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ACADEMY TOURS

The Admissions Office offers cadet-escorted tours for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors during the academic year - which begins in mid-August (Monday through Friday, except holidays, Spring Break, and final exams). The tour begins with a briefing at 8:15 and lasts approximately seven hours. Family members are taken on a separate tour which lasts approximately 1 1/2 hours.

The student tour includes visiting a class (if your escort has a class scheduled), a tour of the academic building and the dormitory facilities, viewing noon formation, and having lunch in the cadet dining hall (for which you must pay \$3.25). You will also have the opportunity to discuss life at the Academy with your escort.

We do require reservations at least 10 working days in advance for the tours. If you are interested in scheduling a tour, please call our office at 1-800-443-3864, or E-Mail to: academy.tours@usafa.af.mil. Please schedule tour BEFORE making airline reservations.

During the summer, when most cadets are away from the Academy, on leave or training programs, we present briefings at the Academy Visitors' Center. These briefings are offered Monday through Friday, except holidays, at 10:00 a.m. and at 2:00 p.m. They include an Academy video, admissions briefing, and a question and answer period with an admissions representative.

Applicant/Precandidate Questionnaire (PCQ) Instructions

Basic Eligibility

To be eligible for an appointment you must be a United States citizen, unmarried without dependents, have good moral character, be at least 17 and not have passed your 23rd birthday on July 1 of the year you enter. The age requirement is public law and cannot be waived. United States citizenship must be finalized prior to entering the Academy.

General Instructions

Our Deadline Is January 31, 2006, for submitting questionnaires.

Do Not Send Us Another PCQ if you've already completed a USAF Academy PCQ for the class entering in June 2006, or if you've already completed a USAF Academy Summer Scientific Seminar application for the 2005 program.

If we can't make a complete evaluation of your PCQ because of missing information, your application will be delayed, possibly reducing your chances of receiving an appointment. **Items labeled "REQUIRED," as indicated in the instructions below, are necessary for a complete PCQ.**

Extracurricular Activities Apply to Grades 10-12 Only. We've restricted this to be fair to all applicants.

We'll accept new SAT or ACT test scores until February 15, 2006. Be sure to ask the test center to send your SAT I or ACT scores to the Academy.

Registration Postmark Deadlines are approximately 6 weeks prior to the SAT I test dates and 4 weeks prior to the ACT test dates. All test dates may not be available in New York due to state laws. Check with your high school for complete instructions. **The SAT code number for the Air Force Academy is 4830 and the ACT code number is 0530.** Enter them on your registration form.

NOTE: You'll be **required** to present **photo ID** such as driver's license, school ID, or passport at the test center. If you have any questions about acceptable identification, contact ACT Test Administration, PO. 168, Iowa City IA 52243; for the SAT, contact the College Entrance Examination Board, PO. Box 6200, Princeton NJ 08541-6200.

SAT I: May 7, 2005	ACT: April 9, 2005
June 4, 2005	June 11, 2005
Oct. 8, 2005	Oct. 22, 2005
Nov. 5, 2005	Dec. 10, 2005
Dec. 3, 2005	

NOTE: NOT ALL DATES ARE AVAILABLE IN ALL STATES

Applicant/Precandidate Evaluation

We use this PCQ as a guide to inform you of your potential to qualify for admission to the Academy. We'll revise this initial evaluation as you send us additional information. We consider your prior academic record, admission test scores, and extracurricular activities. We base qualifying guidelines on our experience with previous classes.

Admissions Factors

Prior Academic Record (PAR). This measures classroom performance based on GPA or high school rank in class. An above average college record may offset a poor high school record. Each year a small number of home schooled students seek admission to the Air Force Academy. Typically only one or two will meet all the qualifications. Most home school students are able to achieve the academic requirements but have difficulty with extracurricular activities. While not absolutely necessary, we highly recommend that home school students attend college or junior college for a year before entering the Academy. Taking a full academic load as determined by the college and participating in the classroom environment will enhance your chances of adapting quickly and easily to the highly structured life of a cadet should you receive an appointment. Because the home school curriculum is often tailored to the particular student, we recommend you contact the Admissions Office to discuss your specific situation.

