

PETE OLSON
22ND DISTRICT, TEXAS

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COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND POWER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,
MANUFACTURING AND TRADE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

FACT SHEET FOR STUDENTS
DESIRING A CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATION FOR MILITARY ACADEMIES

Entrance Requirements

A candidate must be a resident of the 22nd Congressional District! A candidate who is temporarily residing outside the 22nd District because their parents are involved in government or military service must prove legal residence within the 22nd District and show that the move outside the District is temporary. The legal residence of the father normally determines residency. If the parents are divorced, the residence of the parent with whom the applicant lives determines their legal residency.

The candidate for an academy nomination must be a citizen of the United States and be between the ages of 17 and 22. Candidates must have reached their 17th birthday, but NOT have passed their 23rd birthday on or before July 1 of the year they would enter the academy. The Merchant Marine Academy is an exception in that you must not have attained 25 years of age as of July 1 of the year of entry. The candidate **must not** be married, not pregnant, nor have a legal requirement to provide support to a dependent. Academy applicants must be physically fit, have excellent vision as well as physical dexterity and agility as demonstrated on the Physical Aptitude Examination administered by the academies.

A young man or woman with these qualifications must apply to me no later than **OCTOBER 1st, 2014 by 5pm** of the year **BEFORE** he or she desires to enter one of the academies (this is usually the senior year of high school). Screening and processing of the candidates will be completed in time to enable me to meet the deadline for submitting my congressional nominations to the academies. Should a candidate not qualify for a nomination, notification will be given early enough so they may make other educational plans.

Screening Process

To assist in evaluating and selecting nominees, I require:

- a completed formal application;
- an updated resume
- an **official** (not photocopy) transcript of high school work, and college if applicable;
- **official** (not photocopies) of SAT or ACT scores (preferably SAT);
- a recent photograph no larger than 3" x 5" (professional quality NOT required);
- three letters of reference from persons who can provide assessments of an applicant's character, motivation, personality traits, and over-all suitability for a military academy (two of the letters should be from persons in the 22nd district);
- a signed drug statement
- a personal essay no greater than 500 words on the topic below.

Tell us about an experience or series of experiences that prepared you for taking on this challenge. This experience could be a specific leadership experience, a particular motivation for attending a military academy, an obstacle or disappointment you have overcome, or another experience that gives us insight into why you are a qualified candidate.

The deadline for receiving these items in my Pearland or Sugar Land district office is **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1st, 2014 at 5pm**. At that time, an applicant may qualify for an interview with my Service Academy Advisory Board.

Please submit a current application form. Please discard any previous applications or any application received from a different Congressional office.

Note: I request only three letters of recommendation. Please do not send more than three. The committee will only use the first three letters received in the office.

The academies do not give an academic examination. Instead, they use the results of the College Entrance Examination Board (SAT) or the American College Testing Program (ACT). Applicants must make their own arrangements to take these tests and should do so **AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE**.

When determining who will receive your SAT and ACT score reports, please be sure to include code **6069** for SAT tests and code **7703** for ACT tests so that your test scores will be sent directly to our office. Tests may be retaken, and the best combination of scores will be used by the academies.

Selection of Candidates

The 22nd District Service Academy Advisory Board will interview the candidates from the district. The Advisory Board will then provide me with a list of candidate they deem worthy of a nomination. My part in the selection process is screening applicants and submitting lists of nominees to the academies. From these lists the academies make the actual appointments.

Vacancies

Normally, our congressional district has one place to fill in each class entering each of the three major service academies. The vacancy is created by the graduation of a cadet from our district each year. However, when a cadet leaves an academy for any reason before graduation, a vacancy is created for the next year and changes the cycle.

Those who do not receive a nomination from me will still have an opportunity to receive a nomination from the academy through other quotas. These quotas include: athletic, Secretary of the Army, qualified alternations and others. Candidates now have a greater chance to enter an academy than in past years.

