

# Military Academy

## Action Items, Key Dates and Notes

### West Point



- Candidate Questionnaire opens to high school juniors **mid-January (15 January)**
- Summer Leaders Experience application for juniors runs **15 January - 15 March 2020**
  - Session 1: **30 May - 5 June 2020**
  - Session 2: **6 - 12 June 2020**
- Recommend applying for congressional nominations in the **spring of your junior year (1 March)**
  - **Candidate kits for admission will be available on or about 15 August as applicants enter their senior year in HS.**
- Nominations are due to West Point by **31 January of the year the candidate would enter**
- Schedule your DoDMERB medical exam **no later than the winter of your senior year (1 Dec).**
  - **Your name will not be forwarded to DoDMERB for scheduling unless you have completed over half of your application:**
    - **Candidate Fitness Assessment**
    - **Candidate Personal Data Record**
    - **Candidate Activities Record**
    - **School Official Evaluations**
    - **Candidate Statements**
    - **Academic Transcripts for High School or College**
- SAT/ACT scores due to WP by **31 January but may be accepted until mid-February** (Westpoint.edu)
- Deadline for admission to WP **31 January** (Westpoint.edu)
- Cadet Basic Training begins **the first Monday closest to 1 July each year**

## Questions for West Point

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**Q: What is the recommended GPA for acceptance into West Point? Is the requirement simply “top 20% of class?”**

A: There is no recommended grade point average for entry into USMA – as USMA draws from the nation at large from schools with a varying scales of GPA. Rule of thumb is to be within the top 20% of the high school class to be considered competitive for USMA.

**Q: What are the minimum ACT/SAT scores for West Point?**

A: There are no required minimum SAT or ACT scores for USMA entry. USMA does recognize risk levels with SAT (570 Math and 550 Evidenced Base Reading) and ACT (25 Math; 24 English; 25 Reading; and 24 Science Reasoning). All West Point applicants must also take the essay portion of the SAT and/or ACT for those scores to be considered for admission.

**Q: How many specific community service/volunteer hours are recommended for West Point? How many extra-curriculars?**

A: There are no specific number of extracurricular or community activities suggested for completion, rather an example of community and school involvement and leadership activities as well as organized athletic participation are greatly encouraged.

**Q: What is the final application deadline to West Point? Is that deadline a deadline for all the required forms? i.e. essays, teacher evaluations, interviews (if applicable) or do each of those forms have a specific/separate deadline?**

A: Everything must be completed by 31 January.

**Q: When are individuals notified if they are an official candidate for West Point?**

A: Candidates are notified immediately upon opening an application that they are an official candidate. Notifications of qualification will begin after the applicant’s full file has been completed and evaluated by the admissions committee. These notifications will vary depending on file completion date of the applicant.

Most appointments will be tendered prior to 1 April for candidates who have completed all application requirements. Candidates must accept or decline their appointments offers no later than 1 May.

- Students entering 9th – 11th grade can apply for summer STEM camp – Application opens 6 January 2020, and remains open until 15 April. Sessions for 2020 include:
  - Rising 9th Graders **1 - 6 June**
  - Rising 10th Graders **8 - 13 June**
  - Rising 11th Graders **15 -19 June**
  
- Summer Seminar Application opens on 3 January 2020, and remains open until 31 March 2020. Summer Seminar is a program for rising seniors and sessions for 2020 include:
  - Session 1: **30 May - 4 June**
  - Session 2: **6 - 11 June**
  - Session 3: **13 - 18 June**
  
- You may submit a preliminary application to become an official candidate for the next year’s class beginning 1 April of the prior year (Class of 2025 beginning 1 April 2020). For those applicants applying to Summer Seminar, the application for Summer Seminar counts as the preliminary application for admission.
  
- You can submit a preliminary application if you: will be a senior in high school in the fall of 2020 or have previously completed high school including current college students looking to transfer.
  
- After **31 December**, new applications to the Class of 2025 will not be accepted.
  
- ACT/SAT results for any examination taken up to 31 January of the entering year will be accepted (up to 31 January 2020 will be accepted for consideration for the Class of 2024).
  
- Begin contacting Congressional Members for a nomination in the spring of the year prior to prospective year of entry (Spring 2020 for Class of 2025). Individual members establish their own nomination application deadlines and begin accepting nomination applications as early as 1 March.
  
- An official interview with a Blue and Gold Officer is a requirement for completing the application.
  
- All candidates should contact their Blue and Gold Officer upon receipt of their official candidate electronic letter, which is normally emailed in May of the year prior to prospective year of entry.
  
- All electronic forms included in the application for admission, including the Candidate Fitness Assessment and official transcript(s), are due to the Office of Admissions by 31 January of the prospective year of entry. All service-connected nomination paperwork is also due by 31 January.
  
- All candidates will be notified of their admission status by 15 April IAW National College Admission guidelines.
  
