#

# CONGRESSMAN HIMES

**SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION APPLICATION**

**Class of 2026**



Please read the entire packet before completing the application.

If you have any questions regarding this application do not hesitate to call my office at (203) 333-6600.

The deadline for submitting a completed application to my office is:

**OCTOBER 29th AT 5:00 P.M. EST**

(No paperwork will be accepted after the deadline)

Note: You should apply for a nomination to both of your U.S. Senators and my office. Please contact each office to find out their academy nomination process. (All congressional offices have a different nomination process)

CONGRESSMAN HIMES

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO A U.S. SERVICE ACADEMY

(Please Type or Print Legibly)

***Application due by 29OCT AT 5:00 P.M. EST***

NAME PHONE# CELL PHONE # E-MAIL

\*\*This will be the primary method of communication. Please provide a valid, working e-mail address.\*\*

LEGAL CONNECTICUT ADDRESS CITY ZIP CODE

LAST FOUR OF SOCIAL SECURITY NO. BIRTH DATE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DATE ARE YOU A RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT *AND* A U.S. CITIZEN?

CONTACT PERSON IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

HOME PHONE # CELL PHONE #

ADDRESS (ES)

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

IF APPLICABLE

TEMPORARY PHYSICAL ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE PHONE# COLLEGE/PREP SCHOOL YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MILITARY ENLISTMENT

Rank order (1-4) your academy preference: (*Please mark only the academies that you will apply to. If you do not apply to the academy that you mark down by the deadline, your application will be removed from consideration.*)

Air Force

Naval West Point

Merchant Marine

Please read before signing:

I have read and understand the information packet explaining the nominating procedure and I am familiar with the requirements. I certify that I am a legal resident of Connecticut’s Fourth Congressional District. By signing this form, I swear that the material contained therein is truthful and accurate and the written material is my own.I understand that I must submit all necessary information by 29 OCT at 5:00 P.M. EST to be considered for a nomination by U.S. Representative Congressman Jim Himes.

Signature: Date:

We recommend you apply for nominations from both Senate offices in addition to Congressman Himes.

\* Are you also seeking a nomination from Senator Blumenthal?

yes

no

 \* Are you also seeking a nomination from Senator Murphy?

yes

no

\* High School Name -

\* Address -

\* City -

\* State -

\* Zip -

 Country -

\* Date of Graduation

mm/dd/yyyy

\* Guidance Counselor

\* Guidance Counselor Email

\* School Phone Number

In the section below, please list the extracurricular, athletic, and community activities in which you participated during high school (and college). List them in order of their importance to you and include any positions held or awards received.

1. Activity -

 Years Involved -

 Hours Per Week -

 Offices Held and/or Awards Received -

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 Years Involved -

 Hours Per Week -

 Offices Held and/or Awards Received –

10.) Activity -

 Years Involved -

 Hours Per Week -

 Offices Held and/or Awards Received -

List any awards, honors, or special activities:

Community Service Experience:

Work Experience:

Family members who are Academy graduates:

In the nomination process, we hope to learn about each candidate as a whole. SAT/ACT scores, transcripts, and activities tell us only so much information about you as a person. You may use more than one page if needed to write your answers.

The following short answer and personal statement questions will help us better understand you and your motivation for attending a United States Service Academy. Please remember that there are no right or wrong answers.

Short Answer Question: You were asked to list your activities by order of importance to you. Please tell us why you consider your top activity to be most important. What have you learned from participating in that group, club, team, or activity? What have you added to the group? How will having participated affect you in the future?

Essay Question: Please write about your desire at attend a United States service academy. Perhaps you may wish to describe the event(s) that made you interested in attending a service academy. Furthermore, you may want to write about a family member or friend who was influential in your decision-making. Please be clear in describing why attending a U.S. service academy is right for you.

With my signature, I swear that the material contained in this application is truthful and accurate and the written material is my own.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Letters of Recommendation

Please provide us with the names of three people who are writing letters or recommendations for your candidacy. Please notify these individuals of your OCT 29 deadline so they can send your school counselor the letters before the deadline.

