2021 Service Academy Nominations Application

U.S. Congressman Darren Soto

Representing Florida's Ninth District

Dedication Leadership Commitment Patriotism Honor

DARREN SOTO
9TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2353 RAYBURN HOB
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-9889

KISSIMMEE DISTRICT OFFICE
804 BRYAN STREET
KISSIMMEE, FL 34741
(407) 452-1171

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Academy Applicant:

Thank you for answering the call to serve! We are in receipt of your request for a nomination to the United States Service Academies.

Our Nation has a rich history of training our nation's military leaders. From the fields of Gettysburg to the sands of Omaha Beach military academy graduates have led this county through some of its most difficult days. Today, these same values are taught at the service academies.

The Service Academies allow students to serve their nation while receiving a quality, tuition free education at some of the nation's finest education institutions. I take the privilege of nominating individuals to the Service Academies very seriously. I also strive to increase opportunities for our young constituents so they may be the next generation of brave military leaders!

Please use the information enclosed in this packet to submit an application to my office.

Best of luck in your future endeavors,

Sincerely,

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Timeline of Events

March 1, 2021	Application period opens
March 18, 2021	Spring Academy Day - **Virtual**
August or September 2021**	Fall Academy Day
October 1, 2021	All applications DUE
October 16, 2021	Selection Committee Interviews
November - December 2021	Nominees will be contacted

*These dates are subject to change. Please contact our office if you have any questions and check our social media accounts for updates.

** Additional dates will be announced in summer 2021

HOW NOMINATIONS ARE COMPLETED

Choosing the most qualified candidates to nominate to a United States Service Academy is an honor and no easy task. Nominations are based on a “whole person” evaluation. This includes factors such as academic achievements, standardized test scores, extra-curricular activities, leadership skills, character, motivation and letters of recommendation.

In order to ensure the utmost level of fairness and quality in this fiercely competitive nomination process, Congressman Soto has put together qualified and experienced military individuals to serve as a Service Academy Nomination Board. This board will review all applications, interview all prospective nominees and make their recommendations of the most qualified candidates to Congressman Soto.

Congressman Soto believes this is the fairest, most efficient and practical way to select the most skilled and qualified candidates to nominate to the U.S. Service Academies.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Each applicant for a nomination must meet the following eligibility requirements as of July 1st of the year of admission to an academy:

1. Be a citizen of the United States.
2. Be at least 17 years old, but not have passed the 23rd birthday.
3. Must reside within the boundaries of the 9th Congressional District of Florida.
4. Be unmarried, not pregnant and without legal obligation to support children or other dependents.
5. Must meet the medical, physical and academic requirements of the Academy.
6. Display strong moral character, leadership skills and unbending integrity.

APPLICATION PACKET INSTRUCTIONS

Your application is your first means of communication to the Service Academy Review Board. It will provide them with the necessary information to process your application for a Congressional Nomination.

Follow all instruction carefully:

1. Assemble your packet in the order of the Required Materials Checklist.
2. Do not send a full sized photograph.
3. Be neat and precise.
4. Do not bend your packet.
5. Utilize the Required Materials Checklist- Congressman Soto's office will not notify you of an incomplete packet.
6. The information packet will be submitted to the Service Academy Review Board "as is".
7. All candidate packets are kept confidential and will only be reviewed by members of the Congressman's staff and the Service Academy Review Board.
8. The due date for **ALL MATERIALS** is **Friday, October 1, 2021**. Late submissions of packets or individual pieces of information will only be accepted if they are received or postmarked prior to or on the submission deadline.
9. Do not staple any documents together.
10. Mail or drop off all packets to:

Congressman Darren Soto
Attn: Service Academy Applications
804 Bryan Street
Kissimmee, Florida 34741

*If you mail your packet it is strongly suggested you get a tracking number and delivery confirmation.

REQUIRED MATERIALS CHECKLIST

All material must be submitted to the Kissimmee District Office or postmarked by **Friday, October 1, 2021.**

Follow all instruction carefully:

☐ Application for nomination

- Complete entire application form
- Please type or print neatly
- Make sure to sign and date your application

☐ Materials from your school

- Current class schedule
- Official academic transcripts from high school and college (if applicable)

☐ Standardized test scores (SAT/ACT)

- May be included on transcript

☐ Resume

- Include extra-curricular activities starting in the 9th grade and employment history

☐ Essay: "Why I want to attend a military academy…"

- Please keep your essay to 500 words or less

☐ Letters of Recommendation

- Include at least 3 letters and no more than 5
- Letters should be from people who the applicant knows personally and should attest to the applicant's character, motivation to serve and integrity. (I.e. teachers, counselors, employers, coaches, clergy, scout leaders…)

Service Academy Nominations

Please remember all materials **MUST** be submitted or postmarked by **Friday, October 1, 2021**.

Submit all materials to:
Congressman Darren Soto
Attn: Service Academy Applications
804 Bryan Street
Kissimmee, FL 34741

Contact Information:
Shasta.Shaffer@mail.house.gov
Office: (407) 452-1171

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
DARREN SOTO
REPRESENTING FLORIDA'S 9TH DISTRICT

2021 Service Academy Nominations Application

Please attach photo here.
It should be a recent picture and no larger than wallet size

Full Name: _____
Last First M.I.

Current Address: _____

_____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent's Name: _____ **Parent's Number:** _____

Parent's Email Address(s): _____

_____

Date of Birth: _____ **Social Security No.:** _____

School Last Attended: _____

Enrollment Date: _____ **Graduation Date:** _____ **GPA:** _____ **Class Rank:** _____

SAT SCORES:

Math: _____ **Verbal:** _____

ACT SCORES:

Composite: _____ **Math:** _____ **Science:** _____ **English:** _____ **Reading:** _____

APPLIED THROUGH OTHER SOURCES? (Please check all that apply):

_____ **Senator Rick Scott** _____ **Senator Marco Rubio** _____ **Vice President** _____ **Other**

Please rank the academy preference by numbering 1-4 below (ONLY NUMBER THE ACADEMIES WHERE YOU PLAN TO APPLY/HAVE ALREADY APPLIED):

_____ **US Military Academy** _____ **US Air Force Academy**

_____ **US Naval Academy** _____ **US Merchant Marine Academy**

Name of hometown newspaper _____

Is it ok to use your name in a press release after receiving an appointment? Y / N

_____

I hereby declare that I am a United State Citizen and a legal resident of Florida's Ninth Congressional District. In signing this application, I request that Congressman Darren Soto, consider my application for a Congressional nomination to one or more of the United States Service Academies. I understand and accept that the deadline for completed applications and all requested materials is: **Friday, October 1, 2021.**

LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____