



MARK HARRIS

U.S. CONGRESSMAN - 8TH DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

Office of North Carolina's 8th Congressional District

300 North Main St.
Monroe, North Carolina 28112
(704) 218-5300

Contact – Melissa Merrell

Melissa.Merrell@mail.house.gov

Information Packet for United States Service Academy Nominations

WHAT MATERIALS ARE NEEDED FOR AN ACADEMY NOMINATION FROM THE OFFICE OF NORTH CAROLINA'S EIGHTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT?

Read this information thoroughly and completely. YOU are responsible for ensuring that your packet is complete. Your request to the Office of North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District will be complete only when ALL of the following materials have been received in our Monroe District office (address above) by 5:00 pm on Friday, **October 9, 2026**. Incomplete packets and late submissions will not be processed. **Do not bind, punch, or staple your pages together.** **Each packet MUST contain ALL of the following:**

1. Completed Application Form (provided in this packet and online at <https://markharris.house.gov/services/military-academy-nominations>)
2. One-page essay that summarizes your reasons for wanting to attend a Service Academy.
3. Summary of your extracurricular activities, employment, honors, and awards (your resume).
4. Sealed copy of your high school transcript provided by your school.
5. SAT and/or ACT scores sent from agency **OR** a photo of scores w/ Account Name visible.
6. Three (3) letters of recommendation from non-relatives, at least one of which must be from a teacher or school official. **Letters should be signed and in sealed envelopes** in your packet **OR** emails from the authors can be sent directly to Melissa.Merrell@mail.house.gov.
7. A recent photograph with your name clearly printed on the back. This will not be returned.
8. A copy of the Certification form signed by the student and parent/guardian.
9. A copy of the Privacy Authorization Release Form completed and signed by the student.
10. A copy of your Candidate Fitness Assessment scores.

As with any college or university, YOU MUST APPLY directly to the Admissions Department of the Service Academy(s) that you are interested in attending. A list of the Academies and their addresses are included at the end of this packet. Nominations are limited and will not be provided to students who have not applied to their selected Schools.

WHAT ARE THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR A NOMINATION?

Each candidate must:

1. Be at least 17 years of age, but not yet 22 years of age, by July 1st of the year he or she is admitted to the Academy. For the Merchant Marine Academy, the upper age limit is 25.
2. Be a citizen of the United States at the time he or she enters the Academy.
3. Be unmarried, not pregnant, and without legal obligation for the support of a Dependent.

WHEN AND HOW DO I APPLY?

You must apply directly to the Academy(s) and to as many nominating authorities for which you are eligible between the Spring of your Junior year in high school and the Fall of your Senior year.

APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFICE OF NORTH CAROLINA'S EIGHTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FOR AN ACADEMY NOMINATION MUST BE RECEIVED IN OUR MONROE OFFICE NO LATER THAN **5:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026**. DO NOT SEND OR BRING APPLICATIONS TO WASHINGTON, DC OR TO ANY OTHER DISTRICT SATELLITE OFFICES. APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE PASSES.

If age requirements are met, high school graduates and college students are also encouraged to apply at any time. If you are renewing your application from a prior year, be sure to update your file and complete a new application form.

TO WHOM DO I APPLY?

Candidates for each Service Academy, except the Coast Guard Academy, are required to obtain a nomination from at least one nominating source before they can be offered an appointment from the Academy. Candidates should apply for a nomination from the Congressional Representative of the district in which they maintain their permanent residence, or to either U.S. Senators from North Carolina. Our office represents North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District. If you are unsure which Congressional district you reside in, please contact your local Board of Elections, as Congressional districts change periodically. The Vice President of the United States may also offer a limited number of Academy nominations. Presidential nominations and nominations from the military are also available to enlisted and active reserve members and to ROTC cadets. Children of deceased or disabled veterans, or of Medal of Honor recipients are also eligible for special nominations.

IMPORTANT: In addition to applying for a nomination, candidates must also apply for admission directly to the Academy(s) that they would like to attend. We cannot provide a nomination for a student who has not applied to the Academy for Admission.

HOW ARE THE NOMINEES CHOSEN?

All qualified applicants who submit their completed packets by the **October 9th** deadline will appear before a Board of Review. The candidate will be interviewed by a Board of Academy Specialists who will make recommendations to the Member of Congress.

UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES

Admissions Offices

United States Military Academy – West Point

Director of Admissions

606 Thayer Rd.

West Point, NY 10996

United States Naval Academy

Dean of Admissions

117 Decatur Road

Annapolis, MD 21403

United States Air Force Academy

HQ USAFA/RRS

2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 3100

USAFA, CO 80840

United States Merchant Marine Academy

Admissions Office

300 Steamboat Rd.

Kings Point, NY 11024

United States Coast Guard Academy

31 Mohegan Avenue

New London, CT 06320

**2026 APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO A
UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMY**

Congressman Mark Harris
300 N. Main St.
Monroe, NC 28112
(704) 218-5300

Thank you for your interest in an appointment to one of the United States Service Academies. Please complete this application and return it with the required attachments by **October 9, 2026** to the address above.

NOTE: To be considered for an academy nomination, you must be a United States citizen, at least 17 and not yet 23 years of age on July 1 of your year of admission. You must not be married, pregnant, or have a legal obligation to support a child or children. Also, you must be a resident of the 8th Congressional District of North Carolina.

I. Personal Data

Full Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

Permanent Local Address

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County: _____

Temporary Address (if applicable)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

Parent(s)/ Guardian(s) Name(s) and telephone number: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

Social Security Number (last four digits): _____

Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes No

Are you a resident of the 8th District of North Carolina? Yes No

II. Academy Preference

I wish to be considered for the following Service Academy(s): List in order of preference if more than one academy.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 4. _____ |

If you are now in military service, give branch, rank, and length of service.

Have you applied for a nomination with any other U.S. Representative or Senator? If so, please list their name(s). _____

III. Medical Information

Do you have any medical problems that you are currently being treated for?

Are you currently on any prescribed medications? _____

Is your eyesight 20/20 uncorrected? Yes No

If not, what is your eyesight uncorrected?

Right Eye ____ / ____ Left Eye ____ / ____

Do your eyes correct to 20/20 with contacts or glasses? Yes No N/A

IV. Academic Data

Name of High School: _____

High School Counselor and phone number: _____

Class Rank _____ In a class of _____

Graduation Date _____

Approximate Grade-Point Average _____

<u>SAT Total:</u>	or	<u>ACT Composite:</u>
Math _____		English _____
Reading _____		Math _____
Writing _____		Reading _____
		Science _____

I plan to take/retake the SAT/ACT on _____ (date)

V. Personal Information

Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a felony? Yes No

If yes, please explain in detail on a separate sheet of paper.

Are you being recruited by one of the service academies for athletics? If yes, please list below:

Hometown Newspaper: _____

VI. Please include the following with your application

1. Essay.
2. Official, *sealed*, High School Transcript, and PDF photos of SAT and/ or ACT scores.
3. Resume
4. Photo
5. Three (3) letters of recommendation from non-relatives, one of which must be from a teacher or school official, signed, and sealed by the author.
6. Completed Certification Form
7. Completed Privacy Authorization Release Form
8. A copy of your Candidate Fitness Assessment scores.

VII. Signature

To the best of my knowledge, the information on this form and any attachment/enclosures are true, complete and correct. I understand that the deadline for application is October 9, 2026. If I have not submitted all requested information by this deadline, I understand that my application may not be given consideration.

Signature

Date

CERTIFICATION

PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY BEFORE SIGNING.

By signing below, I hereby certify that I am a legal resident of the Eighth Congressional District of the State of North Carolina. I also certify that I have read the nominating procedures and am familiar with the nomination criteria and requirements. I understand that, in order to be considered, I must submit all required information to the Monroe office of North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District by 5:00 P.M. Friday, **October 9, 2026**.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Student Full Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Parent/Guardian Full Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

MARK HARRIS
8TH DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA
(704) 218-5300

126 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
Washington, DC 20515-3308
(202) 225-1976

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



PRIVACY AUTHORIZATION RELEASE FORM

Authorization in accordance with the 1974 Privacy Act. Due to the provision of the Privacy Act of 1974 (Title 5, Section 552A of the United States Code), permission in writing is required before making an inquiry on your behalf. Completing and signing this form authorizes U.S. Representative Mark Harris and designated staff to make inquiries to the appropriate officials on your behalf.

Please print.

Name: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Date of birth: _____

Street/Apt.: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Federal Agency Involved (if known): _____

Have you contacted any other elected official regarding this case? YES/NO (circle)

If so, whom? _____

Please describe the type of assistance you are seeking from the Representative's office (including the agency claim numbers if any and attach copies of any relevant documents and correspondence).

In accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act, I hereby authorize U.S. Representative Mark Harris or his representative to receive information on my behalf and discuss my records with the agency involved.

Signature (Sign in Ink)

Date

Please return the signed form to Congressman Mark Harris via email to the staff member who sent it to you or by mail to our District Office:

**300 NORTH MAIN ST.
MONROE, N.C. 28112
704-218-5300**