

Service Academy FAQs

The Service Academy application process can be confusing. Below are frequently asked questions about the process:

From what offices may I request a nomination?

*You may request a nomination from Senator Casey, Senator John Fetterman, and your member of the House of Representatives. If you do not know who your Representative is, please visit www.house.gov. **Each Congressional office sets its own deadlines and other requirements, so it is important to speak with each office individually.** You may also request nominations from the Vice President of the United States. Please visit www.whitehouse.gov for more information.*

What do I need to do prior to applying for a nomination from Senator Casey?

We ask that you first apply with the Academy of your choice. Once you done so, you are welcome to apply with our office. While you may apply to multiple Academies directly, we ask that you only apply for a nomination to one Academy through our office. You will be able to indicate your choice on your online application.

When should I begin the nomination process with Senator Casey's office?

Our application opens on Monday, February 12, 2024, and closes at 5 p.m. (EST) on Friday, September 20, 2024. Please begin the process as early as possible to allow yourself the maximum amount of time to complete the application. Please note that all transcripts must include final junior-year grades.

Where are the in-person interviews held?

All in-person interviews will be conducted on the grounds of Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA. Interviews will be held on November 12, 13, and 14, 2024.

What if I cannot attend an in-person interview because I'm currently attending college, or my family is currently stationed in another state/country?

You can select virtual interview on your online application. You will be notified of your virtual interview only if you have met the requirements by the deadline, you will be notified of your virtual interview and receive log on information for a Teams Meeting. Please note that in-person interviews will take priority in scheduling. Once all in-person interviews have been scheduled and the students are notified, you will then receive your virtual interview information. Please do not contact our office before November 4, 2024, asking for this information.

What time zone are virtual interviews held?

All interview times are held in Eastern Standard Time (EST).

What is the deadline for applying to Senator Casey's office?

Applications must be completed and submitted by 5 p.m. (EST) on Friday, September 20, 2024.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

What key dates do I need to know?

February 12, 2024 – Senator Casey's Service Academy application opens.

September 20, 2024 – Senator Casey's Service Academy application closes 5 p.m. (EST); all materials must be submitted by this time.

October 31, 2024 – All students with completed applications by the deadline will be scheduled and notified of the date and time of their interview via email by 5 p.m. (EST).

November 12, 13, and 14– In-person interviews are conducted on the grounds of Fort Indiantown Gap.

Mid-January 2024 – All applicants are notified of their nomination status with Senator Casey's office.

Appointees are notified by the Academies by April 2024.

What information must I provide to Senator Casey's office for a complete application?

All documentation must be received electronically, either by uploading it to your online application, or by emailing it to Academy_Nominations@casey.senate.gov. Please do not mail your application materials to our office. If you email information, your first, last name, name of the document, and academy of choice should be on the subject line. For example, Harfield, Kristen Letter of Recommendation-Naval.

You will need to submit the following documents to our office on or before the deadline of 5 p.m. (EST) on Friday, September 20, 2024:

- *The completed online application;*
- *Submit a 500-word (minimum) essay that explains the unique challenges and opportunities that a service academy education offers and describe how you believe it will contribute to your personal and professional growth;*
- *A recent photograph of yourself;*
- *A signed Statement of Intent form;*
- *An official transcript for all high schools (includes complete junior year grades), junior colleges, and colleges you have attended;*
- *Your official SAT or ACT scores; and*
- *Three letters of recommendation from individuals who know you well. One must be from a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) teacher; none can be from a family member.*

How do I make changes to my questionnaire once it has been submitted?

If you wish to make changes to your questionnaire, such as adding school activities or updating your SAT and ACT scores, please notify our office at Academy_Nominations@casey.senate.gov. We will unlock your questionnaire so you are able to make those changes. Once unlocked, you will have 24 hours to make changes before your account will relock.

What if my school wants to send my transcript to the Senator's office?

Your school may email it to our office at Academy_Nominations@casey.senate.gov. Your first, last name, name of the document, and academy of choice should be on the subject line. For example, Harfield, Kristen SAT Score-Naval.

What if my recommender will not give me a copy of the letter of recommendation?

Your references may also send your letters of recommendation to Academy_Nominations@casey.senate.gov. Your first, last name, name of the document, and academy of choice should be on the subject line. For example, Harfield, Kristen Letter of Recommendation-Naval.

How can official SAT/ACT scores be submitted to Senator Casey's office?

We will accept scores listed on school transcripts, submitted to us by the school, or score reports downloaded from the College Board and ACT websites. **Downloaded score reports must not be screenshots**; they must be on College Board letterhead. Downloading score reports and uploading them to the application is the quickest way to submit scores. Any screenshot of your scores will not be accepted and your application will be considered incomplete.

What should I do if I'm waiting on test scores?

If you are waiting to take the SAT/ACT, and if you have PSAT scores and would like to use a as a placeholder to complete the application, you will need to have written permission from our office to do so. Please contact the Service Academy Team at Academy_Nominations@casey.senate.gov to request approval. Once the SAT&ACT scores are available, you should submit the scores to our office as soon as possible.

Must the attachments be in a certain format?

We can only accept documents in PDF format. Please do not send documents in another format, your application will not be accepted.

How do I know if your office has received my application materials?

Before calling our office to check the status of your application, please log in to your online application at OAM: Application (senate.gov), all materials received will have a green check mark indicating the document was received. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at Academy_Nominations@casey.senate.gov.

When will I be notified that I have an interview?

All students with completed applications by the deadline will be notified of the date and time of their interview via email in late October. If you haven't received an email containing this information, by 5 p.m. (EST) November 1, 2024, please feel free to contact our office at Academy_Nominations@casey.senate.gov.

Am I able to reschedule my interview?

Due to the large volume of applications our office receives, we are unable to reschedule interviews and all students are expected to keep their scheduled interview appointment.

How do I address concerns with the physical examination process?

As part of the application process, applicants must undergo a physical examination with the Department of Defense's Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB). Questions about this

process should be directed to DoDMERB via email at usaf.usafa.dodmerb.mbx.helpdesk@mail.mil.

Does a Congressional nomination guarantee me an appointment to a Service Academy?

A nomination from a Congressional office does not guarantee an appointment to an Academy. Each Academy makes its own determinations on who to appoint. A Congressional nomination is just one requirement of the appointment process.

How many candidates does Senator Casey nominate?

Senator Casey nominates ten students to each Academy. Each Academy determines how many nominees they appoint.

If I am not nominated by Senator Casey, may I reapply?

If you are not nominated or appointed, you may reapply each year until you are 23. If you choose to reapply, you will need to begin another application online. We can reuse two previous letters of recommendation; we must receive at least one new letter of recommendation. You may reuse your previous SAT or ACT scores or submit new ones. Please note, our office does not keep students records from the previous year; if you would like provide documentation that you used prior, you will need to provide the information to our office.

You will need to provide the following updated information:

A new essay;

An updated transcript from your 12th grade year and your current college;

Updated SAT and/or ACT scores, if applicable;

At least one new letter of recommendation; and

A recent photograph of yourself.