Test Scores (ACT or SAT I). PSAT and PLANs are considered only in this initial application phase. Students who score below 580 verbal and 560 math on the SAT I and below 24 English/reading and 25 math/science reasoning on the ACT normally will not be competitive for an appointment. Your PSAT I and/or PLAN scores will be replaced by ACT or SAT I scores. **If you take the ACT after January 2005, you must take the optional Writing Test for us to accept your scores. ACT and SAT test taken before February 2005 will still be accepted without the Writing Tests.** Take the ACT and/or the SAT I immediately and have your scores sent to the Academy. You can retake them as often as you wish. We use your highest individual scores from either test. Test scores must be achieved under national testing conditions on a national test date. **We do not accept nonstandard (extended time), state required test, or special scores.**

Academic Composite Score. The academic composite score is a combination of your PAR and either PSAT, PLAN, SAT I, or ACT scores. A low PAR and low test

scores will usually result in an academic composite score below our qualifying level.

Extracurricular Composite Score. The extracurricular composite score measures your activities in high school, community service, and work. Very low participation may result in a score which is below our qualifying level.

Weighted Composite Score. This score combines the academic composite and extracurricular composite scores. A relatively low score in either component may be disqualifying. This score measures an applicant's overall potential to succeed at the Academy. **It's translated into an overall competitive rating, which is then furnished to your Members of Congress. They may use this rating in their nomination decisions.**

If you meet our admissions guidelines based on this PCQ, you'll become a tentative candidate, receive a catalog, and be sent an "Instructions to Candidates" booklet in the fall of your senior year. You'll also be scheduled to take the Candidate Fitness Assessment (CFA) and a medical examination. Your medical exam may be scheduled as early as this summer. Specific preparation guidelines for the CFA events are listed on pages 9-14 of this booklet.

NOTE: Being a tentative candidate doesn't guarantee a nomination or an appointment. Competition for nominations is very keen and offers of appointment will be made only to the most qualified candidates who have received a nomination.

In conclusion, to be competitive for an appointment, **you should strive to earn at least the average scores presented**, obtain a nomination, be active in extracurricular activities, and complete the CFA and medical exam satisfactorily.

Advanced Placement/Transfer Credit. The Air Force Academy will accept scores of 4 and 5 on most AP exams in conjunction with core course placement exams, which you will take during Basic Cadet Training. Scores of 3 will be reviewed on an individual basis. If you attended another college or university, the Academy may award transfer credit. Only three course units (normally nine semester hours), however, may be applied toward meeting residence requirements. College courses taken as part of a high school curriculum will not be considered for transfer credit. In all cases, individual academic departments determine whether or not to award credit for AP exams and previous college courses.

Scores	Mid-50% Range*	Average
PAR (Rank in Class)	Top 6% - Top 1%	Top 3%
AND		
ACT		
English	26 - 30	28
Mathematics	28 - 31	30
Reading	27 - 32	30
Science Reasoning	27 - 31	29
OR		
SAT I Verbal	590 - 670	630
SAT I Math	620 - 700	660

*These are the scores of the middle half of the cadets entering the Academy.



Nomination Categories

Completion of our precandidate questionnaire is only the first stage in the admissions process for the Academy. Before you can be considered an **official** candidate for an appointment, you must obtain a nomination in one of the authorized nominating categories listed below. If you have not already applied for a nomination, do so immediately. To increase your chances of receiving an appointment, you should attempt to obtain a nomination in each of the categories for which you are eligible.

The Vice President, each U. S. Senator and U. S. Representative are authorized to have a maximum of five cadets each attending the Academy at one time. For each cadet vacancy that occurs, the Members of Congress may nominate up to 10 candidates to be considered for appointment.