 Name:

 Title:

Relation to You:

Years Known:

Name:

Title:

Relation to You:

Years Known:

Name:

Title:

Relation to You:

Years Known:

Congressman Jim Himes

Service Academy Application

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES

* It is your responsibility to apply and register to your academy of interest.
* You must take the SAT/ACT before October so that your scores can be sent to our office before the deadline. It is *mandatory* to have taken these tests.
* It would be to your benefit to ask for your letters of recommendations *two or more week*s prior to sending your packet. It is your responsibility to ensure that the letters have been sent to our office *along with your packet*. Please only submit three letters of recommendation.
* The Academy Selection Committee will not review any incomplete files or information sent after the deadline date.
* We recommend that you apply through *all your* Congressional members.
* You must send all the items at once, except SAT/ACT scores which may be mailed separately, by the October 29 deadline.
* If you have any questions, please contact Bill Muhl at my Bridgeport office at (203) 333-6600

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR A NOMINATION

* **Age:** At least 17 but not yet 23 years old by July 1st of the year to be admitted to the Academy. No older than 25 to enter the Merchant Marine Academy.
* **Citizenship & Residency:** A U. S. citizen and legal resident of the 4th Congressional District resident when entering the academy.
* **Marital Status**: Unmarried, not pregnant, and without legal obligation for the support of a dependent.
* **Skill / Fitness**: Must meet the medical, physical, and academic requirements of the Academy
* Minimum SAT or ACT scores are determined by the perspective Service Academy to which you have applied. Academically, the majority of students accepted to the academies are in the top 20% of their class, with higher than average test scores in Math and English.

**MEDICAL STANDARDS**

* Height: Male (62"-78"), Female (60"-72")
* Preferably 20/20 vision with normal color perception. Waivers are limited.
* Must pass Medical Examination and Physical Aptitude Exam
* Physical requirements vary among the academies. It is recommended that you contact the academies regarding their specific requirements.

STANDARDIZED TEST INFORMATION

Aside from your grades, your performance on the SAT or ACT is crucial to the Service Academy Admission’s decision.

You should register for these tests early in your *Junior* year. This allows you time to retake the tests if you feel that your initial scores do not reflect your true potential. Information regarding test dates may be obtained through your high school counselor.

You can have your SAT or ACT scores mailed to my office or included with your completed application package mailed by a school official.

Applicants are responsible for registering for the SAT or ACT and requesting the scores be sent to your nominating representatives and perspective academies. My office’s SAT code is #6173 / ACT code is #7312.

My Service Academy Panel *will not* accept any copies of your SAT scores or ACT scores and will not accept scores taken after the October SAT/ACT.

If you retake the SAT or ACT tests, please notify my office of any increases in your scores. Please note that the Service Academy Panel superscores your materials.

*Frequently Asked Questions:*

***WHAT OTHER FACTORS ARE CONSIDERED?***

Strong social pressures may influence your decision to attend a service academy. Therefore, one of the most important factors the Academy Selection Committee determines is the nominee’s own motivation to attend.

Additional factors the Academy Selection Committee considers are a candidate's athletic activities, military history, leadership ability, involvement in community or church activities, employment history, extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, and special circumstances. However, please remember these are factored in with the candidate’s GPA and standardized test scores.

***WHEN DO I APPLY?***

You should apply directly to the academies of your choice and to all of the appropriate congressional representatives, between the spring of your Junior year in high school and the fall of your Senior year.

If you are renewing your application from a prior year, please be sure to update your file and complete a new application form.

Early filing is highly recommended, since it allows the academies and congressional officials more time to familiarize themselves with your personality and academy potential. Also, this allows you more flexibility in scheduling the mandatory medical exam.

