



Welcome to my academy nomination application for the academy classes of 2026 (entering the summer of 2022). It is an honor for me to nominate the best and brightest young women and men from Virginia as candidates to the U.S. Military, Naval, Air Force and Merchant Marine Academies.

This is an extremely competitive process. Each year my office receives 500-600 applications from students all over Virginia yet only 10 applicants per academy will receive a nomination. I encourage you to submit the very best application for consideration by my evaluation committee. My academy evaluation committee consists of service academy alumni that have served and are serving their country with honor as officers. I trust them whole-heartedly to choose our next generation of military leadership.

My office does not conduct in-person applicant interviews. We believe our rigorous and thorough application process provides a fair and unbiased evaluation of all applicants.

This is a very exciting time in your life, and we want to assist you in the nomination process. Please download the instructions and create an online profile to begin the process.

Deadlines:

- All 3 sections of the online questionnaire must be submitted online by **Friday, October 8, 2021 11:59 PM. The system will shut down at that time. You will not be able to access your application after that time.**
- Letters of Recommendation and transcripts must be mailed as one package and must be postmarked on or before **Friday, October 8, 2021.**

Applicants will be notified of my decision by **January 31, 2022**. If you have questions, please feel free to contact my Academy Nominations Coordinator at academy_nominations@kaine.senate.gov or by calling 804-771-2221.

I wish you the best of luck during this important time in your life.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Kaine', is centered on the page.

Senator Tim Kaine

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Instructions for seeking a service academy nomination for the academy classes of 2026

(please print these instructions for your future reference)

Please create an online application profile. Please sign up using your FULL legal first, middle and last name (no nicknames/shortened names). Record and secure your login and password for future reference. Please do not create multiple accounts.

The application process consists of two parts:

Part I – ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE

1 – **PERSONAL INFORMATION SECTION:** Please fill out each question accurately and completely.

2 – **RESUME SECTION:** In this section you will be asked to provide a detailed list of your academic, community service, extracurricular, work, athletic and other notable activities and accomplishments.

3 – **WRITTEN INTERVIEW SECTION (Essay):** Please answer each of following questions.

- Why do you desire to attend a US Service Academy?
- Why is serving in the armed forces after academy graduation important to you? What impact will the experience will have on you, your community and your country?
- In 300 words or less: If you do not attend a service academy, will you pursue military service in other ways? Why or why not?
- Describe a time when you failed at something and what you learned from that experience.
- Describe a time that you had to make a tough decision. Describe the situation, your decision, how you came to that decision, and whether it was ultimately the right or wrong decision.
- Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA):
 - Part 1: Have you taken the CFA? If so, when did you take it and who administered the test? How did you perform? -OR - If you have not taken the CFA, when do you plan to take the CFA? Who will administer the test? How do you expect to perform?
 - Part 2: Training: Please explain, in detail, your current fitness training routine. Your routine should prepare you for the physical demands of the service academy and life as a future officer.

Grammar, sentence structure, and writing ability will be evaluated in addition to the substance of your answer.

You may save and come back to your online questionnaire as often as you like.

SUBMISSION: You must submit your application online in order to be considered for a nomination. You must receive the following message via e-mail when your application is submitted: **"Thank you for submitting your application"**

If you do not receive this message, YOUR APPLICATION IS NOT YET COMPLETE AND YOU CANNOT BE CONSIDERED FOR A NOMINATION. Saving your application (to edit later) is not submitting your application. Once your application is submitted you may not make additions or changes. Print a copy of your submitted application for your records.

The online application must be submitted by 11:59 PM Friday, October 8, 2021. Internet/ network outages, power outages, computer issues, or connectivity problems are not acceptable reasons for missing the online questionnaire

deadline. The applicant should plan for adequate time to submit the online application before the deadline. Do not wait until the last day. If you are experiencing a website problem, you must contact the academy nominations coordinator at 804-771-2221 no less than 24 hours before the deadline. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Part II – Documents

1. TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- **Letter of Recommendation #1:** Should be from either a school official, administrator, teacher, guidance counselor, activity advisor or school affiliated coach. This letter must be on official school letterhead and placed in a sealed envelope and mailed together with your application packet or emailed directly to academy_nominations@kaine.senate.gov. Please contact the academy coordinator if this is a problem.
- **Letter of Recommendation #2:** Should be from a person outside of the school system and not a family member or relative that can best assess your intellect, character, and suitability for military service. A letter from a coach not affiliated with the school system will be accepted. Letters should be signed and placed in a sealed envelope and mailed together with your application packet or emailed directly to academy_nominations@kaine.senate.gov.

2. OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS- Submit copies of official sealed transcripts from all schools attended (e.g. high school, community college, 4 year college/university, prep school). Transcript should include cumulative GPA, current course schedule, and SAT or ACT scores. Your school may include a print out of your course schedule and SAT and ACT scores in the sealed transcript envelope if they are not printed on the transcript document. For rising seniors, your transcript should reflect your completed 11th grade year.

Your sealed letters of recommendations and transcripts must be postmarked on or **before Friday, October 8, 2021**. Transcripts can be mailed directly to academy_nominations@kaine.senate.gov

3. SAT/ACT Scores: ACT/SAT scores will be accepted for the August, September and October test dates after the deadline. Additionally, we will take the SAT/ACT scores from your official school transcript. If your school does not provide SAT /ACT scores with your official transcript, YOU MUST HAVE your test scores sent directly to the Office of Senator Kaine using **SAT code 0236** or **ACT code 7191**. Scores must be requested from the testing service and forward a copy of your receipt to the academy nominations coordinator. It is not necessary to order expedited scores (which costs more). If you have sent in a receipt, this section will be marked as RECEIVED BUT INCOMPLETE until the actual scores arrive.

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PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT GUIDANCE

- Staff from the Office of Senator Kaine will regularly email applicants with updates throughout the application and evaluation process. The applicant is responsible for maintaining an active e-mail address associated with this online application. The applicant is responsible for reading all e-mail correspondences from The Office of Senator Kaine and responding accordingly if required. The applicant should monitor their spam/junk mail folder to ensure delivery of messages.
- The applicant is responsible for monitoring their online application “Checklist Items” regularly to confirm the receipt of all required materials. “Checklist Items” is the ONLY way you will know if your materials have been received.
- Applicants applying for a nomination for a second time must complete a new online application, submit a new official sealed transcript AND must submit new letters of recommendation. Previously submitted test scores can be used.
- Internet/ network outages, computer issues, or connectivity problems are not acceptable reasons for missing the online questionnaire deadline. The applicant should plan for adequate time to submit the online application before the deadline. Commit to submitting your application three days in advance! Do not wait until the last day! If you are experiencing a website problem, you must contact the academy nominations coordinator at 804-771-2221 24 hours before the deadline.
- The applicant is responsible for collecting their letters of recommendation from their letter writers and mailing them in as one package by the deadline. **Due to the physical limitations of COVID-19, you may have your letters and transcripts emailed directly to academy_nominations@kaine.senate.gov.**
- The office prefers mailed application materials/packets. If you feel you want to deliver your materials in-person, please call 804-771-2221 before you travel to the office to ensure that staff is available to receive your materials.
- **You may not deliver materials to the Washington DC Capitol Hill office due to security procedures involving mail. Do not mail materials to the Washington DC Capitol Hill office because the materials will be delayed by the postal inspection service.**
- It is strongly recommended that you apply to all nomination sources available in order to receive a nomination.
- Senator Kaine and his staff will not grant individual meetings with applicants, their family members, or persons advocating on their behalf for the purpose of discussing the academy nomination process. Staff will be happy to answer any questions you have about the process over the phone during regular office hours. The staff wants to help you prepare the best application you can for consideration by the reviewers.
- The Office of Senator Kaine does not conduct interviews.
- Applicants will not be and are never notified of the official decision over the phone. All official decision letters will be mailed in December.

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APPLICANT: PRINT THIS PAGE AND INCLUDE IT WITH YOUR PACKAGE. FAILURE TO INCLUDE THIS PAGE CAN DELAY THE PROCESSING OF YOUR MATERIALS

Please mail to:
The Office of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Attn: Academy Nominations Coordinator
919 East Main Street, Suite 970
Richmond, Virginia 23219

YOUR PACKAGE MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE Friday, October 8, 2021
(You may handwrite this form)

Applicant Name: _____

DO NOT SEND PICTURES. DO NOT SEND UNREQUESTED MATERIALS SUCH AS NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, AWARDS, CERTIFICATES AND MEDALS. DO NOT USE PORTFOLIOS, FOLDERS, OR REPORT COVERS. DO NOT INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR ONLINE APPLICATION. THE REVIEWERS WILL NOT VISIT WEBSITES OR WATCH VIDEOS OF APPLICANTS.

Please initial that you have enclosed the following:

_____ Letter of Recommendation #1 from _____

_____ Letter of Recommendation #2 from _____

***Do not submit more than 2 letters of recommendation. Additional letters will not be read or returned. Letters received after the deadline will not be considered.**

_____ OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS (from all schools attended grades 9-12 and post-secondary if applicable)

_____ SAT Scores or _____ ACT Scores (only send the scores that best show your academic ability)

_____ Check if printed on transcript or enclosed in transcript envelope from your school

-Or-

_____ Check if you ordered a copy to be sent to the office. Please include order receipt.



APPLICANT: PRINT THIS PAGE AND GIVE IT TO THE WRITER OF LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #1.

Letter of Recommendation #1: Should be from someone affiliated with your school/education. It can be a school official, administrator, teacher, guidance counselor, activity advisor, or school affiliated coach. This letter must be on official school letterhead and must have an original (wet) signature.

LETTER WRITER: PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND INCLUDE IT IN AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION. PLEASE SEAL THE ENVELOPE AND SIGN ACROSS THE SEAL. RETURN THE SEALED ENVELOPE TO THE APPLICANT.

-Or-

The letter writer may email this cover sheet and letter of recommendation directly to academy_nominations@kaine.senate.gov

PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR LETTER TO:
U.S. Senator Tim Kaine
Attn: Academy Nominations Coordinator
919 East Main Street, Suite 970
Richmond, Virginia 23219

APPLICANT'S NAME:

YOUR NAME:

SCHOOL & TITLE:

BEST CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:



APPLICANT: PRINT THIS PAGE AND GIVE IT TO THE WRITER OF LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION #2.

Letter of Recommendation #2 should be from a person not affiliated with the applicant's school /education (not a family member or relative) that can best assess your intellect, character, and suitability for military service. A letter from a coach not affiliated with the school system will be accepted. Letterhead is not required.

LETTER WRITER: PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND INCLUDE IT IN AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION. PLEASE SEAL THE ENVELOPE AND SIGN ACROSS THE SEAL. RETURN THE SEALED ENVELOPE TO THE APPLICANT.

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