

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for contacting me regarding an appointment to the United States service academies. I appreciate hearing from you at this important point in your life.

I consider making nominations to the service academies one of my most privileged responsibilities as a Member of Congress.

The high quality of education provided by each of the academies is one of the most prestigious available anywhere in the world. The academic, physical, and character requirements are stringent.

I am sending you information about the academies, as well as a preliminary application form that needs to be filled out and returned to my office by December 1st of the year prior to the year you are seeking to begin at an academy. You also need to contact through their respective website the academies you are interested in attending. These websites are:

- West Point – www.usma.edu
- U.S. Naval Academy – www.usna.edu
- U.S. Air Force Academy – www.usafa.af.mil
- U.S. Merchant Marine Academy – www.usmma.edu
- U.S. Coast Guard Academy – www.cga.edu

Each U.S. Representative and Senator may have five cadets from his or her district at each of the academies at any one time. The number of vacancies is then determined by the number of cadets who either graduate or leave the academies each year.

The Merchant Marine Academy appointments are made by the Academy itself, based on statewide nominations from Congress.

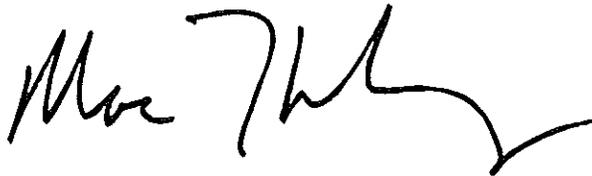
Appointments to the Coast Guard Academy are made through nationwide competition. Students who are interested in an appointment should contact the Academy directly at the website on the previous page since this Academy does not participate in the Congressional nomination system.

In addition to the preliminary application form I will use in the nomination selection process, you will also need to mail seven additional items to be postmarked no later than December 1st of the year prior to the year you intend on starting at an academy.

1. Three (3) personal references whom I may contact.
2. Three (3) letters of recommendation in addition to the personal references.
3. A transcript of your grades.
4. The enclosed form completed by either a principal or guidance counselor.
5. A copy of your SAT and/or ACT scores.
6. A recent photograph.
7. A typed, double-spaced 250-word essay based on the theme, "Why I Want to Attend a U.S. Service Academy."

If you have further questions, please call Paul Simpson in my Amarillo district office at (806) 371-8844, or my Wichita Falls office at (940) 692-1700. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mac Thornberry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mac Thornberry
Member of Congress

U.S. Service Academy Nomination Application - Page Two

High school: _____

Counselor: Mr. / Ms. _____ Telephone: () _____

Extracurricular activities - High school only

Indicate grades for all that apply:

	Boy's State / Boy's Nation		Eagle Scout		Church club
	Girl's State / Girl's Nation		Boy Scout		School band / chorus
	President of student govt.		Girl Scout		Jr. ROTC officer
	Other student govt. office		School club officer		Jr. ROTC
	Other class office		Key Club		School pub. editor
	Student Council member		Language or science club		Community award (explain)
	National Honor Society		Non-school club officer		Other (explain)

Athletic participation - High school only

Sport	Grade	Varsity	Position	Letter	Captain	Honors
	9 10 11 12					
	9 10 11 12					
	9 10 11 12					
	9 10 11 12					
	9 10 11 12					

If you are employed, how many hours per week:

After school: _____ Summer: _____

Explanations: _____

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Check one and complete:

_____ I have taken the following tests on the dates indicated:

SAT _____ and / or ACT _____

_____ I have not taken the required tests, but plan to take:

SAT on _____ and / or ACT on _____

Complete if applicable:

I am also seeking a nomination through Senator / U.S. Rep. / Vice President: _____

I have previously sought a nomination through Senator / U.S. Rep. / Vice President: _____

When: _____ Results: _____

Please read before signing:

I have read the information sheet explaining the nominating procedure and am familiar with the requirements. I certify that I am a legal resident of the 13th Congressional District of Texas. If I have not submitted all necessary data by the December 1 deadline, I understand that I may not be given final consideration for a nomination.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Return to:

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry

or

2525 Kell Blvd., Ste. 406
Wichita Falls, TX 76308

Attn: Paul Simpson
620 S. Taylor St., Ste 200
Amarillo, TX 79101

**U.S. Service Academy Nomination Application
Principal / Counselor Form
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Ability to work under pressure: _____

Ability to get along with others: _____

List school activities in which applicant participates: _____

General comments and/or recommendation:
(please complete this section as your comments are most helpful)

Signature / Title: _____ Date: _____

Please send this form and a transcript showing final junior grades for the applicant to:

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry

or

2525 Kell Blvd., Ste. 406
Wichita Falls, TX 76308

Attn: Paul Simpson
620 S. Taylor St., Ste. 200
Amarillo, TX 79101