

**HONORABLE DANIEL K. AKAKA
UNITED STATES SENATOR
FACT SHEET**

This fact sheet will familiarize you with the procedures and requirements to apply for a Congressional nomination to a United States service academy. Please read it carefully and retain it for future reference.

ACADEMIES

Individuals may be nominated to the following military academies:

U.S. Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80840
www.usafa.edu

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
Kings Point, New York 11024
www.usmma.edu

U.S. Military Academy
West Point, New York 10996
www.usma.edu

U.S. Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland 21402
www.usna.edu

Additional information can be obtained by writing to the admissions office of the respective academies at the addresses above.

The U.S. Coast Guard Academy **does not** participate in the Congressional nominating system. Interested individuals may write directly to the academy in care of:

Director of Admissions
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
New London, Connecticut 06320

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

An individual must meet the following eligibility requirements as of July 1 of the year he or she is to be admitted:

1. Be at least 17 years but not yet 23 years old;
2. Be a U.S. citizen;
3. Not be married, pregnant, or have a legal obligation to support a child or children;
4. Be a child of parents or legal guardians who have a bona fide legal residence in the State of Hawaii;
5. Academics: minimum SAT scores of 550/Verbal, 550/Math or ACT scores 23/English, 25/Math, 23/Reading, 25/Science Reasoning;
Rank in the upper 40% of your class;
Participation and performance in high school extracurricular activities (athletic and nonathletic).

NOMINATING SYSTEM

Each U.S. Senator or Representative may have up to five (5) appointed cadets in attendance at each of the three service academies (Air Force, Military and Naval) at any one time. Consequently, the number of vacancies open to each Congressional member varies annually depending upon how many previously-appointed cadets are still enrolled in an academy.

Ten candidates will be selected for nomination to compete for each vacancy. If no vacancies are available, you may reapply in the following year. At the Merchant Marine Academy, ten nominees will be submitted to compete for the state quota of two.

The competitive system of nomination is used. In this system, the final selection will be made by the academy's academic board by order of merit based on the "whole-person" concept. The nominee selected will be that person whose all-around performance indicates the greatest likelihood of success as a career officer in the respective service. This procedure allows all nominees to compete on an equal basis.

You are urged to apply to every nominating authority which your eligibility allows, such as the Senators, the U.S. Representative from your Congressional District, the President, the Vice President, Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans, etc. A full listing of the various sources is available in the academies' catalogs.

Senator Daniel K. Akaka's nominations will be made by December 31, whereby an appropriate notice will be sent to each applicant. The respective academies will notify you of the appointments.

NOMINATION

A nomination by me is **not** an academy appointment. The academy will **appoint** a nominee after the nominee has met the selected academy's rigorous scholastic, physical and medical standards.

PRE-CANDIDATE FILE

Applicants are **required** to initiate a pre-candidate file with each academy they wish to attend as soon as an application for consideration of a nomination is filed with Senator Akaka. **Failure to do so may jeopardize a nomination, if you are selected.** Please contact the respective academies at the address listed on the first page. The academy will establish a file on each person and provide other necessary information.

PROCEDURE

Each Congressional office has designed an application procedure to meet its own needs and standards. Carefully study and follow the instructions of each office. Should you have any questions, feel free to call 522-8970.

The following required documents must be received in Senator Akaka's Honolulu office by the close of business November 15.

1. APPLICATION FORM.

The enclosed application form must be completed and returned promptly. Formal candidacy is established upon receipt of the application form. All other required information (items 2 thru 5) may be submitted at a later date, but not past the November 15 deadline.

2. OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT (INCLUDING GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND NUMERICAL CLASS RANK)/COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT.

11th Graders: Final junior grades must be submitted. If you apply before this information is available, it is your responsibility to request your guidance counselor to send an up-to-date transcript and to keep your record current.

Post-Graduates: Complete high school grades and up until the last semester in college.

3. SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT) OR AMERICAN COLLEGE TESTING (ACT) SCORES.

Applicants are strongly recommended to retake the exam to improve their scores, as these tests are relied upon heavily to determine an applicant's qualifications. The highest scores will be counted.

4. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.

One letter must be from your teacher, school principal or counselor. The second letter can be from any person of your choice. Each person should know you well enough to attest to your character, interests and activities, and your general reputation in the community. Additional letters are not necessary.

5. ESSAY.

One type-written page, double-spaced, describing your activities, interests and goals, and reasons for wanting to attend the academy.

***IMPORTANT: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE THE AFOREMENTIONED INFORMATION AND TO ENSURE THE RECEIPT OF THESE DOCUMENTS BY SENATOR AKAKA'S HAWAII OFFICE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOVEMBER 15. CANDIDATES WHOSE FILES ARE INCOMPLETE AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR A NOMINATION.**

DEADLINE

All required documents must be received in Senator Akaka's Hawaii Office no later than NOVEMBER 15. All correspondence regarding the service academies should be sent to the following address: Senator Daniel K. Akaka, P.O. Box 50144, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850. Senator Akaka's office is located in the Prince Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Federal Building, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3-106, telephone: 522-8970.