United States Naval Academy

Competition to become a midshipman is keen, but if you are of excellent moral character, have prepared yourself for a challenging, multidimensional four-year program and want the privilege to serve as a leader of sailors and Marines who volunteered to serve their country, you should apply for admission.

Applying to enter the Naval Academy is different than most other college admissions processes. In addition to reviewing your academic record, our Admissions Board evaluates your physical fitness, leadership potential and motivation to be a midshipman and an officer in the Navy or Marine Corps. You must be recommended by teachers, interviewed by an Academy representative and nominated by at least one official source.

We want to ensure that the best-qualified candidates from around the United States and its territories are selected for admission and that young men and women have the drive and motivation to complete the four-year program and excel as Navy and Marine Corps officers. All candidates have an equal opportunity for consideration, and eligible men and women of all backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply.
Eligibility Requirements for Applying to the U.S. Naval Academy

You must be:

- at least 17 years of age and must not have passed your 23rd birthday on July 1 of the year of admission;
- unmarried, not pregnant and have not incurred obligations of parenthood;
- a United States citizen (except for the limited number of international midshipmen specifically authorized by Congress); and
- of excellent moral character.
- be found academically qualified to compete for an appointment by the Naval Academy Admissions Board;
- be medically qualified;
- qualify physically by passing the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA) used by all service academies; and
- receive an official nomination from one of many sources available.

How to Become Competitive for Admission and Prepare for Academic Success

The academic program at the Naval Academy is very challenging. Consequently, your preparation will be extremely important. Because the USNA program emphasizes mathematics, science, engineering and writing, your school preparation should include the following:

- Mathematics: four years of mathematics courses, with a strong foundation in geometry, algebra and trigonometry.
- English: four years of coursework in English with a special emphasis on the study and practice of effective writing.
Your application will be strengthened if, in addition to the above, you have had:

- Mathematics: courses in pre-calculus or calculus.
- Science: two years with at least one year of chemistry, with laboratory experience.
- English: additional courses in English and American literature as well as courses in other areas that emphasize writing.
- Foreign Language: at least two years, preferably four, in a single language. Coursework should include regular use of the spoken language and encompass elementary syntax and grammar.

To further enhance your competitiveness for admission and your preparation for academic success, the following is also recommended:

- Physics: a full year including a laboratory experience.
- History: a full year of U.S. history and, where possible, a full year of European or world history.

To demonstrate your ability to meet the physical and time management demands of four years at the Naval Academy, you should take part in athletic and non-athletic extracurricular activities. Since every midshipman is involved in daily physical activity at the Academy, it is important that you get in excellent physical condition while still in high school. Plebe Summer is not the time to try to whip yourself into shape. Since we are also interested in your leadership potential, as well as your ability to manage your time, we will carefully consider your non-athletic activities and record of part-time employment or military service to evaluate your versatility and ability to accept responsibility. And, by all means, stay away from illegal drugs and abuse of alcohol.
Selection for Appointment
The Naval Academy uses a “rolling admissions” selection process. The Admissions Board begins meeting in September and evaluates applications as they are completed by candidates. An application is considered “completed” when all candidate forms are submitted, all required documents are received, the candidate fitness assessment results are received, and the Blue and Gold officer interview is received by the Office of Admissions. It is in your interest to complete your application as soon as possible. If your record of achievement is truly outstanding, you could receive an early offer called a Letter of Assurance. This indicates our intent to extend an Offer of Appointment, provided that all your remaining requirements (nomination, CFA, and medical) are successfully completed. A Letter of Assurance could be received as early as September of your senior year. Of course, final admission will depend on continued success and good standing in your high school as well as continuing to maintain your qualifications for the Naval Academy.

If you are found qualified but do not receive a Letter of Assurance, you will be competing for an offer of appointment from within your nominating sources. Approximately 2,000 candidates are found fully qualified (scholastically, medically, physically (CFA), and have obtained a nomination). Of that number, about 1,500 will receive appointments and approximately 1,200 become midshipmen. Candidates will be notified as soon as possible of their status, and most will be notified by April 15. All appointees are required to notify the Admissions Office of their intention to accept or decline by May 1. Candidate files not completed by March 1 will not normally receive further consideration.

Naval Service Obligation
When you accept an appointment, you will receive a Permit to Report packet (normally sent in April) with several important documents and forms to consider and complete. One of the most important is the Agreement to Serve. This agreement, required by U.S. law (Title 10, U.S. Code, Sections 6959 and 2005) and other directives, outlines your service obligation and must be signed and returned to the Academy prior to Induction Day. It requires the consent of parents or guardian if you are a minor. In signing the Agreement to Serve, you state that you will:

- complete the four-year course of instruction at the Naval Academy;
- accept an appointment and serve as a commissioned officer in the Navy or Marine Corps, and serve on
active duty for at least five years immediately upon graduation;

- serve in an appropriate enlisted grade on active duty for up to four years, or reimburse the United States for the cost of education received at the Naval Academy if you do not fulfill the conditions agreed to above.