Congressional Nominations

You should request a nomination from both of your U.S. Senators and your U.S. Representative. Contact them via their website or follow the format on page 6 of this instruction booklet. You must be a legal resident of the state or congressional district in which you are applying, but it is not necessary to know your Member of Congress personally. They want to nominate outstanding individuals who will have the best chance to qualify for an appointment.

Each congressional office has its own procedures and closeout dates for accepting nomination requests. Most congressional offices prefer that you contact them in the spring or summer of the year before you desire to enter the Academy. Some offices will accept requests through the fall. Members of Congress may submit their nominations to the Academy as late as January 31; however, the majority of nominations are received before this deadline. If selected for a nomination, you will likely receive a notice from the Member of Congress first. After the Member of Congress has submitted the nomination to the Academy, the Admissions Office will send you an official notice of candidacy.

Vice Presidential Nominations

The Vice President of the United States may nominate candidates from the nation at large. (All precandidates are eligible.) If you wish to request a nomination from the Vice President, follow the format on page 7 and submit your request **no later than October 31 to: The Vice President, Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Washington DC 20501. Do not mail your request for a Vice Presidential nomination to the Academy.** The Academy will make recommendations to the Vice President, based upon your admissions record.

Military-Affiliated Nominations

If you are eligible to apply in the Presidential, Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans, or Children of Medal of Honor Recipients categories, use the format on page 8 of this booklet. If your eligibility is in either of the other categories, submit the paperwork described in that particular category. **Our deadline is January 31.**

Presidential. There are unlimited nominations, but only 100 appointments available annually in this category. Vacancies allocated to the President of the United States have been reserved for children of career military personnel. This includes enlisted, warrant, and commissioned members of regular and reserve components who are on active duty (other than for training) and who have served continuously on active duty for at least eight years; and military retirees either living or deceased who have received retired or retainer pay. Reservists must be serving as members of reserve components and are credited with at least eight years of service computed under section 12733 of Title 10; or would be, or who died while they would have been entitled to retired pay under chapter 1223 of Title 10 except for not having attained 60 years of age. For adopted children, the adoption proceedings must have begun before their 15th birthday.

Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans. No limit to nominations, but appointments authorized in this category are limited to 65 cadets at the Academy at one time. Vacancies have been reserved for the children of deceased or 100% disabled armed forces veterans whose death or disability was determined to be service connected; or children of military personnel or federally employed civilian personnel who are in a missing or captured status. If you are eligible in this category, you will NOT be considered in the Presidential category.

Children of Medal of Honor Recipients. Vacancies have been reserved without appointment limit for the children of Medal of Honor recipients who served in any branch of the armed forces. If precandidates meet the eligibility requirements and qualify on entrance exams, they will be appointed to the Academy.

Air Force Regular and Reserve Components. There are unlimited nominations, but only 170 appointments are available annually in this category. Vacancies are available for enlisted members of regular and reserve components of the Air Force. Air Force Instructions 36-2021 and 36-2019 give complete instructions for applying. Precandidates in this category must submit AF Form 1786 through their unit commander for an endorsement, to their MPF for availability code assignment, and then to the Academy Admissions Office. AF Form 1786 may be obtained from the local base Education Office or on Form Flow.

Honor Military Schools and Air Force ROTC. There are twenty appointments total for all categories. Honor military schools are designated by the Department of the Army, Marine Corps and Navy to nominate Academy candidates annually from among their honor students. Each honor unit may nominate five students to compete for the vacancies.

Students should apply to their Senior ROTC Instructor for the nomination. Members of college and high school honor Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC and AFJROTC) units may also apply in this category. Five students from each detachment may be nominated to compete for the authorized vacancies. Students should apply for a nomination to their professor of aerospace studies or aerospace science instructor who will recommend nominees to the head of the institution.