Each academy requires the submission of a preliminary application to initiate the admissions process. If you have not already contacted the Academy of your choice, please do so now by using their website. This will let the Academy know you are seeking admission, and they will provide you general information, a pre-candidate questionnaire plus open a pre-admission file on you. Their websites are:

U.S. Air Force Academy	http://academyadmissions.com
U.S. Military Academy (West Point)	http://admissions.usma.edu
U.S. Naval Academy	http://www.usna.edu/admissions
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy	http://www.usmma.edu/admissions/default.htm

Merchant Marine Academy

A different nomination procedure is followed for the Merchant Marine Academy. Each Texas Member of Congress can nominate ten candidates, who then compete with all others nominated for the 13 spots Texas is allocated.

Coast Guard Academy

There are no congressional nominations or geographic quotas for the Coast Guard Academy. These appointments are made by the Commandant of the Coast Guard by means of a national competitive examination. Applications should be received by the Director of Admission, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut, 06320. The Class of 2019 (entering summer 2015) application will be available in September 2014 with a final deadline of February 1, 2015. Their website is www.cga.edu.

In Summary

Selection of candidates by the academies is based on academic records, class standing, SAT or ACT scores, results of the medical examination and physical aptitude tests, leadership potential and personal interviews.

There are always numerous applications for each vacancy, and competition is heavy. However, ANY person who meets the requirements of the academies has a chance to be nominated.

No one will receive an interview or qualify for nomination unless a completed application and all accompanying information is submitted to my Pearland or Sugar Land district office on or before 5pm, OCTOBER 1st, 2014.

For further information please contact one of my district offices:

Congressman Pete Olson
1650 Hwy 6, Ste. 150
Sugar Land, TX 77478
(O) 281-494-2690
(F) 281-494-2649

Congressman Pete Olson
6302 W. Broadway St, Ste. 220
Pearland, TX 77581
(O) 281-485-4855
(F) 281-485-4850

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Checklist

All required items must be mailed or hand delivered to the Pearland or Sugar Land District office, by **5pm, October 1st, 2014**. Only complete applications will be considered for a nomination. For delivery verification, you may wish to request a return receipt from the Post Office.

○ **Signed Application and Resume**

Both must be completed and signed by the applicant. They must be typed or legibly written

○ **One official (not photocopied) high school or college transcript**

○ **One current photograph no larger than 3" by 5"**

This photo is not required to be professional quality

○ **One personal essay no greater than 500 words on the topic below**

Tell us about an experience or series of experiences that prepare you for taking on this challenge. This experience could be a specific leadership experience, a particular motivation for attending a military academy, an obstacle or disappointment you have overcome, or another experience that gives us insight into why you are a qualified candidate.

○ **At least one official (not photocopied or printed) SAT or ACT Score Record.**

If tests are retaken during an applicant's senior year, updated scores will be accepted after the October 1st deadline but cannot be considered if received after an applicant's interview with our Service Academy Board.

○ **A signed "Illegal Drug Statement" form**

○ **Three letters of reference.**

All applications must be hand delivered or mailed to:

Congressman Pete Olson
Attn: Service Academy Nominations
1650 Hwy 6, Ste. 150
Sugar Land, TX 77478

Congressman Pete Olson
Attn: Service Academy Nominations
6302 W. Broadway St., Ste. 220
Pearland, TX 77581

Note: It is in an applicant's best interest to apply for a nomination with one's US Representative, US Senators, and the Vice President. Each office will have its own procedures and deadlines. Contact each office for information.

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Application for Congressional Nomination 22nd District - Texas

Please indicate below the academy which you are interested in attending. If interested in more than one academy, indicate your choices by number in order of preference (One 1 being your first choice).

____ AIR FORCE ACADEMY
(Colorado Springs, Colorado)

____ MILITARY ACADEMY
(West Point, New York)

____ MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY
(Kings Point, New York)

____ NAVAL ACADEMY
(Annapolis, Maryland)

Name _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Mailing Address _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Permanent Address _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

County _____ Social Security# _____ Birth Date _____

Home Phone () _____ Cell () _____ Email _____

Education _____
HIGH SCHOOL CITY STATE ZIP

Year to Graduate _____ GPA _____ Class Rank _____ in a Class of _____

Parents names _____ Mother's Work Phone _____

Legal Guardian _____ Father's Work Phone _____

Are you seeking a nomination through other sources? ____ Yes ____ No

If so, with whom? _____

Have you attended any college? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, college and dates _____

Have you taken or are you taking any dual credit courses affiliated with your local community college?