**Induction Day Requirements**

Prior to Induction Day, appointees must have proof of United States citizenship on file at the Naval Academy. Appointees without proof of citizenship on file will not be given the Oath of Office. Any of the following documents are acceptable; originals or notarized copies may be provided:

- U.S. Birth Certificate
- U.S. Passport - notarized photocopy only
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad
- Certificate of Citizenship
- Certificate of Naturalization

**Reporting for Induction Day**

If you accept an appointment to the Naval Academy, you will report for induction in late June or early July, take the Oath of Office and begin Plebe Summer with your new classmates. It will be one of the most important days in your life. What you need to bring and how to make travel arrangements to Annapolis will be included in your Permit to Report packet.
Oath of Office

The Oath of Office, which must be signed and agreed to orally by U.S. citizens on Induction Day, states the following:

"I,________________, having been appointed a midshipman in the United States Navy, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter, so help me God."
The United States Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS)

Alternate Routes to Admission
The Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS)
There is no separate application for this preparatory program.

Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS)

NAPS offers a nine-month college preparatory course to regular and reserve Navy and Marine Corps enlisted men and women who are seeking Naval Academy appointments. This program is designed to strengthen the academic background of incoming candidates. Navy and Marine Corps personnel who apply but are not appointed to the Naval Academy are automatically considered for admission to NAPS. The Admissions Board also identifies a number of promising and highly motivated civilian candidates who are not successful on their first attempt at admission and offers them the opportunity to enlist in the Naval Reserve for the express purpose of attending NAPS to prepare for admission to the Naval Academy. For more information, visit our webpage: www.usna.edu/NAPS.

Students attending NAPS are encouraged to seek nominations from all sources for which they are eligible, including their congressional offices. NAPS students are also eligible for a Secretary of the Navy nomination, which will be granted by the Nominations and Appointments Office.

The Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) is located on Naval Station Newport in historic Newport, Rhode Island. The Naval Academy Preparatory School is the Navy’s fourth oldest school; only the Naval Academy, Naval War College, and Naval Post Graduate School are older.

The mission of the Naval Academy Preparatory School is to enhance midshipman candidates' moral, mental, and physical foundations to prepare them for success at the U.S. Naval Academy. The ten-month course of instruction at NAPS, lasting from August through May, emphasizes preparation in English Composition, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, and Information Technology.

Contacts:
Naval Academy Preparatory School
440 Meyerkord Ave
Newport, Rhode Island 02841
Administration: (401) 841-6966
Academics: (401) 841-2947
Athletics: (401) 841-3413
What is the difference between a nomination and an appointment?

A nomination is required in order to receive an appointment. All students can apply to their congressman, senators, and the Vice President for a nomination. Alternative nomination sources are also available. Applying for a nomination is a separate process from applying to the Naval Academy. All nominating sources officially notify the Naval Academy of their nominees by the end of January. Students should apply to all the nomination sources for which they are eligible. Appointments are invitations to attend the Naval Academy. In a typical year, approximately 4,000 candidates receive nominations. However, only 1,500 appointments will be given out. In other words, obtaining a nomination in no way guarantees that a candidate will receive an appointment. You will be notified of your appointment status by the middle of April.

Do I have to know my congressman to obtain a nomination?

Absolutely not. Nominations are given on a competitive basis.
How do I know if I'm eligible to apply to the Naval Academy?

You must be:

- at least 17 years of age and must not have passed your 23rd birthday on July 1st of the year of admission;
- unmarried, not pregnant and have no incurred obligations of parenthood;
- a United States citizen (except for the limited quotas of international midshipmen specifically authorized by Congress); and
- of good moral character.

Are there any other qualifications necessary?

You must:

- be found scholastically qualified by the Admissions Board;
- be medically qualified;
- pass the Naval Academy's Physical Aptitude Examination (same for all the service academies); and
- receive an official nomination from one of many sources available

What courses should I take to make myself competitive for admission?

To improve your chances of qualifying scholastically, your high school preparation should include the following:

- mathematics-four years of mathematics courses, including a strong foundation in geometry, algebra, and trigonometry. Courses in pre-calculus and calculus are also very valuable and are highly encouraged.

- science-one year each of chemistry and physics, with lab if possible.
• English-four years of course work with special attention to the study and practice of effective writing. Surveys of English and American literature are especially helpful as background for future study of literature.

To further enhance your competitiveness for admission, the following courses are also recommended:

• foreign language—at least two years.
• history—one full year of U.S. history and, where possible, a full year of European or world history.
• introductory computer and typing courses are recommended because all midshipmen are required to use personal computers in most courses.

What Grade Point Average do I need to get an appointment?

There is no specific GPA minimum. However, you should strive to be at least in the top 20 percent of your high school class.

Do you take the strength of my high school into consideration? If so, how?

Yes. We look at how many graduates of your high school go on to four-year and two-year colleges and universities.

Do you accept transfer students?

Yes and no. We do accept students from other colleges as long as they meet our age requirements, but they still have to attend the Academy for four years.

I'm home-schooled. Can I still get an appointment?

