



Fall 2011

High School College Counselors:

U.S. Service Academies offer an **outstanding** college education for qualified applicants. All but the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, offer a **free** college education. I want to help you make sure that you know about these opportunities and understand the application process.

You are uniquely qualified to help identify potential applicants and to inform them of the many opportunities available to them at our nation's service academies.

Enclosed is an outline of the application/nomination process that I hope will assist you in assisting students who you think may be interested in applying for admission or who should consider applying.

Specific information for the Class of 2015, and the application for consideration for a nomination, is available at [cardin.senate.gov](http://cardin.senate.gov).

**Completed nomination application packets must be received in my Baltimore office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 4, 2011.**

**Qualified applicants will be interviewed on either Friday, December 2 or Saturday, December 3, at a location listed on my website.**

You have an important role to play by apprising students of the opportunities available at our service academies. Each academy provides students with an outstanding educational experience and the chance to serve our country in any number of ways.

My office is available to assist you. If you have any questions or would like to discuss outreach efforts in your school, please contact Anne Irby ([anne\\_irby@cardin.senate.gov](mailto:anne_irby@cardin.senate.gov)) or Sean McKew ([sean\\_mckew@cardin.senate.gov](mailto:sean_mckew@cardin.senate.gov)) of my staff at 410-962-4436.

Sincerely,

*Benjamin L. Cardin*

Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator