

2025 15th Congressional District Application Procedure for a Nomination to a U.S. Service Academy

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must be at least 17 years of age, but not yet reached their 23rd birthday on July 1st of the year admitted to an academy; must never have been married and have no legal obligation to support a child; must be a citizen of the United States; must be men and women of excellent moral character who are trustworthy, emotionally stable, and motivated.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must be residents of the 15th Congressional District which currently encompasses Clark, Fayette, Franklin, Miami, Shelby, and all of Madison County. **NOTE TO MILITARY DEPENDENTS: If you are a military dependent, you are required by law to apply for a nomination in your legal domicile.**

THE APPLICATION: Applicants should apply to Congressman Carey in the spring of their junior year of high school. Please pay special attention to the two deadlines listed further down in the text.

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AN APPLICATION from Congressman Carey, you must first complete the *Application Request Form* on Congressman Carey's website. Please email the completed form to Branden.Meyer@mail.house.gov. **The deadline for submitting this request is Friday, September 19, 2025.**

****After the request form has been submitted, the *Nomination Application* will be sent via email to the student's email address listed on the form.**

We will not send out an application at a student's telephone request nor will we send out a packet at a family member's request or a counselor's request.

You may apply for a nomination to more than one military academy and in fact, you are encouraged to apply to more than one, assuming you have the sincere desire to attend. Congressman Carey can give more than one nomination to an applicant. Keep in mind that you must open a file and keep it current at each academy while also seeking a nomination from Congressman Carey.

You are also encouraged to apply to both Senator Husted and Senator Moreno as well as Vice President Vance. You may also apply to President Trump, assuming you meet the criteria. Keep in mind that you will have to maintain current and complete files at each office to which you apply. There is no sharing of information on candidates' files between the offices. If you are a recruited athlete, you must also go through these steps to request a nomination.

The 15th Congressional District deadline for returning the completed application package to Congressman Carey's Columbus District Office is Friday, October 17, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

If your file is not complete by the deadline, you will NOT be eligible to be interviewed by the 15th Congressional District Academy Review Board. It is the responsibility of the applicant to make certain that all required documentation is received in a timely manner. It is strongly recommended that you send in all information early.

When returning your completed application packet to our office, you are required to include the following information:

- **Congressman Carey's Nomination Application Form**
- **Test Scores-** to be considered for a nomination to an Academy, the application must take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and/or the American College Testing Program (ACT). It is strongly recommended that both the SAT and ACT tests be taken to see which one measures your educational background most favorably. Applicants are advised to check test dates carefully with their guidance counselors. You may either have your test scores forwarded to Congressman Carey's office directly from the testing centers by using the following codes for the 15th Congressional District or you may submit a printed copy of your test scores directly to the office. Please be mindful of the individual ACT and SAT deadlines to allow for plenty of time to have the test scores submitted to our office prior to the deadline. While the academies can accept later test dates, we cannot.

Important: Please do not delay in taking the SAT and/or ACT tests. Your application packet, with test scores, must be complete by the October 17

deadline. We will update a file as the student makes test results available to our office prior to a nomination being awarded.

- ***High School Records***- a legible certified/official copy of your high school transcript must be included with your application.
- ***Photograph***- you must submit one recent wallet size photograph of yourself- be sure to print your name on the back of the photo. This is used for identification purposes only.
- ***Letters of Recommendation***- three letters of recommendation are required. One letter must be from either a teacher or counselor.
- ***Personal Essay***- you are required to submit a personal essay (maximum of 250 words) on what motivates you to attend a military service academy and the goals you have for your military career. You must sign your essay.

THE INTERVIEW: Congressman Carey's Academy Review Board will interview applicants who have returned their completed application package to the Congressman Carey's Office by the deadline date of Friday, October 17, 2025. The Board is comprised of individuals throughout the 15th Congressional District including active and retired military, members of the clergy, educators, business persons, etc. some of whom are academy graduates. The interviews will be held on a Saturday in November. Eligible applicants will be notified of the date and time of their interview in advance.

THE NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT: We use the competitive method, which is the method favored by 80% of Members of Congress. Under this method, Congressman Carey can submit an unranked slate of up to fifteen nominees for each vacancy. Each year we have at least one vacancy at each academy. The academies have their own selection board that then ranks the fifteen nominees in order of merit in accordance with the specific academy system. The most highly qualified is selected for an offer of appointment to fill that one vacancy. The other fourteen nominees then go into a national "pool" where they compete with other applicants for available slots. An appointment gives you admission to an academy. A nomination by Congressman Carey **does not** guarantee an appointment to an academy.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

March 2025 to September 16, 2025	Students may submit the <i>Application Request Form</i> found on Congressman Carey's website. Once this form is received, applications will be e-mailed to students.
September 19, 2025	Deadline for completing the <i>Application Request Form</i>.
October 17, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.	Deadline for returning the completed application package with all required items to Congressman Carey's Columbus District Office.
November 2025	Interviews with the 15 th Congressional District Academy Review Board for applicants who have returned their completed application package to Congressman Carey's Office by the October 17 deadline. Qualified applicants will be notified of date and time.
November to December 2025	Congressman Carey will publicly announce the 15 th Congressional District nominees at the 15 th Congressional District Academy Nomination Ceremony.
December 2025 to May 2026	Appointments announced by the academies.
June 2026	Classes begin at the academies.

NOTE: A nomination by Congressman Carey <u>DOES NOT</u> guarantee an appointment to an academy.
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For more information, please contact the Service Academy Coordinator at
Congressman Carey's Columbus District Office
140 E. Town Street, Suite 1200
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: (614) 499-0561
Branden.Meyer@mail.house.gov

CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED ITEMS

Please use this checklist to make sure that you have submitted ALL of the following required items to Congressman Carey's Columbus Office by the deadlines listed below.

☐ Complete and submit the *Application Request Form* (available online) by **Friday, September 19, 2025**. Once this has been submitted and received, the Nomination Application will be emailed to the student.

All of the following items must be received by Congressman Carey's Columbus Office by Friday, October 17, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

☐ Completed Application Form

☐ Official Transcripts

☐ SAT/ACT Test Scores (This can be sent in from the testing center or you may submit a printed copy of your test scores directly to the office.)

☐ Photograph

☐ Three Letters of Recommendation

☐ Personal Essay

Please return all items to:

Office of Congressman Mike Carey
Columbus District Office
140 E. Town Street, Suite 1200
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Attn: Service Academy Coordinator

Or scan and send by email to Branden.Meyer@mail.house.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact the Service Academy Coordinator by phone at (614) 499-0561.

OFFICE CONTACT INFO

**Congressman Mike Carey
Columbus District Office**

140 E. Town Street, Suite 1200

Columbus, Ohio 43215

www.carey.house.gov

Branden Meyer

Service Academies Coordinator

Branden.Meyer@mail.house.gov

Call or text to: (614) 499-0561

**Please send all correspondence to the
Columbus District Office only.
DO NOT mail anything to the
Washington D.C. Office.*