

Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz
15th District of Texas
Service Academy Nomination
Application Packet



Submission Deadline: November 9, 2026

Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz
1400 N. McColl Rd. STE 103
McAllen, Texas 78501
Phone: 956-800-6069

Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz Service Academy Nomination Checklist

The following must be submitted to Congresswoman De La Cruz's District Office by November 9th, 2026. **Incomplete applications may not be considered for nomination.**

- Application:** Completed and signed by applicant. The Application can be downloaded online at Delacruz.House.gov or sent from the district office in McAllen. The application must be typed or legibly written.
- Official High School Transcript:** You must include an official high school transcript. Your class rank and GPA must be included in this transcript. Should your school not rank its students or provide GPAs, you must have the counselor or principal denote this on your transcript.
- Official SAT/ACT Scores:** You must include official copies of your SAT and/or ACT scores. To be considered for nomination you must have taken the SAT and/or ACT prior to November 9th, 2026, for the official scores to arrive by our November 9th, 2026, deadline.
- Candidate Fitness Assessment:** You must include a copy of a completed fitness assessment for the service academy you are seeking a nomination for. The information and official forms for each service academies' fitness assessment can be found on the respective Service Academy websites or retrieved from the Service Academy recruiter you are speaking with.
- Essay:** An essay stating why you want to attend a service academy (500 words or less)
- Current Photo:** A current photo no larger than 3" x 2.5" of yourself with your name written on the back of it.
- Personal Recommendation Forms:** You must include 3 completed letters of recommendation by counselors, principals, teachers, religious leaders, coaches, employers, or community leaders. Please do not have family members complete these forms. The recommendation forms needed are included within this nomination packet, acting as a guide when writing the recommendation letter.
- Resume:** Your resume should include extracurricular activities, athletic participation, honors, awards and employment, if applicable.

High School Attended: _____
(School Name)

(School Address) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

(School Phone Number) (Counselor's Name)

Expected Date of Graduation: ____/____/____ High School GPA: _____ *(Please have your counselor convert this to the 4.0 scale)*

Class Rank: ____/____

SAT: Critical Reading ____ Math ____ Writing ____ Composite ____

ACT: English ____ Math ____ Reading ____ Science ____ Composite ____

Please indicate which academy you would like to attend; if you are interested in more than one academy, please rank them in order of your preference, first to last, with 1 being your highest preference.

_____ U.S. Air Force Academy

_____ U.S. Military Academy (West Point)

_____ U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

_____ U.S. Naval Academy

Name of hometown newspaper: _____

Is it okay to use your name in a press release after receiving a nomination or appointment?

Yes No

APPLICATION AGREEMENT:

Please read the following paragraph before signing the application, as your signature indicates your agreement with the following statements. If you do not include your signature, your application will not be considered for nomination.

It is my sincere desire to attend a U.S. Service Academy, and I intend to pursue a vigorous academic course of study if appointed. I understand that attending a service academy also requires a minimum of five years of military service following graduation, and I fully commit to this responsibility. I am a U.S. Citizen, or will be by July 1 of the year I will attend the Academy. I will be at least 17 years, but not yet 23 years of age, on July 1 of the year I attend the Academy. I

am not married. I am not pregnant, nor do I have any child support obligations. I am a legal resident of the 15th Congressional District of Texas.

I certify that the information I have provided in the application packet is accurate. Any changes to this information will be reported immediately.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz
Personal Recommendation Form
Application for Nomination to a U.S. Service Academy
2026-2027

To be completed by a teacher, school counselor/principal, religious leader, community leader, or employer. Family members may not complete Personal Recommendation Forms.

Note to Applicant: You must turn in THREE completed Personal Recommendation Letters with your packet. Please make sure the name, signature and date and affiliation to the applicant is included in the letter. The below questions should be used as a guide to discuss in the letter. Your packet may be considered incomplete if these are not included.

Name of Applicant (Last) (First) (Middle)

The person named above is applying for a nomination to a United States Service Academy through Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz's office. The service academies provide a college education and training for students to become commissioned officers in the Armed Forces following graduation. The questions below are designed to provide [a reference for formatting the Letter of Recommendation](#). Each student must submit three [Letters of Recommendation](#), along with a complete application packet, by [November 9th, 2026](#). Please keep this deadline in mind as you return this form to the applicant. Additional pages or letters of recommendation will be accepted.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
2. Describe the applicant's talents, strengths, and leadership qualities.
3. How does the applicant handle stressful and challenging situations? Has the applicant encountered failure and how did he/she manage the situation?
4. Are you aware of any personal circumstances that could affect the applicant's performance at the service academy?
5. Describe the applicant's relationship with his/her peer group? Does he/she have the ability to get along well with others?
6. How could this applicant improve in order to rise to the challenges presented by the service academy?

Name (Signed) _____ Date: ____/____/____

Name (Printed) _____ Telephone Number: (____) ____-____

Title: _____

Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz Additional Information

District Office Location

District Mailing Address
1400 N McColl Rd, Ste 103
McAllen, TX 78501
(956) 800-6069

Service Academy Interview

Those applicants who have successfully turned in the completed application NO LATER than November 9th, 2026, shall receive a letter in the mail for the date of the Service Academy interview and what to expect for the interview.

SAT and ACT Test Dates

Standardized test scores are important elements of your application. For your application to be considered complete, you must either send an official copy of your scores or have the testing centers send your scores to Congresswoman De La Cruz's office.

*Note: All test scores must be postmarked by November 9th, 2026. Make note of the strict registration deadlines for taking these tests.

Service Academy Contact Information

If you have not already done so, you should open a pre-candidate file with the service academies you desire to attend. To obtain catalogs and other specific information on the academies, contact them directly.

U.S. Air Force Academy

Admissions Office
Colorado Springs, CO 80840-5651
(800) 443-9266
www.usafa.edu

www.usma.edu

U.S. Military Academy

Admissions Office
606 Thayer Road
West Point, NY 10996-1797
(800) 822-2769

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Admissions Office
Kings Point, NY 11024-1699
(866) 546-4778
www.usmma.edu

U.S. Naval Academy

USNA Admissions Office
117 Decatur Road
Annapolis, MD 21402-5018
(888) 249-7707
www.usna.edu

NOTE: Congressional nominations are no longer required (nor are they submitted) for the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA). If you are interested in attending the Coast Guard Academy, contact the academy directly at:

U.S. Coast Guard Academy

Admissions Office
New London, CT 06320-4195
(203) 444-8501 www.uscga.edu