, and a 1-Mile Beach Run. The completion of the National Navy Seal UDT Museum Obstacle Course is also required.

## SELECTION BOARD

After review of the candidate's application, those invited to interview will be notified by the Congressman's office of the time and place for their interview with the Selection Board. This is the only date that interviews will be held for consideration for a nomination from Congressman Mast, and no make-up dates are available. Each candidate will be considered based on his or her leadership potential, academic performance, extra-curricular activities, letters of recommendation, personal interview, and physical fitness. After all interviews are completed, the Selection Board will convene to consider candidate's files and performances. The board will submit their recommendations to Congressman Mast who will then approve his nominations to each Academy.

## STATUS CHANGE

Please keep in mind that we have numerous candidates applying for a nomination. Should your status change at any time, please let us know immediately so we may consider other applicants in the review and selection process.

## NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

### **Residency**

Congressman Mast can only nominate students who are legal residents of the 21<sup>st</sup> District of Florida. You, or your parents, must claim Florida's 21<sup>st</sup> District as your primary residence and/or be registered to vote in Florida. If you have any questions regarding residency, please contact our office.

### **Application Form with Photo**

Please complete the application form and packet as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to ensure all information is received in a timely manner. You may seek a nomination for all four Service Academies. Please specify your preference and do not submit more than one application.

We urge you to apply directly to all Academies you would consider attending. Please be sure to complete pre-candidate applications with all Academies for which you are seeking a nomination. **In order for the Selection Board to consider your application for a nomination, you need to have an open application file with that specific Academy.**

Your Academy choice may be changed with our office any time prior to the **November 01, 2024**, deadline. An entirely new application packet must be submitted each year, even if you have applied with our office in previous years.

## **Academic Recommendation Form**

This form is to be completed by your high school principal or guidance counselor. After completion, it should be returned to you in a *sealed envelope with signature across the seal* for inclusion with your packet. Please be reminded of the **November 01, 2024**, deadline.

## **Transcript**

You will need to request an official transcript from your guidance counselor which includes your course listing, current GPA, grades, class rank, and SAT/ACT test scores. Your final junior grades must be listed on the official transcript.

The transcript should be included in your application packet in a sealed, unopened envelope. A report card is not eligible. If you are enrolled in a college, university, or Academy prep school, please submit an official transcript from that institution in addition to your high school transcript.

## **Letters of Reference**

In order to fulfill the requirement for reference letters, ask three people who know you well (such as a minister, coach, scoutmaster, teacher, or employer) to write a letter on your behalf. None of these letters should be from members of your family. These letters must be included in your application packet in *sealed envelopes with signatures across the seal*.

Please keep in mind that one of the main characteristics the Service Academies are looking for is leadership. While grades are very important, academic recommendations are not the only reflection of your character. Therefore, we would appreciate your being very selective in the three individuals you ask to write your reference letters. We will accept only the three reference letters included in your packet. These three letters are in addition to the recommendation by the guidance counselor or principal who completes your Academic Recommendation Form.

## **Resume and/or a Notable Achievements Document**

If you have employment history, please provide this in the form of a resume that outlines your duties and responsibilities. If you are unable to provide a resume due to insufficient work experience, or if you would like to highlight additional information about yourself, please submit a document that outlines some significant achievements or notable responsibilities that you think the Selection Board would find noteworthy.

## **Standardized Test Results**

You must take either the ACT or SAT to be eligible for nomination during this cycle. Scores must be submitted directly to our office prior to the **November 01, 2024**, deadline. However, if test scores are included on your official transcript, it is not necessary to provide extra copies. If taking the SAT, enter Institution Code “**5966**” (or “**005966**” when prompted to enter six digits).

If taking the ACT, please enter “7342.” Doing so will allow our office to receive your scores automatically.

## **Medical Requirements**

A Service Academy medical examination must be passed before a candidate can receive an appointment. The examination is scheduled and reviewed by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB). Once taken, the examination may be used for Service Academies and four-year ROTC scholarship programs. The most frequently encountered problem areas include:

- Visual Acuity: All candidates accepted shall have an uncorrected visual acuity no poorer than 20/400 in either eye and must be correctable to 20/20 in each eye.
- Color Vision: Color blindness, complete or partial, is cause for disqualification.
- Asthma: Any history of asthma is also cause for disqualification

## **Eligibility**

Each applicant for nomination must meet the following eligibility requirements by July of the calendar year in which they will enter the Academy.

- Be at least 17 years old, but not have passed their 23rd birthday.
- Must be a United States citizen and a legal resident of Florida.
- Be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents.

## **Essay**

It is highly recommended that you ask someone to proofread your essay for sentence structure, effectiveness in conveying your messages, as well as identifying any errors in spelling and grammar.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

- By September 2024 - Have successfully taken the ACT/SAT test(s)
  - For tests taken beyond September, **please ensure that you do not schedule an exam on the first weekend of December**, as this will conflict with the official fitness assessment.
- November 01, 2024 – Submission deadline of all required nomination application forms
- December 7, 2024 – Physical Fitness Assessment

- December 8, 2024 – Panel Interviews
- December 13, 2024 – Notification of nomination application results delivered via USPS
- January 31, 2025 - Congressman Mast's deadline for submitting nominations to the Service Academies.