



Senator John Cornyn 2008-2009 Application for Nomination to a U.S. Service Academy

CHECKLIST

All required items must be sent to my Austin office postmarked by **Friday, October 17, 2008**. **Incomplete applications will not be considered for nomination.** For delivery verification, you may wish to request a return receipt from the Post Office.

- APPLICATION FORM AND RESUME completed and **signed** by applicant. This must be typed or legibly written.
- PERSONAL QUESTIONNAIRE AND ESSAY thoroughly completed. Due to the volume of applicants, I am not able to conduct personal interviews. This questionnaire, along with the information provided on the application, is your best opportunity to demonstrate your strengths and character.
- PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION FORMS (3) completed by counselors, principals, teachers, religious leaders (i.e. priests, rabbis, and ministers), coaches, or community leaders. You are required to return a minimum of three (3) Personal Recommendation Forms by the postmark deadline; these forms may be accompanied by written letters of recommendation from your recommenders. Up to two (2) additional letters of recommendation (with or without forms) may be submitted for your application packet. Letters in excess of this number will not be reviewed. **NOTE:** Recommendation Forms are the chief cause of delays in completing an application packet. **Start this process now to ensure that they are postmarked by the deadline.**
- OFFICIAL COPY OF HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT including courses currently in progress, GPA through junior year, and class rank. If you would like to provide your transcript from your senior year, you may send it as an update as long as your application is complete by October 17, 2008.
- OFFICIAL COPY OF COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT (if applicable) including courses currently in progress and GPA.
- CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH (**wallet size**) with your name and hometown written on the back.
- COPY OF OFFICIAL SAT/ACT SCORES if they are not being sent directly from the college boards. **NOTE: Test scores must be postmarked by October 17, 2008.** Carefully consider the dates that you are taking tests; if you wait until September your scores may not arrive on time. Upcoming SAT and ACT national testing dates can be found on the following page. My score report codes are: **SAT: 6263, ACT: 7185**
- Remember that it is in your best interest to apply for a nomination with **both** of your U.S. Senators, your U.S. Representative and the Vice President. Each office has its own application procedures; contact each office for information.

Deadline for postmarking application items is October 17, 2008

**U.S. Senator John Cornyn
Attention: Academy Nominations Coordinator
221 West Sixth Street, Suite 1530
Austin, Texas 78701**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SAT and ACT Test Dates

Standardized test scores are important elements of your application. In order for your application to be considered complete, you must either send an official copy of your scores or have the testing centers send your scores to my office. The codes for my office are: **SAT: 6263, ACT: 7185**. To meet this deadline, I suggest taking one or both of the tests on these dates:

SAT

May 3, 2008

June 7, 2008

ACT

April 12, 2008

June 14, 2008

September 13, 2008

*Note: All test scores must be postmarked by **October 17, 2008**. However, your test scores can be updated between the time of your application and the time of the Academy Board meeting if you score higher on a later test; this will only be permitted for students who submit their first score(s) on or before the official deadline to complete their files.

Service Academy Contact Information

If you haven't already done so, you should open a pre-candidate file with the service academies you desire to attend. To obtain catalogs and other specific information on the academies, contact them directly.

U.S. Air Force Academy

Admissions Office

Colorado Springs, CO 80840-5651

(800) 443-9266

www.usafa.edu

U.S. Military Academy

Admissions Office

606 Thayer Road

West Point, New York 10996-1797

(800) 822-2769

www.usma.edu

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Admissions Office

Kings Point, NY 11024-1699

(866) 546-4778

www.usmma.edu

U.S. Naval Academy

USNA Admissions Office

117 Decatur Road

Annapolis, MD 21402-5018

(888) 249-7707

www.usna.edu

NOTE: Congressional nominations are no longer required (nor are they submitted) for the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA). If you are interested in attending the Coast Guard Academy, contact the academy directly at:

United States Coast Guard Academy

Admissions Office

New London, CT 06320-4195

(203) 444-8501

www.uscga.edu

Have you attended an Academy Summer Leadership Seminar? _____

If you answered "Yes", which Academy Leadership Seminar(s) did you attend: _____

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

_____ JROTC _____ Boy Scouts/Eagle Scout/Gold Award _____ Mission Field
_____ Civil Air Patrol (CAP) _____ National Honor Society _____ Academy Preparatory School

Please indicate which academy you would like to attend; if you are interested in more than one academy, please rank them in order of your preference, first to last. (Note: My selection board depends heavily on your ranking of academy preferences. Please consider carefully.)

_____ U.S. Air Force Academy _____ U.S. Military Academy
_____ U.S. Merchant Marine Academy _____ U.S. Naval Academy
_____ U.S. Coast Guard (A Congressional Nomination is not required for the Coast Guard Academy)

List other offices from which you are seeking a nomination: _____

NOTE: I highly recommend that you take time to research each of the service academies. For example, many students do not know that a Merchant Marine Academy student can be commissioned into any branch of the Armed Services upon graduation. Additionally, I am able to nominate many more students to the Merchant Marine Academy than to the other service academies. If you are interested in being considered for the Merchant Marine Academy, please indicate your interest in the preference section above.

