



**United States Service Academy
Nomination Application
Class of 2031**

Due October 30, 2026

Emailed or delivered to Poughkeepsie
office by 5:00PM

Congressman Pat Ryan – NY-18
Attn: Destiny Hallenbeck, Director of Operations
destiny.hallenbeck@mail.house.gov
29 N Hamilton St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Suite 112
845-443-2930

Class of 2031 Timeline

Congressman Pat Ryan strongly encourages students to begin their applications to our nation's service academies between their junior and senior years of high school.

The application process involves requesting a nomination from one of the available sources and submitting an application for admission to the service academy.

Summer 2026: Establish Candidacy with Service Academies

Start your candidacy with the service academy or academies of your choice. You can begin this process as early as May 1st, and it's best to do so as soon as possible if you haven't already.

The service academies include:

- [U.S. Naval Academy](#)
- [U.S. Military Academy](#)
- [U.S. Merchant Marine Academy](#)
- [U.S. Air Force Academy](#)
- [U.S. Coast Guard Academy](#) (does not require a Service Academy nomination)

May 1, 2026: Congressman Ryan Begins Accepting Applications for the Class of 2031

Congressman Ryan will begin accepting completed applications on June 1, 2025.

Because of the competitive nature of the nomination process, it's highly recommended that you apply to all relevant nominating authorities for which you are eligible. These authorities include the President, Vice-President, your U.S. Senators, the Secretaries of the Navy, Army, and Air Force, as well as the superintendents of your selected academies. If you receive a nomination from another source, please notify Congressman Ryan's office immediately.

Important Reminder: In addition to submitting your nomination application to the District Office, don't forget to complete and submit the admissions application for the academy or academies of your choice.

Required Documents to Complete Your Application:

- A completed Service Academy Nomination Application
- Resume

- Official transcripts from all high schools, colleges, or preparatory schools attended
- Personal Statement – “Why do you want to attend a U.S. Service Academy?”
- SAT or ACT scores
- Three letters of recommendation

October 30, 2026: Deadline for Nomination Application Submission

Be sure to submit your completed application materials by October 30, 2026. After submission, Congressman Ryan’s office will reach out to schedule an interview with the Service Academy Selection Board. We recommend confirming that your application has been received.

November / December 2026: Interview with Congressman Ryan’s Service Academy Selection Board

Interviews will take place in November or December at a location to be announced. This is the final step in the nomination process.

December 22, 2026: Nomination Status Notification

Applicants for Congressman Ryan’s Service Academy Nomination will be notified of their nomination status no later than December 22, 2026.

Spring 2027: Academies Notify Applicants of Appointment

Most academies will notify applicants of their official status by mid-April 2027.

Important Notes:

- If you decide not to pursue a nomination to a Service Academy, please let our office know so we can close your file.
- If you receive a nomination from Congressman Ryan but later choose to withdraw your application, kindly notify Destiny Hallenbeck as soon as possible.

Service Academy Application for Nomination

Please complete all responses and submit your completed application packet as a .pdf file by email to **destiny.hallenbeck@mail.house.gov** or hand deliver it to Congressman Pat Ryan's Poughkeepsie office by **October 30, 2026, at 5:00 PM. Late applications will not be accepted.**

To ensure your application is considered, it is crucial to follow the process outlined below. Failure to adhere to these instructions may result in your materials not being considered. For email submissions, please send everything in **ONE email** to **destiny.hallenbeck@mail.house.gov**. Alternatively, you may hand deliver your packet to Congressman Pat Ryan's Poughkeepsie office. **Please do not mail your materials, as mail can be easily lost or delayed.**

Items Needed to Complete Your Application Packet:

- A completed Service Academy Nomination Application
- A resume
- Official transcripts from all high schools, colleges, or preparatory schools attended
- Personal statement: "Why do you want to attend a U.S. Service Academy?"
- SAT or ACT scores
- Three letters of recommendation

Before submitting your application, please use the checklist below to make sure all instructions have been followed and that your packet is complete.

Required Application Items Checklist:

- A completed Service Academy Nomination Application
- Resume
- Official Copy of High School Transcript
 - Transcripts must include the applicant's GPA through their junior, class rank, and courses currently in progress.
- Official Copy of College or Prep School Transcript (if applicable)
- Recommendation letters (3)
 - Congressman Ryan encourages each applicant to submit letters of recommendation from guidance counselors, educators, religious/community leaders, coaches, and employers. If you wish to submit additional letters of recommendation, **Congressman Ryan's office will only accept two additional letters.**
- SAT/ ACT Scores
 - Applicants must carefully consider the testing dates they register for to ensure that they will be able to submit a copy of their scores to Congressman Ryan's Poughkeepsie District Office by the October 30, 2026, deadline.
 - Candidates may choose to self report their scores by submitting a copy of your score report or elect to send official scores directly to our office from the test administrator.
 - Subject tests will not be considered.
 - **Our ACT code is 7561 and our SAT code is 2880.**
- Personal statement: "Why do you want to attend a U.S. Service Academy?" – no more than 500 words

Due Date: October 30, 2026

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Congressman Pat Ryan – NY-18

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Suite 112

Minimum Requirements for US Service

Academies

Below are the minimum requirements for all U.S. Service Academies that require a nomination from a Member of Congress. Please note that meeting these requirements makes applicants eligible to attend a U.S. Service Academy, but it does not guarantee a Congressional Nomination or admission.

