



## CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS

SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO

### *United States Service Academy Nominations for 2012 Application & Information for Potential Applicants*

#### **Congressional**

#### **Nominations**

Members of Congress are authorized by law to nominate candidates for appointment to four U.S. Service Academies:

- The United States Air Force Academy
- The United States Military Academy
- The United States Naval Academy
- The United States Merchant Marine Academy

The 5th U.S. Service Academy, the United States Coast Guard Academy, does not require a Congressional nomination for appointment. However, upon completion of the application and interview process, a recommendation letter can be requested. These institutions prepare college-age Americans to be officers of the United States uniformed services. Upon graduation, U.S. Service Academy graduates are commissioned as officers in the active or reserve components of the U.S. Military, Merchant Marine, or Coast Guard for a minimum of five years.

#### **Service Academy Requirements**

As established by Federal law, applicants must meet the following requirements on July 1 of the year of admission to an academy:

1. Age: Be at least 17 years old, but not have passed their 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday.
2. Citizenship: Be a United States citizen.
3. Marital Status: Be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents.
4. Scholastic: Have graduated from high school. Contact our office for home school requirements. Typically applicants have SAT scores ranging from 550-650 verbal and 550-700 math or ACT scores ranging from 26-30 verbal and 27-31 math. Also, applicants are typically in the top 10% of their class, but all applicants in the upper 40% are considered.
5. Domicile: Reside in the Second Congressional District of Colorado to receive to receive a nomination from Congressman Jared Polis.
6. Physical: Review requirements for the U.S. Service Academy of your choice. Please note appointment offers may be conditional based on your medical exam.

## Test Score Guidelines

The following scores represent the minimum requirements for the standardized testing portion of your application to the Air Force, Merchant Marine, Naval Academy, and Military Academy (West Point). The following scores were established by the academies themselves, and confirm with the academy directly for the year you are applying.

<b>Air Force</b>	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>	<b>Merchant Marine</b>	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>
Verbal	590	26	Verbal	500	24
Math	620	27	Math	520	25
Reading		28	Combined	1020	
Sciences		27			
<b>Naval Academy</b>	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>	<b>West Point</b>	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>
Verbal	600	26	Verbal	600	26
Math	600	30	Math	600	26
			Science		26
			Reading		26

## Dates & Deadlines

- October 1 Candidate applications due to the Boulder office (see address information below).
- Late Oct. – Early Nov. Candidate interviews. *Note: dates are tentative and based on the number of applicants. Final interview dates will be announced after Oct. 14, when all candidate applications are due.*
- On or Before Dec. 31, 2012 Candidate selections announced.

## Application Submission

By **October 1, 2012** applications must be received at Congressman Polis's Boulder office:

U.S. Representative Jared Polis  
Christine Berg  
4770 Baseline Road, #220, Boulder CO 80303  
Phone: 303.484.9596 • Fax: 303.568.9007

Completed applications can be submitted in one package in the following ways:

- Send to [christine.berg@mail.house.gov](mailto:christine.berg@mail.house.gov) (preferred method).
- Fax to 303-568-9007, attention to Christine Berg. Note: Photo will need to be sent by mail or electronically.
- Send by mail to the Boulder office (see address above).
- Deliver by hand to the Boulder office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Please indicate if parts of your application (test scores, transcript, etc.) will be arriving separately.  
**Incomplete applications or applications received after October 1, 2012, will not be considered**

## Application Instructions

In order to be considered for a nomination, the following items must be submitted.