If yes, community college and dates _____

Have you or are you attending a Prep school? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, where _____

Please indicate your participation in any of the following high school extra-curricular activities:

High School Athletic Participation:

Sport	Grade	Team	Awards/Honors	
_____	9 10 11 12	F JV V	_____	
	GRADE	ACTIVITY	GRADE ACTIVITY	
	9 10 11 12	Boy's State/Boy's Nation	9 10 11 12	Girl Scout
	9 10 11 12	Girl's State/Girl's Nation	9 10 11 12	Eagle Scout
	9 10 11 12	Pres. of Student Government	9 10 11 12	Boy Scout
	9 10 11 12	Other Student Gov. Office	9 10 11 12	Officer, Club
	9 10 11 12	Other Class Office	9 10 11 12	Science Club
	9 10 11 12	Student Council Member	9 10 11 12	Math Club
	9 10 11 12	National Honor Society	9 10 11 12	Key Club
	9 10 11 12	Junior ROTC Officer	9 10 11 12	Language Club
	9 10 11 12	Junior ROTC	9 10 11 12	4-H Club
	9 10 11 12	Editor, School Paper	9 10 11 12	Band/Chorus
	9 10 11 12	Other _____	9 10 11 12	Yearbook Staff
_____	9 10 11 12	F JV V	_____	
_____	9 10 11 12	F JV V	_____	
_____	9 10 11 12	F JV V	_____	

Personal Essay

Please complete the following essay prompt in less than 500 words. The essay should be either typed or written legibly.

Prompt: Tell us about an experience or series of experiences that prepare you for taking on this challenge. This experience could be a specific leadership experience, a particular motivation for attending a military academy, an obstacle or disappointment you have overcome, or another experience that gives us insight into why you are a qualified candidate.

I have applied to each of the academies that I have indicated I am interested in attending.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Privacy Act of 1974 Statement

Congressman Pete Olson, please monitor my progress in seeking an appointment to an Academy. I hereby consent for the Academy to divulge information from my records for this purpose.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application for Nomination to a U.S. Service Academy Personal Recommendation Form

This form is to be completed by a teacher, school administrator, 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 must be sent to Congressman Pete Olson's Pearland or Sugar Land District Offices, on or before **Wednesday, October 1, 2014** for an application to be considered complete.

To the Recommender: The Military Service Academies provide both a college education and training for students to become commissioned officers in the Armed Forces following their graduation. The below questions are designed to provide information helpful in selecting the best qualified candidates. By law, all materials must be shown to a student upon request. This form is a required part of the student's application process for a congressional nomination. A student must receive a nomination from their US Congressman, US Senator, or the Vice President to be accepted to an academy. Please return this form to the applicant, along with any additional pages or letters, sealed in an envelope and signed along the flap well before the deadline listed above. Please answer the SPECIFIC QUESTIONS asked on this form. Feel free to use additional pages.

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

Please describe the applicant's talents, strengths, and leadership ability.

How could this applicant improve in order to rise to the challenges presented by a US service academy?

In what ways does the applicant show the maturity to fulfill the commitments and obligations that accompany a service academy education?

How does the applicant handle challenging situations and/or failures?

Do you know of any personal circumstances that might affect the applicant's performance at a service academy?

How would you best describe the applicant?

Recommender's Signature _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Recommender's Name (printed) _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone: _____

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CONGRESSMAN PETE OLSON 22ND DISTRICT- TEXAS
ILLEGAL DRUG STATEMENT

This is to certify that I have never knowingly used any form of illegal drugs. I understand that I will be required to take a drug test while undergoing my medical exam for admission to the academy.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Return this form with your application on or before Wednesday, October 1st, 2014 by 5pm