RESUME: On a separate page, briefly describe your involvement in the following activities: **interscholastic athletics, school activities, community involvement (volunteer or work experience), other activities you consider important or noteworthy, all awards and honors.** Include information regarding leadership positions and recognitions of achievement, as well as dates of involvement in each activity.

APPLICATION AGREEMENT: Please read the following paragraph before signing the application, as your signature indicates your agreement with the following statements. **If you do not include your signature, your application will not be considered for nomination:**

It is my sincere desire to attend a U.S. Service Academy, and I intend to pursue a vigorous academic course of study if appointed. I understand that attending a service academy also requires a minimum of five years of military service following graduation, and I fully commit to this responsibility. I am a U.S. Citizen, or will be by July 1, 2009. I will be at least 17 years old, but not yet 23 years of age, on July 1, 2009. I am not married. I am not pregnant, nor do I have any child support obligations. I am a legal resident of the State of Texas.

I certify that the information I have provided in this application packet is accurate. Any changes to this information will be reported immediately. Additionally, I understand that I will not be considered for a nomination if the required documents are incomplete or are not postmarked by October 17, 2008.

Signature: _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Send Completed Application Packet by October 17, 2008 to:

**U.S. Senator John Cornyn
Attention: Academy Nominations Coordinator
221 West Sixth Street, Suite 1530
Austin, Texas 78701**

Name of Applicant: _____



Senator John Cornyn 2008-2009 Application for Nomination to a U.S. Service Academy Personal Questionnaire and Essay

PERSONAL QUESTIONNAIRE AND ESSAY: please be thorough in completing this part of the application packet. Due to the large volume of applicants, I am unable to conduct personal interviews. This questionnaire, along with the information provided in your application, is your best opportunity to illustrate your strengths and character. Please note that my selection board carefully reviews your answers. You are encouraged to use a separate sheet.

1. How have you prepared yourself for the academic, physical, and moral challenges presented by a military service academy? Please feel free to elaborate on any of the activities listed on your resume.
2. Briefly describe an experience that demonstrates your leadership capabilities.
3. What disappointments/obstacles have you encountered in life? How did you handle these situations?
4. When did you decide you wanted to attend a service academy? What generated your interest? Do you have family members or friends who are/were in the military?
5. Why do you want to attend a military academy instead of a traditional university? Have you applied to any traditional universities?
6. Do you understand that, if selected, you must commit to a minimum of five years in military service? Do you plan to pursue a career in military service? Are there any specialized fields that interest you?
7. Do you think you can abide by an honor code? How do you think you would react if you were aware that a peer or even a close friend was guilty of an honor code violation?
8. In a brief essay (approximately 300 words), please answer the following question: What is unique about your personality, character, or talent that makes you stand out from the hundreds of students competing for a nomination? When answering this question, please keep in mind that the members of the selection board will not have the opportunity to interact with you in person and that this is their only opportunity to distinguish you from other candidates. Also, please remember that you are competing against hundreds of other candidates for a very limited number of nominations.

Name of Applicant: _____



Senator John Cornyn 2008-2009 Application for Nomination to a U.S. Service Academy Personal Recommendation Form

This form is to be completed by a teacher, school counselor/principal, religious leader, community leader, or employer who is familiar with the applicant's desire to attend a military service academy and his/her relevant qualifications.

Note to Applicant: Three Personal Recommendation Forms (with optional letters) must be sent to my Austin Office, postmarked on or before October 17, 2008 or your application will not be considered complete. Up to two additional forms or letters are permitted.

To the Recommender: The academies provide a college education and training for students to become commissioned officers in the Armed Forces following graduation. The questions below are designed to provide the information necessary to select the best qualified candidates. By law, all admissions materials must be shown to a student upon request. Each student must submit three personal evaluation forms, along with a complete application packet, by October 17, 2008. Please keep this deadline in mind as you return this form to the applicant, along with any additional pages or letters, sealed in an envelope and signed across the flap. Please answer the SPECIFIC QUESTIONS asked on this form, and use additional pages if necessary. You are welcome to submit a recommendation letter; however, it will not be accepted as a substitute for this completed form.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
2. Describe the applicant's talents, strengths, and leadership ability.
3. How could this applicant improve in order to rise to the challenges presented by a U.S. service academy?
4. Do you believe the applicant plans to pursue military service as a career? Does he/she possess the maturity to fulfill the commitments and obligations that accompany a service academy education?
5. How does the applicant handle challenging situations and/or failures?
6. Do you know of any personal circumstances that might affect the applicant's performance at a service academy?

7. Please select the phrase that best applies to this applicant:

_____ THE BEST (among the best I have known)

_____ EXCELLENT (has great potential)

_____ ABOVE AVERAGE (stands out in peer group)

_____ FAIR (has many fine qualities)

Your Name (Signed): _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Your Name (Printed): _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: (____) ____ - _____

Name of Applicant: _____



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_____ ABOVE AVERAGE (stands out in peer group)	_____ FAIR (has many fine qualities)

Your Name (Signed): _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Your Name (Printed): _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ Telephone Number: (____) ____ - _____

Name of Applicant: _____



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Your Name (Signed): _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Your Name (Printed): _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: (____) ____ - _____