- All appointees should notify the Admissions Office of their intention to accept or decline by 1 May.

## Questions for The United States Naval Academy

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**Q: What is the recommended GPA for the Naval Academy? Is the requirement simply “top 20% of class?”**

A: The Naval Academy uses a whole person assessment in evaluating every candidate for admission. Therefore, there is not a recommended GPA for admission although we recommend As/Bs in all courses and encourage students to enroll in the most demanding curriculum that will result in these grades. For similar reasons, there is no requirement to be in the top 20% of the class although we have found between 85-90% of our students graduate in the top 20% of their graduating classes.

**Q: What are the minimum ACT/SAT scores for USNA?**

A: There is no minimum SAT/ACT required for admission since we use a whole person assessment in evaluating each candidate. SAT/ACT scores are weighted in our “Whole Person Multiple” along with English and Math teacher recommendations, and Class rank/GPA (if the school does not rank). Additionally, the Admissions Board evaluates strength of curriculum (i.e. AP/honors course, IB program, Dual enrollment, etc.), course progression and grade trends as part of its evaluation.

**Q: How many specific community service/volunteer hours are recommended for USNA? How many extracurriculars?**

A: There is not a specific number of community service/volunteer hours recommended for admission. Volunteer work/community service are weighted in our whole person evaluation along with other athletic and non-athletic activities. For activities not included on our candidate activities form, a student may write them in for consideration by our Admissions Board. For the most recent class admitted to USNA, 86% included participation in community service on their applications for admission.

**Q: What is the final application deadline to USNA? Is that deadline a deadline for all the required forms? i.e. essays, teacher evaluations, interviews (if applicable) or do each of those forms have a specific/separate deadline?**

A: The last date a student may apply for admission is 31 December and the deadline for submitting all forms is 31 January. By agreement, 31 January is the date in which Members of Congress must submit their nominations to the service academies. If eligible, students must also submit their service-connected nomination applications to the Office of Admissions by 31 January.

**Q: When are individuals notified if they are officially selected for USNA?**

A: The Naval Academy begins notifying candidates if they are an official candidate in the beginning of May, usually in the second week, via electronic letter, and then each Wednesday through the remainder of the Admission cycle for newer applicants or those who have submitted updated academic information after initially being notified they were not a candidate.

**What to Expect in the Air Force Academy:** <https://youtu.be/hdYiAjG6TDw>

- All information can be found at [www.academyadmissions.com](http://www.academyadmissions.com).
- Click the “Apply Now” button for all programs.
- Junior year of high school:** Summer Seminar Application opens 1 December and closes 15 January of the junior year. Summer Seminar occurs in June for rising seniors.
- 1 March to 31 December:** Application window for the pre-candidate questionnaire.
- March to October:** Application window for Congressional nominations. It is strongly recommended that applicants contact their U.S. Representative and Senators early.
- 1 July:** Applicants begin to be promoted to candidate status.
- Candidate Status** (all application forms available to the candidate):
  - Complete full application as quickly as possible, and no later than the deadline posted on the portal.  
**(Final deadline varies on when an applicant becomes a candidate)**
  - Practice and take the Candidate Fitness Assessment.
  - Once in *candidate* status, follow instructions to be eligible for the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) medical examination.
  - Schedule and complete DoDMERB examination as quickly as possible.
- October to February:** Early offers (approximately 10-20% of all offers are made).
- 31 December:** Final deadline to submit a pre-candidate questionnaire.
- 31 January:** Final deadline to submit full application.
- Mid-March:** Majority of appointment offers are made (approximately 60-70%).
- Preparatory School and Falcon Foundation:** If not selected for direct entry to the Air Force Academy, all candidates who complete an application are automatically considered for the Preparatory School or Falcon Foundation. Offers are typically made January through June.
- Competitive Guidelines:** There is no minimum GPA, however, 75% of the incoming class of 2023 were in the top 20% of their high school class.
  - Mid 50% SAT:  
Evidenced Based Reading and Writing: 640 - 710  
Math: 650-750
  - Mid 50% ACT:  
English: 29-35  
Math: 28-33  
Reading: 30-34  
Science Reasoning: 28-34

## Questions for The United States Air Force Academy

**Q: How many specific community service/volunteer hours are recommended for USAFA? How many extra-curriculars?**

A: No specific number of community service/volunteer hours are recommended. USAFA recommends candidates focus on their areas of interest and display leadership in the activities they choose.

**Q: What is final application deadline to each Academy? Is that deadline a deadline for all the required forms? i.e. essays, teacher evaluations, interviews (if applicable) or do each of those forms have a specific/separate deadline?**

A: Final deadline varies on when an applicant becomes a candidate. Applications not accepted after 31 January.

**Q: When are individuals notified if they are an official candidate?**

A: Varies, but happens very quickly after initial candidate application on-line.