

Office of U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez

New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District

Service Academy Nomination Application Packet

2nd Congressional District of New Mexico

TIMETABLE OF APPLICATION PROCESS, ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Timetable for the Application Process

April 10, 2026: Application Process Opens

Students residing in New Mexico's Second Congressional District who meet the eligibility requirements may begin submitting their application materials to request a Congressional Nomination to a U.S. Service Academy. You may request a nomination packet at any time before the deadline. However, starting the application process early—and giving yourself plenty of time to gather all required materials—will put you in the strongest position.

October 9, 2026: Nomination Application Deadline

All application packets and required materials **must** be submitted electronically no later than **11:59 p.m. MT on October 9, 2026**. **No exceptions will be made.**

The only materials that may be submitted in hard copy are SAT/ACT scores and official transcripts, which may be delivered in a sealed envelope to the district office.

Please send completed application packets to:

serviceacademyvasquezcd2@mail.house.gov

Send or deliver official transcripts and SAT/ACT scores to:

Office of U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez

Attn: Rene Camacho

115 W. Griggs Ave. Las Cruces, NM 88001

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their files are complete. If you do not submit all required information by the deadline listed above, your application will not be considered.

Interviews by Selection Panel

The Service Academy Selection Panel will interview all applicants who qualify for a nomination. Interviews are currently planned to take place in Las Cruces, NM on

November 14, 2026. Candidates will be notified of the time and location of their interview at least one week in advance.

Mid-December 2026: Announcement of Nominees

Applicants will be informed whether they have received a nomination.

Spring 2027: Offers of Appointment from Academies

A nomination from U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez does not guarantee an appointment to a Military Service Academy. Final selection decisions are made solely by each Academy

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following requirements as of July 1 of the year of admission to the Academy:

I. **Age:** Applicants must be between 17 and 22 years old. II. **Citizenship:** Applicants must be United States citizens by November 1 of the application year. III. **Marital Status:** Applicants must be unmarried, not pregnant, and must have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents. IV. **Domicile:** Applicants must reside in New Mexico's Second Congressional District.

Selection Criteria

Nominations from U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez are based on a comprehensive evaluation of each applicant's qualifications. Applicants are assessed across four primary areas:

- **Scholastic:** Academic evaluation includes grade point average, SAT/ACT scores, class ranking, willingness to take on academic challenges, and—if applicable—college coursework.
- **Leadership:** Consideration is given to demonstrated leadership experience and potential. Evaluation is based on the applicant's record of extracurricular involvement, with emphasis on the quality of participation rather than the number of activities.
- **Character & Motivation:** Motivation and desire to attend a Service Academy are assessed through the applicant's essay, letters of recommendation, and performance during the interview with the Academy Nominee Selection Board.
- **Competitiveness:** The final stage of evaluation is comparative in nature, assessing each applicant's qualifications in relation to all other candidates seeking a nomination.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Mr. Rene Camacho: (575) 323-6390**

Serviceacademyvasquezcd2@mail.house.gov

U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez

Second Congressional District of New Mexico

Application Requirements

Deadline: October 9, 2026, to be considered for a nomination, applicants must read all guidelines carefully and complete **all** steps listed below.

Please send **items 1–5** to **serviceacademyvasquezcd2@mail.house.gov** as **one single PDF file**. Do **not** email items individually. Only PDF submissions will be accepted.

Use the included checklist as a cover sheet when submitting your application packet. After sending your documents, please call the office to verify that they have been

received.

Send **SAT/ACT scores** (*SAT CODE: 60695 and ACT CODE: 7540*) and **official transcripts** (**items 6 and 7**) to the district office:

Office of U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez Attn: Rene Camacho 115 W. Griggs Ave. Las Cruces, NM 88001

All completed applications **must** be received by **October 9, 2026**. **No exceptions will be made.**

Materials

1. **Application for Nomination** – Submit the completed Application for Nomination form.
2. **Résumé** – Provide a detailed résumé outlining your academic achievements, community service, extracurricular involvement, athletic participation, and any other notable accomplishments.
3. **Essay** – Submit an essay of no more than 500 words explaining why you wish to attend a Service Academy and why you believe you would be a strong candidate for admission.
4. **Letters of Recommendation** – Submit two letters of recommendation from individuals who are not related to you and who can assess your intellect, character, and suitability for military service.
    - **One letter** must come from a teacher, principal, school administrator, guidance counselor, or academic dean and must include the accompanying recommendation form.
    - **One letter** must come from an employer or extracurricular faculty advisor. All letters should appear professionally and include the recommender's contact information. Academic and professional letters **must** be on official school or business letterhead. Submit letters as **PDFs only**—no Word documents, emails, or handwritten letters will be accepted.
5. **Official Transcripts** – Have your official high school (or college, if applicable) transcripts sent directly from the institution to the address listed above.
6. **Standardized Test Results** – Have your SAT/ACT scores sent directly from the testing service to the address listed above. If your test scores are included in your official transcript, that will satisfy this requirement. Test results postmarked on or before **October 9, 2026,** will be accepted, even if they arrive after the deadline.