Cadet Honor Guard

FORMAT OF REQUEST FOR CONGRESSIONAL OR VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION
(This is intended as a guide. A separate letter must be sent to the Vice President
and to each Senator and Representative to whom you apply.)

Date

Honorable (Name of Appropriate Authority)
House of Representatives OR United States Senate
Washington DC 20515 OR Washington DC 20510

OR

The Vice President
Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Washington DC 20501

Dear (Mr./Mrs./Ms. Name) OR Dear Senator (Name) or Mr. Vice President

I want to attend the Air Force Academy and to serve in the United States Air Force. I request that I be considered as one of your nominees for the class that enters the Academy in June 2006.

My pertinent data is:

Name (print name exactly as it appears on the birth certificate, or if legally changed, attach a copy of the court order):

Social Security Number:

Permanent address (street, city, county, state, zip code):

Temporary address (if applicable):

Permanent phone number and area code:

Temporary phone number and area code (if applicable):

Name of father:

Name of mother:

Date and place of birth (spell out month):

Name and address of high school:

Date of graduation:

Approximate grade point average (GPA); rank-in-class; and PSAT, PACT/PLAN, SAT I and ACT if you have taken these tests. Include verbal and math scores for the PSAT and SAT I tests; and English, math, reading, and science reasoning for the ACT test and PACT/PLAN composite.

Extracurricular activities:

Reasons for wanting to enter the Air Force Academy:

Thank you for considering me as one of your nominees to the Air Force Academy.

Sincerely
Signature

FORMAT OF REQUEST FOR MILITARY-AFFILIATED NOMINATION

**(Use this format for any of these categories: Presidential,
Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans,
or Children of Medal of Honor Recipients.)**

Date

Director of Admissions
HQ USAFA/RRS, 2304 Cadet Dr., Suite 200
USAF Academy CO 80840-5025

Dear Director of Selections

I want to attend the Air Force Academy and to serve in the United States Air Force. I request a nomination under the (name of appropriate category) for the class that enters the Academy in June 2006.

My pertinent data is:

Name (print name exactly as it appears on the birth certificate, or if legally changed, attach a copy of the court order):

Social Security Number:

Permanent address (street, city, county, state, zip code):

Temporary address (if applicable):

Permanent phone number and area code:

Temporary phone number and area code (if applicable):

Date and place of birth (spell out month):

If member of military, include rank, regular or reserve component, branch of service, and organizational address including PSC Box Number:

If previous candidate, indicate year:

Parental information -- name, rank, social security number, component and branch of service:

If your parent is on active duty, attach a statement of service dated and signed by current personnel officer specifying all periods of active duty and any breaks therein. If your parent is retired or deceased, attach a copy of the DD 214, retirement orders or casualty report; include Veterans Administration (VA) claim number and VA office where the case is filed, if appropriate include brief statement with date and circumstances of Medal of Honor award. If parent is a reservist, attach a copy of the document that shows their total points credit or a copy of their notice of eligibility letter that states they are eligible to receive retired pay upon reaching 60 years of age.

Sincerely

Signature

Medical Examination and Waivers

Scheduling

The Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB) will send you specific scheduling instructions. Your examination will be at either a military medical facility or the civilian examination centers contracted by DODMERB and managed by Concorde. The examination center will be as near to your home as possible based on availability within your Zip Code Area. **Call DODMERB immediately after hearing from them, as their exam dates will be NO EARLIER THAN 30 days from your call.** This delay, plus 60 days for completion and possibly another 30 days for a medical waiver, if required, can result in a **4-month process** for precandidates! Please ensure you meet all scheduled dates. If you can't, call DODMERB and the medical examining facility **IMMEDIATELY**; DODMERB will provide you with re-scheduling information but as stated previously, no earlier than 30 days from your call. If you've had a service academy qualifying medical examination within two years of the Academy's In-processing Day, you may not need a complete examination. DODMERB will provide you with instructions for updating your medical file.

