



U.S. Representative Raúl M. Grijalva 7th District of Arizona

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT APPLYING FOR A CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATION TO A UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Q: What is the deadline?

A: Applications must be received in Congressman Grijalva's district office in Tucson on or before October 30, 2008 for those wishing to attend an Academy in the fall of 2009.

Q: What are the Academies and what is there website addresses?

A: The Academies that you can apply to are:

1. The U.S. Military (Army) Academy in West Point, New York, <http://www.usma.edu/>
2. The U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Spring, Colorado, <http://www.usafa.af.mil/>
3. The U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, <http://www.usna.edu/>
4. The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, <http://www.usmma.edu/>

Q: What is the Criteria?

A: Applicants must be at least 17 years old, but not have passed their 24th birthday by July 1 of the year of entry to an academy. Applicants must be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents. Evaluations are based on the "whole person" concept and take into consideration academic, leadership and physical abilities.

Q: What do I have to do to be considered for a nomination?

A: In order to be considered for a nomination, your must complete an application and include the following:

1. The application can be downloaded from my website by going to www.grijalva.house.gov .

2. **High and/or College Transcripts:**
Applicants must provide a current transcript from the last high school attended and all college course work completed at the college/university.
3. **SAT/ACT scores:**
Please make sure that your test scores are sent to Congressman Grijalva's district office. To have scores sent directly to Congressman Grijalva's office, **use SAT Code 4155. If taking the ACT, use Code 7230.** The exams may be taken as many times as desired. Only the best scores will be considered. For more information on the exams and the dates of when they will be offered, consult your high school guidance counselor.
4. **Three letters of reference:**
Three supporting letters of reference must be forwarded directly from the individual writing the reference. All must be from adults outside your immediate family, and at least one must be from a representative of the last educational institution attended, preferably from a math or science instructor.
5. **Essays:**
On separate pages, include three one page essays that answer the following questions: Describe how attendance at a U.S. Military Academy will meet your career and personal goals? Describe your extracurricular activities including honors, awards, affiliations, employment, special accomplishments, athletics, etc. and why should the congressman nominate you for such an exclusive opportunity?
6. **A recent small photograph of yourself:**
If you wish, you may include a head shot photograph with your application. This is optional and entirely at your discretion.

Q: When will the Interviews occur?

A: Applicant interviews with Congressman Grijalva's Academy Advisory Committee will be scheduled in December 2008 or early January 2009 and will be held in his Tucson office. Upon completion of your file, you will be notified of an interview date and time.

Q: How are the nominations and appointments graded?

A: Nominations will be given using the competitive method, with all nominees submitted unranked to the Academy. The Academy will contact the candidates, evaluate each applicant and extend the final offer of appointment. This will allow equal opportunity for all nominees. If nominated, you will be notified no later than February 1. If offered an appointment, you will receive notification by May 1 from the Academy. If not selected, you may apply in the fall of 2009.

Q: What if I have more questions or need more information?

A: If you have more questions, you can contact Sami Hamed in Tucson at (520) 622-6788 or at Sami.Hamed@mail.house.gov.