

# ***HQ U.S. Air Force Academy***

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*Integrity - Service - Excellence*

## **SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTMENT & NOMINATION PROCESS**



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# OVERVIEW

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- **NOMINATION EFFORTS**
  - USAFA/USNA/USMA/MERCHANT MARINE
- **APPLICATION EFFORTS**
  - **PRE-CANDIDATE PHASE**
  - **CANDIDATE PHASE**
- **APPOINTMENT**

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# NOMINATION EFFORTS

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- **3 CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES**
  - *US REPRESENTATIVE*
  - *TWO US SENATORS*
  - *VICE PRESIDENTIAL*
- **SERVICE RELATED SOURCES**
  - *PRESIDENTIAL*
  - *MEDAL OF HONOR*
  - *ROTC – HONOR DESIGNATED*
  - *REG OR RES COMPONENT MEMBERS*



# CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES

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- **EACH CONGRESSMAN IS GIVEN 5 CHARGES**
  - ***COMPETE ONLY WITH KIDS IN DISTRICT***
  - ***CAN NOMINATE UPTO 10 INDIVIDUALS PER CHARGE***
  - ***IF ALL 5 ARE STILL AT SCHOOL (NO GRADS/DROPOUT)***
    - **THEN NO NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE**
  - **PRINCIPLE NOMINEE**
  - **ALTERNATES**
    - **IDENTIFY FIRST/SECOND/THIRD CHOICE OF ACADEMY**
- **RE-DISTRICTING FROM 6<sup>TH</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**
- **CM VAN HOLLEN FOR NEXT CYCLE**
- **APPLICATION WINDOWS OPEN 1 MAR 2013**



# SENATORIAL SOURCES

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- **EACH SENATOR IS GIVEN 5 CHARGES**
  - ***COMPETE WITH KIDS ACROSS ENTIRE STATE***
  - ***CAN NOMINATE UPTO 10 INDIVIDUALS PER CHARGE***
  - ***IF ALL 5 ARE STILL AT SCHOOL (NO GRADS/DROPOUT)***
    - **THEN NO NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE**
  - **PRINCIPLE NOMINEE**
  - **ALTERNATES**
  - **IDENTIFY FIRST/SECOND/THIRD CHOICE OF ACADEMY**
- **SEN MIKULSKI AND SEN CARDIN**
- **APPLICATION WINDOWS OPEN 1 MAR 2013**



# VICE PRESIDENTIAL SOURCE

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- 5 CHARGES AS WELL
- NO GEOGRAPHIC RESTRICTIONS
- SERVICE ACADEMIES MAKE RECOMMENDATION
- USED FOR DESERVING KIDS THAT DIDN'T COMPETE WITH CONGRESSIONAL
- TYPICALLY 1 TO 2 VACANCIES EACH CYCLE



# PRESIDENTIAL SOURCE

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- TYPICALLY 100-200 PER CYCLE
- RULES BETWEEN EACH SERVICE ACADEMY VARY
- USAFA – MIN OF 8 YRS ACTIVE DUTY OR RESERVE DUTY
- MUCH SMALLER GROUP FOR SELECTIONS BUT A NATIONAL POOL FOR COMPARISON
- ROTC – HONORS PROGRAM; CENTURY IS A HONORS WITH DISTINCTION UNIT; UNIT COMMANDER SHOULD BE ELIGIBLE TO NOMINATE



# APPLICATION EFFORT

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- **WINDOW OPENS 1 MAR 2013**
- **SELF REPORTED INFO TO THE ACADEMY WEBSITES**
- **ESTABLISHES PRE-CANDIDATE INFO**
  - **SAT/ACT SCORES**
  - **CLASS RANK**
  - **GPA**
  - **LIMITED ACTIVITY INFO**
- **IF QUALIFIED – PROCEED TO CANDIDATE PHASE**
- **IF COMPETITIVE – PROCEED TO QUAL CANDIDATE PHASE**





# RECENT USAFA ADMISSIONS NUMBERS

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- **APPLICANTS**

- 2013 – 9897
- 2016 – 12274

- **CANDIDATES**

- 2013 – 6940
- 2016 – 8043

- **QUAL CANDIDATES**

- 2013 – 2253
- 2016 – 2535

- **APPT OFFERS**

- 2013 – 1667
- 2016 – 1214

- **ADMITS**

- 2013 – 1351
- 2016 – 1015

- **YIELD %**

- 2013 – 81%
- 2016 – 84%



# APPLICATION PROCESS

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- **SUMMER BETWEEN JUNIOR/SENIOR YR START**
- **WORK ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT – MOST SUCCESS**
- **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF LEADERSHIP OPPS**
- **MAXIMIZE EFFORT OVER THE SUMMER**
- **BEGIN PREPARING FOR THE CFA (CANDIDATE FITNESS ASSESSMENT)**
- **MEET ADMISSIONS LIAISON OFFICER EARLY**
- **ONCE SENIOR YR STARTS, DIFFICULT TO REMAIN FOCUSED**



# APPLICATION PROCESS CONT'D

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- **ONCE PAST PRE-CAND – SIGNIFICANT # OF APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**
  - **TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS**
  - **DODMERB PHYSICAL**
  - **DRUG/ALCOHOL COUNSELING FORM**
  - **CFA**
  - **WRITING SAMPLES**
  - **ALO INTERVIEW**
  - **SCHOOL PROFILE , SENIOR YEAR SCHEDULE**
  - **HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT**
- **ALL ITEMS SUBMITTED BY 31 JAN OF SENIOR YR**
- **SAT/ACT SCORES ACCEPTED THRU 15 FEB**



# APPOINTMENT PROCESS

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- STRIVE TO HAVE ALL FORMS/REQUIREMENTS ACCOMPLISHED BY NLT 31 OCT
- MUST HAVE A NOMINATION SOURCE FOR CONSIDERATION
- ROLLING SELECTIONS BEGINNING IN NOV AND CONTINUES THRU MAR/APR
- COMPETE IN ALL NOMINATION SOURCES (IE. PRESIDENT AND CONGRESSIONAL)
- WEIGHTED SELECTIONS PROCESS (60/20/20)
  - 60% - ACAD 20% - LDR 20% - SUBJ



# APPOINTMENT PROCESS CONT'D

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- IF SELECTED, THEN OFFER CAN COME AS A LOA (LETTER OF ASSURANCE), DIRECT ENTRY, PREP SCHOOL OFFER OR FALCON FOUNDATION
- TYPICALLY MAJORITY OF CLASS IS FILLED IN LATE MAR/EARLY APR
- SOME EARLY OFFERS TO PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATED CANDIDATES
- CONGRESS MANDATED THAT ALL SERVICE ACADEMY ENROLLMENT BE MAINTAINED AT 4000 CADETS
- AS A RESULT, CLASS SIZES ARE ABOUT 300-400 CANDIDATES SMALLER THAN PREV YRS



# CONCLUSION

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- **ALL THE SERVICE ACADEMIES WANT THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST (SO DO ALL THE COLLEGES)**
- **THE PROCESS IS INTENSE BUT CAN BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISIONS OF YOUR LIFE**
- **ULTIMATE GOAL IS A TALENTED/MOTIVATED YOUNG OFFICER WILLING TO SERVE OUR GREAT NATION**
- **ANY QUESTIONS ?????**