Evaluations

After DODMERB receives your medical examination results, they will evaluate your medical file for certification. If additional medical information or evaluations are required, they will notify you by correspondence as to what specifically is required. **DODMERB is independent of the Air Force Academy and is NOT aware of your admissions qualifications or requirements. So, you may be asked to complete additional medical evaluations even though ultimately you may not be offered an appointment.** Complete all DODMERB requests for additional information and/or evaluations EXACTLY as requested. Be prompt. Don't wait for an appointment before completing your remedials. Forward all results to DODMERB. (The candidate must pay fees for most services performed by civilian doctors other than the initial examination conducted through Concorde.) Do not rely on any statements made by the examining physician, either military or civilian, concerning your medical status. **Letters from DODMERB are your only official status notification. If you DO NOT receive a final medical status letter within 60 days after completing your medical examination or a request for additional information/evaluations, contact DODMERB immediately at (719) 333-3562.**

Medical status inquiries sent to the Admission Office will only cause delays.

Waivers

If you've taken your DODMERB physical and are medically disqualified, you may (1) rebut DODMERB's findings **AT YOUR EXPENSE** by sending them additional medical evidence which proves beyond a doubt that the disqualification, as worded on the disqualification letter, is in error, or (2) write to us (not DODMERB) at: HQ USAFA/RRS, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200, USAF Academy CO 80840-5025 and request a medical waiver. The Academy Command Surgeon (not affiliated with DODMERB) may grant a limited number of medical waivers. Send all requests for waivers to the Admissions Office well **before March 15, 2006.** Your medical file will be reevaluated for waiver processing only if you would be competitive for an appointment. We'll let you know if your request will be processed. If it is, DODMERB may request additional tests or evaluations to support your waiver. These may be obtained at a military facility at no cost to you or at a civilian facility at your cost. Please keep in mind that DODMERB is working on your and our behalf to acquire the medical waiver and that **DODMERB is not** the waiver authority. DODMERB will contact you if your medical status changes because of rebuttals or waiver processing. Remember, **no one else can request a waiver for you and it normally takes at least 30 days once you've completed the additional requests to support your waiver.**

Medical Notes

(1) Hard contacts must be removed 21 days prior to taking your medical exam and soft contacts must be removed 3 days prior. (2) You can't be undergoing active orthodontic treatment when you enter the Academy. (3) Provide medical records or documentation concerning major surgeries, illnesses, and injuries at the time of your medical examination. (4) Use good judgment when listing medical problems. Do not self-diagnose a problem. List the full circumstances, treatment received and age during each episode. (5) Candidates who withhold obviously disqualifying medical information will be disenrolled and won't be eligible to reapply for the Academy. Other commissioning sources, such as ROTC programs, utilize DODMERB for their certification process and will be supplied information as to why the cadet was disenrolled. (6) If you have ANY questions concerning the medical examination process, **CALL DODMERB!!**

Medical Disqualification

Following is a list of some of the medical conditions that are disqualifying. This is not intended to be a complete or comprehensive list but only a guideline of the most common medical disqualifications. If you are found to be medically disqualified, you may request a medical waiver through the Air Force Academy Admissions Office. Approximately 50% of all waivers requested are granted.

Vision Disqualification

Procedures to change the refraction including radial keratotomy (RK), photo-keratectomy (PRK), laser in situ keratomileusis (LASIK), etc., and similar surgical and non-surgical alteration to the cornea (orthokeratology), and experimental operations **disqualify** you for all Air Force programs. PRK and LASIK may be considered for **waiver** to Commission Qualified status provided certain criteria are met. The most important of which are that the applicant must have had the surgery 12 months or more prior to a waiver being considered; the pre-operative refractive error did not exceed +8.00 or -8.00 diopters (spherical equivalent) in either eye; the post-operative best spectacle corrected visual acuity is 20/20 in each eye that had the procedure; and there have been no significant side effects.

Ears and Hearing

Hearing must meet the acceptable levels for commissioning. Hearing loss greater than 35 decibels in the speech frequencies is disqualifying.

