



Congressman Jared Polis

Second Congressional District of Colorado

United States Military Service Academy Candidate Application

Congressman Jared Polis
Attention: Gina Salazar, Deputy District Director
Thornton Office
1200 E. 78th Ave., Suite 105
Thornton, CO 80229
Phone: (303) 287-4159
Fax: (303) 287-4385

Version 4-10

CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO

*United States Military Service Academy Nominations
Information for Potential Applicants*

About the Process

Members of Congress are authorized by law to nominate candidates for appointment to four U.S. service academies. These schools are the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. The fifth service academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, does not require a congressional nomination for appointment. These institutions prepare college-age Americans to be officers of the United States uniformed services. Upon graduation, service academy graduates are commissioned as officers in the active or reserve components of the U.S. military, Merchant Marine, or Coast Guard for a minimum of five years.

Service Academy Requirements

As established by federal law, applicants must meet the following requirements on July 1 of the year of admission to an academy:

1. Age: The applicant must be between 17 and 22 years old.
2. Citizenship: He/she must be a United States citizen by November 1 of the year of admission to an academy.
3. Marital Status: He/she must be unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents.
4. Scholastic: He/she must have graduated from high school.
5. Domicile: To receive a nomination from Congressman Jared Polis, he/she must reside in the the second Congressional district of Colorado.

Application Submission

Candidate applications must be received at Congressman Polis's Thornton office by Friday, October 15, 2010 (see below for additional dates and deadlines pertaining to the program). **It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all application components (see below) are submitted by October 15, 2010.** Completed applications can be submitted in the following ways:

- Deliver by hand to the Thornton office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Send by email as a single PDF file to gina.salazar@mail.house.gov.
- Send by regular mail to the Thornton office (see address on cover page).
- Fax to (303) 287-4385, attention to Gina Salazar.

Application Components

In order to be considered for a nomination, you must submit the following items using one of the submission methods explained above:

1. One (1) **basic application**, including personal information and the certification of accuracy and understanding (enclosed with this document).
2. One (1) **personal letter**, written in a professional format, which explains to Congressman Polis your reasons for seeking a nomination to a military service academy.
3. Two (2) **essays**, as described in the basic application.

4. Three (3) **evaluation forms** and accompanying **recommendation letters**. One (1) of these recommendations must be completed by a teacher, principal or counselor. Recommendations should be completed by someone who knows you well (coach, mentor, etc.), but not by a family member.
5. One (1) official copy of your **high school transcript**. The transcript must be in a sealed envelope and mailed directly from your high school to Congressman Polis's Thornton office. If you are currently a college student planning to transfer to a service academy, please send your most recent college transcript in addition to your high school transcript.
6. One (1) copy of either your **ACT or SAT scores**. These scores do not need to be sent directly from the testing organization; inclusion on your high school transcript and/or a photocopy of your official scores will suffice. Although an official copy is not required, providing an altered and/or false report of test scores will result in your application being dismissed without further consideration. If you wish to have your scores sent directly to our office, our SAT code is **6197** and our ACT code is **7301**.
7. One (1) **photograph**, approximately 5"x7" size. Note: this photograph will not be returned.

Application items should be sent as a completed package. Please indicate if parts of your application (recommendations, transcript, etc.) will be arriving separately. **Incomplete applications or applications received after October 15, 2010, will not be considered. Remember that you are required to submit a separate application directly to each academy for which you are seeking a nomination.**

Dates & Deadlines

Please note: all dates and deadlines are subject to change.

April 22	Candidate application will be available on-line and by request.
October 15	Candidate applications due.
Late October to November	Candidate interviews. <i>Note: dates are tentative and based on the number of applicants. Final interview dates will be announced after Oct. 15, when all candidate applications are due.</i>
December to early January	Candidate selections announced.

Test Score Guidelines

The following scores represent the minimum requirements for the standardized testing portion of your application to the Air Force, Merchant Marine, Naval Academy, and Military Academy (West Point). The following 2009 scores were established by the academies themselves, and there may be a change for 2010. You should confirm with each academy directly before submitting your application.