Academy	Minimum Requirements
<i>U.S. Naval Academy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● U.S. Citizen● At least 17 years of age and must not have passed 23rd birthday on 1 July of the year of entry● Unmarried/No Dependents● Nomination Required● CFA and DODMERB exams
<i>U.S. Air Force Academy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● U.S. Citizen● Be at least 17 but not past your 23rd birthday by July 1 of the year you enter the Academy.● Unmarried/No Dependents● Nomination Required● CFA and DODMERB exams
<i>U.S. Military Academy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● U.S. Citizen● Be at least 17 but not past your 22nd birthday by July 1 of the year you enter the Academy● Unmarried/No Dependents● Nomination Required● CFA and DODMERB exams
<i>U.S. Merchant Marine Academy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● U.S. Citizen● Be at least 17 but not past your 25th birthday by July 1 of the year you enter the Academy● Nomination Required● CFA and DODMERB exams

Application for Nomination to a Service Academy

Basic Information

Name:

Last

First

Middle

Preferred

Date of Birth: _____

Gender: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Email: _____

Current Residence:

Street

City/ State

County

Zip

Are you a US Citizen? _____

Do you reside in NY-18? _____



Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s):

Guardian 1 Name

Guardian 1 Phone Number

Guardian 1 Email Address

Relationship to applicant

Guardian 2 Name

Guardian 2 Phone Number

Guardian 2 Email Address

Relationship to applicant

Educational Information

Indicate your academic status as of October 30, 2026:

- High School Senior
 - College
 - Military Preparatory Academy
 - Other _____
-

High School Information:

_____ <i>School Name</i>	_____ <i>Address</i>
_____ <i>Phone Number</i>	_____ <i>City/ State/ Zip Code</i>
_____ <i>Counselor's Name</i>	_____ <i>Class Rank/ Total Number of Students in Class</i>
_____ <i>Graduation Date</i>	_____ <i>GPA</i>

Have you attended any college or university, even on a part-time/concurrent basis? _____

College/University/Academy Prep School Information: (if applicable)

_____ <i>School Name</i>	_____ <i>Address</i>
_____ <i>Phone Number</i>	_____ <i>City/ State/ Zip Code</i>
_____ <i>Dates Attended</i>	_____ <i>Credit Honors Earned</i>
_____ <i>Number of hours currently enrolled</i>	_____ <i>GPA</i>

SAT (Highest)

Reading Math Writing Composite

(SAT Score Reposting DI Code is 2880)

ACT (Highest)

English Math Reading Science Composite

(SAT Score Reposting DI Code is 7561)

List courses taken or are currently enrolled in with the subject areas:

Honors Classes

AP Classes

IB Program

Dual Credit Classes

Please list ALL the schools our office will be receiving transcripts from:

Academy Information

Rank the academy or academies of which you would actually accept an appointment. Place a number 1 by the academy you most prefer, rank others accordingly to your least preferred. Place a 0 if you are not interested in a particular academy.

_____ U.S. Military Academy

_____ U.S. Air Force Academy

_____ U.S. Naval Academy

_____ U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Which academies have you opened application files with and intend to complete? (Yes/no)

_____ U.S. Military Academy

_____ U.S. Air Force Academy

_____ U.S. Naval Academy

_____ U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Check all other nominating sources to which you are applying:

- U.S. Senator Kirstin Gillibrand
- U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer
- Vice-President
- President
- JROTC
- Other _____

Have you received a Letter of Assurance (LOA), Letter of Qualification (LOQ), Letter of Encouragement (LOE), or Letter of Interest (LOI)? _____
If yes, which letter, and from which academy? _____

Have you completed a medical exam through the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB)? _____

Please DO NOT submit exam results.

Have you taken the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA)? _____

This assessment is administered by an academy-qualified tester, not through Congressman Ryan's office.

Have you passed the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA)? _____

Please DO NOT submit exam results.

Additional Information

Are you the dependent of an active or retired member of the U.S. military? _____

Are you currently or formerly enlisted in the U.S. military? _____

If yes, which branch? _____

Have you attended an Academy Summer Leadership Seminar? _____

If yes, which Academy Leadership Seminar? _____

Are you currently attending an Academy Preparatory School? _____

If yes, which Preparatory School: _____

Have you previously applied for a nomination from Rep. Ryan? _____

If yes, when: _____

Are you currently an active participant of any of the following:

- JROTC
- Civil Air Patrol (CAP)
- Boy/Girl Scouts
 - Eagle Scout/ Gold Award
- Mission Field

Are you being recruited as an athlete to any of the Service Academies? _____

If yes, please provide details (academy, sport, etc.) _____

Letters of Recommendation

Each applicant is required to submit three (3) letters of recommendation with the option of submitting an additional two (2) letters of recommendation. For verification purposes, list the people who are submitting a recommendation on your behalf, the organization or company they work for, their title, and contact information.

