

DODMERB MEDICAL EXAM CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Hi! My name is Larry Mullen (Lawrence.E.Mullen.civ@mail.mil). I am the Deputy Chief of the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board or as we like to call it, "DoDMERB." We are located at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. We are a totally independent organization with NO direct affiliations with USAFA. We conduct the medical exams for all applicants to the Service Academies (West Point, USNA, USAFA, USCGA, and USMMA) and all ROTC programs (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps Option).

There are 4 tasks an applicant must accomplish to be admitted to any Service Academy: Be selected by Admissions; pass the Candidate Fitness Assessment (PFE for USCGA); receive a congressional, Vice Presidential, Presidential, or other authorized nomination (except the USCGA); and be determined to meet medical standards by DoDMERB OR be medically waived by the Academy or ROTC programs.

I represent the last part...the medical aspect of your application. After completing a pre-candidate questionnaire from Admissions, they will determine your basic qualifications to compete for an offer of appointment, Admissions will "download" your name to DoDMERB. You will be contacted by Civ Team Inc., Philadelphia, PA (<https://www.dodmets.com>). From that site, you will be able to see the name, address, phone number of your assigned physician and optometrist. You will schedule the exams at your own convenience; complete your medical history "on line;" and track your progress until the website reveals CASE CLOSED. From that date, wait approximately 2 weeks and then log onto <https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil>. On that DoDMERB website, you will be able to track your progress, until a final determination is rendered: MEETS or does NOT MEET medical standards. In the interim, you may receive something called Additional Medical Information (AMI). This means we may require an additional test(s), consult(s), and/or information to render our final determination.

If you are determined to NOT MEET medical standards, the Admissions Office will determine if you are "competitive for an offer of an appointment. If so, they will automatically direct their medical folks to review your case for a possible medical waiver. You are not required/permitted to initiate this process. Waivers are individually based. The waiver authority "may" also request AMI. If so, they will do so through DoDMERB to you. A medical waiver is an independent review by the medical team from that specific Academy(ies).

Though the process is a little different, DoDMERB also does the same for all ROTC programs.

Due to the highly competitive nature of these programs, I highly advise, "IF" you are interested in one of these programs, you should apply to a few Academies, a few ROTC programs, and a few civilian schools. The dilemma you hope to find yourself in is: You're a senior; it is March; you applied as recommended above; you've been selected for all! Now, the hard part is choosing the one you want. The converse is, you procrastinate or only apply to one and you may not be selected and may miss tremendous opportunities.

The medical standards that DoDMERB applies to all Services are located at:

<https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/613003v1p.pdf?ver=2020-09-04-120010-087>.

The only difference are some vision standards amongst the Services.

As an additional reference, pls go to <https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil/>. On the left side of the homepage, hit "Questions on the Process." If you have questions after that, feel free to email me (Lawrence.E.Mullen.civ@mail.mil). Either I or one of our staff members will usually respond within 1 minute to 24 hours.

Good luck! It's **YOUR** future! Let your parents "assist **YOU** in the background, but **YOU** need to take all actions with the Admissions office, Congressional staffers, and DoDMERB. **YOU** need to do what **YOU** need to do, because **YOU** are the applicant, not your parents. The bunk beds at the Service Academies are for roommates, not parents 😊