Air Force	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>	Merchant Marine	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>
Verbal	590	26	Verbal	500	24
Math	620	27	Math	520	25
Reading		28	Combined	1020	
Sciences		27			
Naval Academy	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>	West Point	<u>SAT</u>	<u>ACT</u>
Verbal	600	26	Verbal	600	26
Math	600	30	Math	600	26
			Science		26
			Reading		26

CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO

*United States Military Service Academy
Candidate Application*

Personal Information

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

DATE OF BIRTH

NICKNAME

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

PERMANENT ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

TEMPORARY ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME)

TELEPHONE (MOBILE)

EMAIL ADDRESS

PLACE OF BIRTH

AGE

GENDER

HEIGHT

WEIGHT

PARENTS' NAME(S) AND OCCUPATION(S)

Have you had asthma or other respiratory ailments? _____

If yes, please specify your age at the last occurrence of this ailment: _____

Do you require corrective lenses? _____

Do you have any other medical condition which might affect your admission to an academy? _____

If yes, please explain: _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

(Optional)

RACE/ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION

RELIGION/SPIRITUAL FAITH

We ask these optional questions to ensure that we are attracting candidates of diverse perspectives and backgrounds. Your response is optional and will not affect your nomination in any way.

Education

Please provide some information about your high school education, starting with the school you are attending. If you are currently attending a post-secondary college or university, please list that as your current school and provide GPA, class rank and other pertinent information for both high school and college. If you need additional space, please use the “Additional Information” section at the end of this section.

SCHOOL	DATES ATTENDED/EXPECTED GRADUATION
--------	------------------------------------

ADDRESS

PRIOR SCHOOL (IF APPLICABLE)	DATES ATTENDED
------------------------------	----------------

ADDRESS

PRIOR SCHOOL (IF APPLICABLE)	DATES ATTENDED
------------------------------	----------------

ADDRESS

G.P.A. (WEIGHTED)	G.P.A. (UNWEIGHTED)	CLASS RANK	CLASS SIZE
-------------------	---------------------	------------	------------

SAT SCORES*	VERBAL	MATH	WRITTEN	TOTAL	LAST DATE TAKEN
-------------	--------	------	---------	-------	-----------------

ACT SCORES*	ENGLISH	MATH	READING	SCIENCE	TOTAL	LAST DATE TAKEN
-------------	---------	------	---------	---------	-------	-----------------

** If you have taken the SAT and/or ACT multiple times, you may list your best score in each section and include these in your total score. Be sure that the values you list here are reflected either in the scores on your transcript, in an official copy of your scores (from the testing organization), or in a photocopy of scores provided to you by the organization.*

If you plan to take either the SAT or the ACT after your application has been submitted, please specify the date(s) and which test(s) you will be taking on each date. It is your responsibility to ensure that Congressman Polis’s office has a copy of your most recent test scores.

Extracurricular Activities

If you would like, you may submit a personal resume instead of filling in the sections listed under “Extracurricular Activities.” If you choose to do so, please be sure that your resume includes all of the information requested in the questions below.

Please list, in chronological order, any non-athletic honors and/or awards you have earned in grades 9-12:

Please list, in order of their significance to you, any leadership positions you have held in grades 9-12:

Please list any interscholastic sports in which you participated in grades 9-12:

Please list any athletic awards and honors you received in grades 9-12:

If you are currently employed, where do you work? _____

How many hours per week do you work? _____

Please describe any previous employment positions that you have held, including summer jobs:

Please list any additional interests or responsibilities you have had in grades 9-12. You may also use this space to elaborate or provide additional information for any section above, or to describe another part of your life that you feel would be useful for your application.

Military Service Academy Interests

Please select the academies for which you would be interested in receiving a nomination. Of those you select, please rank your interest in each academy from 1 to 5, where 1 is your top choice.

- U.S. Air Force Academy: _____
- U.S. Coast Guard Academy: _____
- U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: _____
- U.S. Military Academy: _____
- U.S. Naval Academy: _____

Have you applied for a service academy nomination before? If so, to which office(s) did you apply, and what was the outcome? _____

References

Please list the names and addresses of the three adults from whom you are requesting a recommendation. One of these letters must be from a counselor, teacher or principal, and none may be from a family member.

Your references can give you their recommendation letter for inclusion with your final application, or you can request that they mail it directly to Congressman Polis's office. Indicate on the form below which option you have selected for each recommendation. Either way, it is your responsibility to ensure that the letters are received by the October 15, 2010 deadline.

In addition to the recommendation letter itself, each of your references should fill out and submit the "Academy Nomination Reference Form" found on the following page.