Please remember, it is your responsibility to see that all materials are received in our Bridgeport office by the deadline. (29th OCT 5:00 P.M. EST)

***TO WHOM DO I APPLY?***

First, applicants are required to submit their materials to the academies that they are interested in attending to open a candidate file. The Service Academies may be contacted at the following locations -

U.S. Air Force Academy

Air Force Academy Admissions Office

HQ USAFA/RRS, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200

USAF Academy, CO 80840-5025

<http://www.usafa.af.mil>

U.S. Military Academy at West Point

West Point Director of Admissions

600 Thayer Road

West Point, NY 10996-9902

<http://www.usma.edu/>

United States Naval Academy

Naval Academy Candidate Guidance Office

117 Decatur Road

Annapolis, MD 21402-5018

<http://www.usna.edu>

United States Merchant Marine Academy

Merchant Marine Academy Admissions Office

Kings Point, NY 11024-9997

<http://www.usmma.edu/>

Candidates are required to obtain one nomination per service academy from at least one nominating source before they can be offered an appointment. No nominations are required for a Coast Guard Academy appointment. Candidates should apply for a nomination to both of their U.S. Senators and their district congressional representative. If you are unsure of your district congressional representative, you may contact my office or your county's records and elections department for assistance.

A few academy nominations are also available from the Vice President of the United States. Presidential and military nominations are also available to active duty military members, active reserve members, and ROTC cadets. Special nominations are available for children of Medal of Honor recipients, deceased or disabled veterans. Please contact the academies that interest you to obtain information regarding these types of nomination.

*HOW ARE THE NOMINEES CHOSEN?*

Each Member of Congress may have five cadets at each one of the three Service Academies (Air Force, Naval, West Point) at any one time. In the case of the Merchant Marine Academy, ten nominees are chosen and forwarded for selection. The number of new vacancies available are determined by the number of cadets who graduate or leave the academies each year.

My Service Academy Nomination Panel, comprised of academy graduates and enlisted military veterans, evaluates each candidate. Following the receipt of your completed application on or before the stated deadline, my office will notify you of a personal interview with my Service Academy Nomination Advisory Panel. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of their academic and personal achievements. The interviews help determine which candidates are selected for each available vacancy.

***WILL I GET MY FIRST CHOICE OF ACADEMIES?***

In the enclosed application, I ask that you select your service academy preference. Every effort is made to accommodate your first choice. To maximize your chance of being selected, applicants may select multiple service academies. It is important that you request nominations only for the academies you intend to apply to and attend. If your academy preference changes, please notify our office before the deadline.

***WHY DO I NEED TO TAKE A PHYSICAL EXAM?***

The service academies require a physical examination to determine a candidate’s medical qualifications for the rigorous physical portion of the educational programs. Once a pre- candidate file is opened for your chosen academies, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire. Then, each academy determines the medical examinations scheduling. If you are notified that you are selected to appear for a physical, you will see a physician provided by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Board. There is no cost to the candidate for this examination.

***WHEN WILL I KNOW IF I HAVE BEEN NOMINATED OR APPOINTED?***

I must notify the academies of his selection before January 31. My office will notify all applicants of the status of their application before that time. The academies will notify you of their appointment decision between February to mid-June.

CONGRESSMAN HIMES SERVICE ACADEMY CHECKLIST

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1) APPLY TO THE ACADEMY/ACADEMIES DIRECTLY

 2) COMPLETED APPLICATION

* Applications should be typed if possible

 3) PERSONAL STATEMENT & SHORT ANSWER QUESTION

* Short answer describing your most important activity
* One-page essay discussing the reasons why you are interested in attending a U.S. Service Academy

 4) LIST OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

* Resume format - A summary of your extracurricular activities and length of time involved in each activity, employment experience, honors, awards and other personal achievements)

 5) OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE/PREP SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

* Inform school to include an *unweighted* GPA on your transcript(s).

 6) SAT AND/OR ACT TEST SCORES

* Congressman Himes’ SAT code is #6173 / ACT code is #7312
* Photocopies of ACT or SAT scores will not be accepted. Due to costs of requesting original copies guidance counselors may submit these scores with the candidate’s official transcript in a sealed envelope

 7) 3 LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

* Only three letters will be accepted. Do not send more than three letters.
* Suggested recommendations: school principal, teachers, guidance counselor, employers, or coaches.
* Recommendations from relatives or friends are not acceptable.

**Note: ALL MUST be submitted all together. MAILED by a school official to the Bridgeport office at 350 Fairfield Avenue, Suite 603. The package must display a school seal to be considered**

Congressman Himes

Attn: Academy Selection Committee

350 Fairfield Avenue, Suite 603

Bridgeport, CT 06604

Phone: (203) 333-6600