Military Service Academy Information

The President, Vice President, Members of Congress, and certain federal agencies have the authority to nominate individuals for admission to U.S. Service Academies. Applicants

should direct any questions about admissions requirements or procedures to the Admissions Office of each Academy. Applicants are responsible for opening a precandidate file with every Academy to which they intend to apply.

Current contact information for each Academy is listed below.

United States Military Academy (USMA)

Director of Admissions

United States Military Academy

606 Thayer Road

West Point, NY 10996

(845) 9384041 or (800) 8222769

Website: https://www.westpoint.edu

United States Air Force Academy (USAFA)

USAFA/RRS

2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200

USAF Academy, CO 80840

(800) 4439266

Website: https://www.academyadmissions.com

United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA)

Director of Admissions

15 Mohegan Avenue

New London, CT 06320

(800) 883USCG

Website: https://www.uscga.edu

Note: A congressional nomination is *not* required for admission to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. USCGA selects candidates based solely on its own admissions criteria. Applicants must apply directly to the Academy.

United States Naval Academy (USNA)

Candidate Guidance Office

United States Naval Academy

117 Decatur Road Annapolis, MD 21402

(410) 2934361 or (800) 6389156

Website: https://www.usna.edu

United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA)

Director of Admissions

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

300 Steamboat Road Kings Point, NY 11024

(800) 7326267

Website: https://www.usmma.edu

U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez

2nd Congressional District of New Mexico

ACADEMY NOMINATION APPLICATION

Please Rank the Academies to which you are applying in the order of your preference (one to five, as applicable):

____ United States Air Force Academy ____ United States Naval Academy

____ United States Military Academy ____ United States Coast Guard (no nominations made)

____ United States Merchant Marine Academy

Personal Information:

NAME: _____

Last First Middle

Permanent Address: _____

Street/PO Box City State Zip

Mailing Address: _____

Street/PO Box City State Zip

Home Phone #: (_____) _____ Cell #: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: ___/__/__ Place of Birth: _____

Gender: _____

Parents/Guardian: _____

(Father or guardian / daytime phone number)

_____

(Mother or guardian / daytime phone number)

Parent email: _____

Academic Information:

High School: _____

Anticipated Date of Graduation: _____

Weighted GPA: _____ Unweighted GPA: _____

Class Rank: _____ Class Size: _____

ACT: Composite: _____ Date taken: _____

English: _____ Math: _____ Writing: _____ Science: _____

SAT: Verbal: _____ Math: _____ Writing: _____ Date taken: _____

College/University experience: (if applicable):

_____

_____

(Include name of institution, dates of attendance, GPA)

Attachments

Please include the following documents as attachments to your application forms:

1. **Application for Nomination** – Submit the completed Application for Nomination form.
2. **Résumé** – Provide a detailed résumé outlining your academic achievements, community service, extracurricular involvement, athletic participation, and any other notable accomplishments.
3. **Essay** – Submit an essay of no more than 500 words explaining why you wish to attend a Service Academy and why you believe you would be a strong candidate for admission.
4. **Letters of Recommendation** – Provide two letters of recommendation from individuals who are not related to you and who can assess your intellect, character, and suitability for military service.
   - **One letter** must come from a teacher, principal, school administrator, guidance counselor, or academic dean and must include the accompanying recommendation form.
   - **One letter** must come from an employer or extracurricular faculty advisor.
5. **Official Transcripts and Standardized Test Results**

Signatures

I hereby certify that I am a legal resident of the Second Congressional District of the State of New Mexico and that I meet all eligibility requirements as stated in the information guide and application provided by the Office of U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez.

I request that U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez consider my application for a Congressional Nomination to the United States Service Academy or Academies that I have listed.

I understand that the deadline for this application is **October 9, 2026**. If I do not submit all required information by the deadline, I understand that my application will not be considered.

I, the undersigned, certify that the information I have provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Signature: _____ Applicant Name (printed): _____ Date: _____

For Applicants Under 18 Years of Age

I approve of this application and certify that all information provided by my child or ward is accurate.

I understand that if my child or ward is nominated to a Service Academy, any announcement to the news media will be made by the Office of U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Name (printed): _____ Date: _____

Application Packet Checklist

Deadline: October 9, 2026

Applicant Name: _____

- 1. Nomination Application
- 2. Resume
- 3. Essay
- 4. TWO Letters of Recommendation
  - a. Letter I
  - b. Letter II

Submit the above items as a single PDF document. Use this checklist as your application packet coversheet.