Reference 1:

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

Is this person's recommendation letter and reference form included with your application? _____
If not, will it be mailed separately? _____

Reference 2:

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

Is this person's recommendation letter and reference form included with your application? _____
If not, will it be mailed separately? _____

Reference 3:

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

Is this person's recommendation letter and reference form included with your application? _____
If not, will it be mailed separately? _____

CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO

*United States Military Service Academy
Nomination Reference Form*

Military Service Academy Nomination Reference Form

The applicant below has requested that Congressman Jared Polis consider him/her for a nomination for admission to one of the United States Military Service Academies. In your own words, please state in a letter your personal knowledge of his/her qualifications, evaluation of their temperament and bearing, and their motivation to attend a service academy.

Please use this form as a cover letter, and please sign and date your letter. *The applicant will discuss with you whether he/she would like the letter returned to them for submission with the complete application or if they would like you to submit the letter directly to Congressman Polis's office. Thank you for your participation!*

NAME OF APPLICANT

REFERENCE NAME

PHONE NUMBER

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

How long have you known the applicant? _____

What is your relationship to the applicant? _____

CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO

*United States Military Service Academy
Nomination Reference Form*

Military Service Academy Nomination Reference Form

The applicant below has requested that Congressman Jared Polis consider him/her for a nomination for admission to one of the United States Military Service Academies. In your own words, please state in a letter your personal knowledge of his/her qualifications, evaluation of their temperament and bearing, and their motivation to attend a service academy.

Please use this form as a cover letter, and please sign and date your letter. *The applicant will discuss with you whether he/she would like the letter returned to them for submission with the complete application or if they would like you to submit the letter directly to Congressman Polis's office. Thank you for your participation!*

NAME OF APPLICANT

REFERENCE NAME

PHONE NUMBER

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

How long have you known the applicant? _____

What is your relationship to the applicant? _____

CONGRESSMAN JARED POLIS
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF COLORADO

*United States Military Service Academy
Nomination Reference Form*

Military Service Academy Nomination Reference Form

The applicant below has requested that Congressman Jared Polis consider him/her for a nomination for admission to one of the United States Military Service Academies. In your own words, please state in a letter your personal knowledge of his/her qualifications, evaluation of their temperament and bearing, and their motivation to attend a service academy.

Please use this form as a cover letter, and please sign and date your letter. *The applicant will discuss with you whether he/she would like the letter returned to them for submission with the complete application or if they would like you to submit the letter directly to Congressman Polis's office. Thank you for your participation!*

NAME OF APPLICANT

REFERENCE NAME

PHONE NUMBER

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

STATE

ZIP

How long have you known the applicant? _____

What is your relationship to the applicant? _____

Personal Essays

Please limit your responses to each question below to no more than two pages, double-spaced. Although the content of your essays is most important, you will also be evaluated based on spelling, grammar, punctuation and writing style. If you are submitting your application electronically, you may submit your essays as a separate attachment.

Essay Questions:

1. Why do you wish to attend one of the military service academies? In what ways do you expect that attending a service academy would differ from attending a civilian college or university? Why do these differences appeal to you?
2. What is your greatest achievement in your life thus far? Why?

Certification of Accuracy and Understanding

By signing below, I am requesting that Congressman Jared Polis consider my application for a Congressional Nomination to a United States Military Service Academy that I have listed.

I hereby certify that I am a legal resident of the Second Congressional District of the State of Colorado and meet all of the eligibility requirements as stated in the information guide and application provided by the office of Congressman Jared Polis. I further affirm that I have never been convicted or arrested for violating a state or federal statute.

I understand that the deadline for this application is October 15, 2010. It is my responsibility to ensure that all parts of my application have been received by Congressman Polis’s office, and if I have not submitted all of the requested information by October 15, 2010, I understand that my application will not be considered.

I, the undersigned, certify that all information contained in this application is correct to the best of my ability. Furthermore, I certify that Congressman Polis and his staff have permission to take any photographs at an event pertaining to my service academy nomination request (at an informational meeting, selection ceremony, etc.), and that my personal information provided within this application, including my personal photograph, will be shared only with individuals assisting in the nomination process, including Congressman Polis, his staff, and his service academy panelists.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

APPLICANT NAME

DATE

For applicants under 18 years of age as of the date signed, a parent or guardian must also sign below:

I approve of this application and certify that all information provided by my child or ward is accurate.

I have read the information listed under the “Certification of Accuracy and Understanding,” listed above, and I approve of all information contained therein.

I understand that if my child or ward is nominated to a Military Service Academy, an announcement to the news media may be made by Congressman Jared Polis’s office.

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN NAME

DATE