Yes. Home-schooled students make up an increasing number of applicants for admission to the Naval Academy each year. Each applicant is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, but we generally look for the same academic prerequisites as traditional high school applicants. Additionally, you should let us know if your schooling is recognized by the local school board or the State Board of Education. In addition to qualifying academically for admission, home-schooled applicants
should also demonstrate participation in local extracurricular activities, both athletic and non-athletic.

What is NAPS?

NAPS is the Naval Academy Preparatory School. NAPS offers a 10-month college preparatory course to regular and reserve Navy and Marine Corps enlisted men and women who are seeking Naval Academy appointments. This program is designed to strengthen the academic background of incoming candidates. Navy and Marine Corps personnel who apply but are not appointed to the Naval Academy are automatically considered for admission to NAPS. The Academy also identifies a number of promising and highly motivated civilian candidates who are not successful on their first attempt at admission and offers them the opportunity to enlist in the Naval Reserve for the express purpose of attending NAPS to prepare for admission to the Naval Academy. A separate application for NAPS is not necessary. NAPS website can be found here.

What is the Foundation?

The U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, Inc., also assists promising candidates who are not appointed in their first try for admission. This nonprofit organization awards a limited number of sponsorships for post-high school preparatory studies to enhance those candidates' qualifications for admission. The Naval Academy's admissions board automatically recommends candidates to the Foundation for sponsorship consideration. No special request is required.

I am not a U.S. citizen and am interested in applying to the Naval Academy. What do I do?

If you are not an American citizen, completion of the Preliminary Application is not necessary. Information concerning application procedures for foreign nationals may be requested from the Naval Attache at the U.S. Embassy. If you are in the process of applying for citizenship, you can apply for admission but you must be a U.S. citizen by Induction Day.
Can I get corrective eye surgery prior to entering the Naval Academy? Will this enable me to fly?

All forms of surgical, laser, and mechanical procedures performed to improve vision are disqualifying for admission. Extremely few waivers have been granted for students who have received this type of medical treatment. In general, it is prudent to delay all refractive surgery procedures until after the progression of nearsightedness associated with growth in eye size has ceased (beyond age 21 for many people). However, the Naval Academy is currently allowing some midshipmen to receive PRK in order to be considered for a waiver to enter Special Warfare (SEALs) and Naval Aviation.

Should I take the Writing portion of the ACT?

ACT will add a 30-minute Writing Test as an optional component to the ACT Assessment beginning in February 2005 for students testing within the United States who are applying to college for the fall of 2006 or later. USNA Admissions recommends that all students taking the ACT also take the Writing Test and submit scores.

Will pre-Writing Test SATs and ACTs be used by the Naval Academy?

SAT results from tests prior to March 2005 and ACT results from tests prior to February 2005 will be used by the Naval Academy, and no conversion of scores is necessary due to compatibility of old and new scoring systems.
Naval Academy Summer Seminar

Program Overview

The United States Naval Academy offers opportunities to challenge your limits. Consider attending one week in June at the U.S. Naval Academy Summer Seminar (NASS) for rising high school seniors.

This fast-paced, six-day experience will take you beyond anything you have ever done before. NASS participants will experience all aspects of the Naval Academy including the academic program and midshipmen life. Furthermore, participants will receive an overview of Navy and Marine Corps service options. If you think you are interested in pursuing an appointment to one of the nation’s service academies and serving your country as an officer, you should seriously consider attending NASS.

You will become part of the Academy. You will live in Bancroft Hall (the one dormitory at USNA), eat in the dining room, participate in the academic and leadership workshops and experience a variety of other activities on the campus.

Selection

Interested students should visit www.usna.edu/admissions/NASS for specific application dates — application opens shortly after January 1 for students in their junior year. Selection is based in large part on ensuing geographic representation along with overall accomplishments in and out of the classroom. Due to the limited space available in each session, many interested young men and women are not selected to participate in NASS. Students who are not selected are strongly encouraged to continue the USNA application process.

Tuition and Travel Expenses

The tuition is $400*, which pays for your room and board, as well as a variety of materials. Plan on bringing extra cash for snacks and souvenirs.

Each student is responsible for arranging transportation to and from the Naval Academy. Those flying commercial air should make arrangements to arrive at and from Baltimore-Washington International airport (BWI).

* Some scholarships are available based on financial need.
Summer STEM

Program Overview

The United States Naval Academy focuses on four areas during the Summer STEM Program: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. This program held in June is designed to encourage rising 8th-11th graders to pursue a course of study in engineering and technology throughout high school and college.

Interested students should visit [www.usna.edu/admissions/stem](http://www.usna.edu/admissions/stem) for a specific application opening date in January. Selection is based on student accomplishments both inside and outside of the classroom as well as our geographic requirement to bring students from all over the country.

Why STEM?

You will work in world-class lab facilities that provide a unique learning environment outside the traditional classroom. You will experience real-life application of math and science principles through hands-on practical learning.

Tuition and Travel Expenses

The tuition to attend the camp is $350*, which covers room and board as well as camp materials. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to Baltimore-Washington International Airport. Transportation to and from BWI is provided by USNA. Students should also plan to bring spending money for snacks and souvenirs. *Some scholarships are available on a financial needs basis.