### Part 1

- U.S. Service Academy Candidate Summary Sheet-See interactive PDF Form
- **Photograph:** Attached to the U.S. Service Academy Candidate Summary Sheet. If not, send as a PNG or JPEG image; or mail. Please consider the professional nature of this application when selecting a photograph.
- **Basic application:** personal information, Certification of Accuracy and Understanding form, and optional demographic questionnaire.
- **Personal letter,** explaining to Congressman Polis your reasons for seeking a nomination to a U.S. Service Academy. Include why you have chosen this career path and how you contribute as a cadet or midshipman.
- Attach a **resume** to provide additional information regarding employment, volunteer activities, sports, etc.
- Two (2) **essays:** Limit your responses to each question below to no more than two pages, double-spaced. Although the content of your essays is most important, you will also be evaluated based on essential writing skills. If you are submitting your application electronically, you may submit your essays as a separate attachment.

Essay Questions:

1. *Please state two specific experiences that will prepare you to be successful and graduate from a service academy.*
2. *What do you think of the honor code in today's service academy? How is the honor code different in a service academy than what you might experience in a civilian school?*

### Part 2

- Complete and send the **reference form** with your three (3) references.
- For your recommendations, give a **Nomination Reference Form**, that has the Polis Boulder office mailing address.
- *One (1) of these recommendations must be completed by a teacher, principal or counselor.* Recommendations should be completed by someone who knows you well (coach, mentor, etc.), but *not* by a family member.

### Part 3

- **Official copy of your high school transcript:** The transcript may be included with your application if it is a certified original. Otherwise ask your school to send it directly to Congressman Polis' Boulder office. If you are currently a college student planning to transfer to a U.S. Service Academy, please send your most recent college transcript in addition to your high school transcript. *Providing an altered or false transcript will result in your application being dismissed without further consideration.*

### Part 4

- **Official ACT and/or SAT scores:** If your official ACT and/or SAT scores are included on your official transcript, you do not need to send separately. Otherwise, these scores need to be sent directly to the Boulder office by the due date. *Providing an altered or false report of test scores will result in your application being dismissed without further consideration.*



# CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS

Second Congressional District of Colorado

## United States Service Academy Candidate Summary Sheet

Candidate Information					Photo		
PLEASE provide contact information where we can reach you promptly and you receive msgs.							
Name				Phone-H			
Nickname				Phone- C			
Gender		Age		Email			
Mailing Address						Please submit a recent photo of yourself in jpeg or png file format with your application. If you do not have this, then send a hard copy picture with your application	
ACADEMY CHOICES (order from 1 – 5 with 1 being your first choice)							
First Time Applicant (Y or N)			Backup Plans to Academy				
U.S. Military Academy			ROTC				
U.S. Naval Academy			University (out of state)				
U.S. Air Force Academy			University (in state)				
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy			Other Military School				
U.S. Coast Guard Academy			Other: _____				
EDUCATION							
CURRENT SCHOOL		Name:					
City, State				GPA (weighted / unweighted)			
Dates Attended				Class Rank / Class Size			
PREVIOUS SCHOOL (include High School if current School is College)					Dates Attended		
Name				GPA (weighted / unweighted)			
City, State				Class Rank / Class Size			
SAT Scores			ACT Scores				
Verbal			/ 800	OVERALL			
Math			/ 800	Math	Science		
Essay			/ 800	English	Reading		
Next Test Date				Next Test Date			
<b>Academic Honors / Awards</b> with Year (list most significant and recent honors / awards, complete list can be provided in resume):							
LEADERSHIP / EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITES							
Leadership Positions (only list most significant and recent, complete list can be provided in resume):							
Extracurricular Activities with Years (only list most significant and recent, complete list can be provided in resume):							
Extracurricular Awards/Honors with Years (list most significant and recent, complete list can be provided in resume):							
EMPLOYMENT HISTORY							
Current Employer & Location							
Position & Responsibilities							
# of Hours (weekly / season)							
Other Employment History							

**CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS**  
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO

*United States Military Service Academy  
2012 Candidate Nomination Application*

**Personal Information- Part 1**

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Name (first, middle, last)	Social Security Number	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
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Official Mailing address	City/Town	State	Zip (with 4-digit ext)
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**Certification of Accuracy and Understanding-Part 1**