Recommender 1

Name

School/ Organization/ Company

Email Address

Title/ Job Position

Recommender 2

Name

School/ Organization/ Company

Email Address

Title/ Job Position

Recommender 3

Name

School/ Organization/ Company

Email Address

Title/ Job Position

Recommender 4

Name

School/ Organization/ Company

Email Address

Title/ Job Position

Recommender 5

Name

School/ Organization/ Company

Email Address

Title/ Job Position

Resume

You are required to submit a resume along with your application. Your resume should include all of the following, and be NO LONGER than 2 pages. If you have questions regarding your resume, please contact our office. Resumes that do not include all of this information will not be accepted.

- Your Information
 - Provide all of the following:
 - Full Name
 - Contact Information
 - Address
- Your Employment History
 - List any part time or full time jobs you have held since you have started high school, and include all of the following for each job:
 - Company Name
 - Position/Title
 - Hours Per Week
 - Start/End Dates
 - Duties
- Your Extracurricular Activities
 - School Affiliated:
 - List all Organizations, Activities, Positions, Offices Held, Special Recognitions, Sports you have participated in either as an individual or part of a team. Note whether it was School or Club and your Position, Specialty, or Instrument.
 - Non-School Affiliated:
 - List all Organizations, Activities, Positions, Offices Held, and Special Recognitions. Include civic, church, hobbies, and special interest groups, or activities such as Boys' State/Girls' State, or any other youth/government participation.
- Your Awards, Honors, and Scholarships:
 - List all recognitions that most exemplify your commitment to excellence and include all of the following:
 - Name of Award, Honor, or Scholarship
 - Year Received
 - Organization
 - Award, Honor, or Scholarship Criteria
 - Award, Honor, or Scholarship Description

Personal Statement

Essay Question: Why do you want to attend a U.S. Service Academy?

Important: Applicants must submit their response to the essay question in the format outlined below

- 500 words maximum
- Typed, double spaced
- Size 12 Times New Roman Font

Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss the following when answering the essay question:

- Experience(s) that demonstrate your leadership skills
- Specific act(s) that you feel have prepared you for the rigorous challenges of attending a U.S. Service Academy
- Motivator(s) (i.e., family members and/or a specific event) that generated your interest with U.S. Service Academies

Application Agreement

Thoroughly read the following before signing. Your signature indicates your agreement with the following statements. Your application will not be considered if not signed.

The information on this application and included in my packet is all true and correct to the best of my knowledge. It is my sincere desire to attend a U.S. Service Academy, and I fully intend to accept an appointment, if offered. I am a U.S. Citizen, or will be by July 1, 2026. I am or will be at least 17, but not yet 23 years of age (USMMA: 25 years of age) on July 1, 2026. I am unmarried, and do not have any dependents. I am a legal resident of the 18th Congressional District of New York. (Exception granted for USMMA nomination.)

I request that Congressman Pat Ryan consider my application for a congressional nomination to the U.S. Service Academy or Academies I have indicated. I understand that by placing a rank number for any U.S. Service Academy on page 5, binds me to complete the entirety of that U.S. Service Academy's application for admission. This means if I do not complete the entire application to all ranked academies by January 31st, 2027, I will not be eligible for a nomination from Congressman Pat Ryan. I authorize Congressman Ryan to monitor my progress in seeking an appointment to an Academy, and hereby consent for the Academy to divulge information from my records for this purpose.

I waive the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 to allow the sharing of information with the Service Academies and their representatives, as well as members of Congressman Pat Ryan's staff and the 18th District Service Academy Selection Board. I hereby authorize these parties to disclose, discuss, inspect, and copy any information regarding my application and information provided. I also authorize and release any third parties to discuss/disclose any information to verify my prior employment, activities, or criminal history.

I have read this entire application and all required material included. I understand I must submit my signed and completed application by the 5:00 PM, October 30, 2026 deadline. If not submitted by this time, I understand that my application will not be considered.

In the event I receive a nomination, I authorize Congressman Ryan's office to release this information to the news media and public. Likewise, in the event I receive and accept an offer of appointment, I authorize Congressman Ryan's office to release this information to the news media and public.

It is my sincere desire to attend a U.S. Service Academy. I understand that by attending a service academy I will be required to fulfill an obligation of five years of military service following graduation. I fully commit to this requirement and responsibility.

Signatures

Applicant

Signature	Printed Name	Date
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Parent or Guardian

Signature	Printed Name	Date
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