Respiratory System Disqualification

History of asthma, including reactive airway disease, exercise-induced broncho-spasm, or asthmatic bronchitis, reliably diagnosed at any age is disqualifying. History of immunotherapy for allergies is disqualifying but usually waiverable.

Heart and Vascular System Disqualification

An electrocardiogram (EKG) is required on all candidates. Any abnormalities will be evaluated for evidence of an organic nature. Any abnormalities of the heart valves, major vessels, heart rate or rhythm may require additional examination procedures.

Genitourinary System Disqualification

Persistence of abnormal findings on urinalysis, a history of bedwetting into adolescence, or physiologic or anatomic abnormalities.

Gastrointestinal System Disqualification

Chronic disease of the abdominal organs. Chronic or recent hepatitis including hepatitis B carriers. Inflammatory bowel disorders.

Skin Disqualification

Chronic diseases of the skin such as psoriasis, atopic dermatitis and eczema are cause for disqualification. Waivers may be considered for some mild conditions.

Musculoskeletal System Disqualification

Ununited fractures, history of instability of a major joint, certain retained orthopedic fixation devices, severe scoliosis. Any condition which could interfere with daily participation in rigorous physical training or athletic programs, wearing of military equipment, or detract from military bearing and appearance. History of ACL reconstruction is disqualifying but usually waiverable.

Neurological and Psychiatric Disorders

Seizure disorders (except febrile convulsions in childhood), recurrent or severe headaches. History of mental illness or other disorders which may interfere with performance of military duties.

Precandidate Time Table

May 1 to January 31:	Contact your Member of Congress for a nomination. Each may have a different deadline. Apply in all categories for which you may be eligible.
October 31:	Deadline for nomination requests sent to the Vice President.
January 31:	Deadline for the Academy to receive applications/precandidate questionnaires. Deadline for military-affiliated nomination requests.
February 15:	College Admissions Tests must be received by this date.

Contacting Your Admissions Counselor

When writing to the Admissions Office please address your inquiries to the appropriate geographical region listed below. When calling, please have your SSAN ready. We use the SSAN to look up your record on our computer system.

If Your Mailing Address Is In:

Please call:

Northeast (Region 1)

CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH,
NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, WV, VT, APO AE,
Europe, Africa, Middle East

(719) 333-3801

Southeast (Region 2)

AR, AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC,
SC, TN, Puerto Rico, Bahamas,
Canal Zone, APO AA

(719) 333-3802

North Central (Region 3)

IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MT, NE, ND,
SD, OH, WI, WY, Canada

(719) 333-3803

South Central (Region 4)

CO, KS, TX, NM, OK, MO,
Central and South America

(719) 333-3804

West (Region 5)

AZ, AK, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA,
UT, Guam, APO and FPO AP,
Pacific, Asia, Australia

(719) 333-3805

If you can't reach your counselor directly, call (719) 333-2520 or 1-800-443-9266. You can also check your status using our Automated Voice Response system by calling (719) 333-3333, 24 hours a day.

Commitment

When you arrive at the Academy, you will be asked to take the Oath of Allegiance and sign an agreement that you will fulfill the following obligations: **(Failure to take the oath will cancel all entitlements to travel expenses to the Academy as well as travel expenses back to your home.)**

- a. Complete the course of instructions at the Academy and serve on active duty as a commissioned officer at least five years after graduation.
- b. If authorized to resign from the Air Force before the eighth anniversary of your graduation, serve as an officer in the Reserve Component until that eighth anniversary.
- c. The active duty commitment for those disenrolled prior to graduation varies according to the manpower needs of the Air Force and the number of years the cadet has attended the Academy. However, freshmen and sophomore cadets will ordinarily be completely relieved from all military duty, active or reserve.

Failure to perform the required period of active duty may incur a liability to reimburse the United States government for an appropriate portion of the cost of your Academy education (approximately \$26,000 for each year of instruction).