*By signing below, I request that Congressman Jared Polis consider my application for a Congressional Nomination to a U.S. Military Service Academy that I have listed. I understand that I am applying for a Congressional Nomination and that the Military Service Academy will make the actual appointment. I further understand it is my responsibility to learn and complete the Military Service Academy application process, including the Medical Entrance exam.*

*I hereby certify that I am a legal resident of the Second Congressional District of the State of Colorado and meet all of the eligibility requirements as stated in the information guide and application provided by the office of Congressman Jared Polis. I further affirm that I have never been convicted or arrested for violating a state or federal statute.*

*I understand that the deadline for this application is October 1, 2012. It is my responsibility to ensure that all parts of my application have been received by Congressman Polis's office, and if I have not submitted all of the requested information by October 1, 2012, I understand that my application will not be considered.*

*I, the undersigned, certify that all information contained in this application is correct to the best of my ability. Furthermore, I certify that Congressman Polis and his staff have permission to take any photographs at an event pertaining to my Service Academy nomination request (at an informational meeting, selection ceremony, etc.), and that my personal information provided within this application, including my personal photograph, will be shared only with individuals assisting in the nomination process, including Congressman Polis, his staff, and his Service Academy panelists.*

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Applicant Signature

Date

**For applicants under 18 years of age as of the date signed, a parent or guardian must also sign below:**

*I approve of this application and certify that all information provided by my child or ward is accurate. I have read the information listed under the "Certification of Accuracy and Understanding," listed above, and I approve of all information contained therein. I understand that if my child or ward is nominated to a Military Service Academy, an announcement to the news media may be made by Congressman Jared Polis's office.*

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Parent/Guardian Name and Signature

Date

**Optional Demographic Questions-Part 1**

*We ask these optional questions to help ensure that we are attracting candidates of diverse perspectives and backgrounds. Your response is optional and will not affect your nomination in any way.*

<p><b>Race/Ethnic Identification</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Black</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Hispanic</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Native American</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Asian</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Caucasian</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other</p>	<p><b>Gender</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Male</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Female</p>
<p><b>Family Income</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> &lt;\$25K</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$25K-74.9K</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$75K-124.9K</p> <p><input type="radio"/> \$125K-174.9K</p> <p><input type="radio"/> &gt;\$175K</p>	<p><b>Secondary (fluent) language, please mark all that apply</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Arabic</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chinese</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Farsi</p> <p><input type="radio"/> French</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Russian</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Spanish</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Vietnamese</p> <p>Other _____</p>
<p><b>First generation attending college?</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>From single parent family?</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>Any military family background?</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	

**References-Part 2**

Please list the names and addresses of the three adults from whom you are requesting a recommendation. One of these letters must be from a counselor, teacher or principal, and none may be from a family member.

Your references can give you their recommendation letter for inclusion with your final application, or you can request that they mail it directly to Congressman Polis’ office. Indicate on the form below which option you have selected for each recommendation. Either way, it is your responsibility to ensure that the letters are received by the October 1, 2012 deadline.

**In addition to the recommendation letter itself, advise each of your references to fill out and submit the “Academy Nomination Reference Form.” This Form is also located on our website on the Service Academy Nominations page.**

**Reference 1:**

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST) RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT

STREET ADDRESS CITY/TOWN STATE ZIP

*Is this person’s recommendation letter and reference form included with your application?* \_\_\_\_\_  
*If not, will it be mailed separately?* \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference 2:**

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST) RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT

STREET ADDRESS CITY/TOWN STATE ZIP

*Is this person’s recommendation letter and reference form included with your application?* \_\_\_\_\_  
*If not, will it be mailed separately?* \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference 3:**

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST) RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT

STREET ADDRESS CITY/TOWN STATE ZIP

*Is this person’s recommendation letter and reference form included with your application?* \_\_\_\_\_  
*If not, will it be mailed separately?* \_\_\_\_\_

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SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO