NOMINATION INFORMATION

In order to be considered for a nomination, a candidate must:

1. Reside in the 9th Congressional District. Applicants whose active duty military parents are stationed at one of the bases, but maintain legal residence in another state, should apply to the appropriate Congressional office from that State.

2. Be at least 17 years old, and not have passed your 23rd birthday on July 1 of the year of admission.

3. Be a United States citizen.

4. Be unmarried, not pregnant, and have not incurred obligations of parenthood.

5. Be of excellent moral character.

A competitive candidate will typically exhibit the following qualifications:

1. Minimum SAT scores of 500 verbal and 550 math, or ACT scores of 25 English and 28 Math.

2. A 3.7 GPA on a 4.0 scale, and a ranking in the upper 20 percent of his or her class.

3. Notable participation and performance in extracurricular activities, including leadership.

4. Excellent health (medical fitness) and physical aptitude.

SAT/ACT SCORES

Aside from your grades, your performance on the SAT or ACT is crucial to an academy's selection decision. The academies receive too many applications to judge each one on an entirely subjective basis. Most of what is known comes from your high school grades and standardized test scores. Once your file has been assessed it will be assigned a scaled score. Only if your scaled score is high enough will the other aspects of your resume be a factor in the admissions decision.

You should register for these tests early in your junior year. This will give you time to re-take the tests if you feel that your initial scores do not reflect your true potential. Information regarding testing dates may be obtained through your high school counselor.

The Air Force Academy and the Military Academy will consider your highest verbal and math scores if you re-take the test, but the Naval and Merchant Marine Academies will average your scores.

Congressman Smith's SAT code is 0600 and ACT code is 7000.

PHYSICAL APTITUDE

Physical requirements vary from academy to academy. Please contact the academies directly if you have any questions about your eligibility. All of the U.S. service academies require physical examinations to determine whether candidates are qualified for the rigorous athletic and physical education programs provided at each of the academies. Once a pre-candidate file is opened for you at the academy of your choice, they will decide whether or not to schedule you for a physical exam. If you are notified that you need to appear for a physical, you will see a physician provided by the Department of Defense Medical Evaluation Board. There is no cost to you for the exam.

INTERVIEW

Congressman Smith requires an interview prior to nominations. Interviews are conducted in December. By mid-November you will be informed by mail of the date and time of your interview. If you have problems with any of these timeframes please address them directly to the district office.

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT DATES

Congressman Smith will submit his nominations to the academies in mid-January. The academies notify applicants of an offer of appointment between January and mid-June.

All questions, concerns and requests for assistance must be addressed to the district office Point of Contact (POC) Rebecca Snyder. Contact information is as follows:

Address:

Congressman Adam Smith
ATTN: Rebecca Snyder
3600 Port of Tacoma Road Suite 106
Tacoma, Washington 98424

Rebecca.Snyder@mail.house.gov

Phone Number:

(253) 896-3775 or 1-888-smith09

NOMINATION PACKAGE

Please submit all documents in a folder or other manner so to be organized, legible and in order of numerical assignment. Submit your package to the district office in Tacoma; you will be notified via mail upon its receipt. **DO NOT** send your package to the Washington D. C. office, mail delays due to security may hamper the receipt of your package by the deadline.

Application Form: Your Ninth District Application should be typed if possible. If your application is not complete, it will be returned to you for correction. You will be asked on your application form to indicate your choice of academies in ranked order. It is highly recommended you apply to all the academies for which you qualify as each is an outstanding school of learning dedicated to producing the finest military officers.

1. High School Transcript: This should be submitted as part of the nomination package, please do not have it forwarded directly from your school. If you receive an updated version of your transcript prior to the November 1st deadline, submit it to the district office in Tacoma.

2. Letters of Recommendation: Three letters are required: one **must** be from either your high school guidance counselor or principal. Letters of recommendation should be written by individuals who can assess your character, leadership ability, and participation in activities other than academic (i.e. Scouting, church, community service). Submit your letters with your package; please do not have individuals forward them directly to our office.

3. SAT/ACT Scores: Official scores sheets or copies of these sheets are acceptable. We will accept scores pre-printed on the high school transcript if they are initialed by your counselor.

4. Resume: Not to exceed two pages in length. You may use any standard resume format that best highlights your particular accomplishments.

5. Personal Letter: This is your best opportunity to express your thoughts, ideas, and goals. It can be as long or short as you wish, but remember the panel may use it as a basis for questions during the interview process. The letter should fully express to Congressman Smith your reasons for attending an academy as well as what your goals would be after graduation.

6. Photo: Please submit one recent photograph of yourself no larger than 4x6 inches. This does not have to be a school photo. You may use this as another opportunity to express yourself as an individual or to highlight an accomplishment.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure your package is received by this office no later than 5:00 pm November 1, 2006. Applicants are encouraged to call and check the status of your package. The earlier the package is received by our office, the smoother the entire process.

NINTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT APPLICATION

FULL NAME

_____

PERMANENT ADDRESS

_____

_____

YEAR OF HS GRADUATION _____

HOME PHONE _____

CELL PHONE_____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

SOCIAL SECURITY #_____

PARENT(S) OR GUARDIAN(S)

_____

_____

ADDRESS (if different)

_____

_____

HIGH SCHOOL_____

COUNSELOR _____ PHONE_____

Please rank in order of preference (1=highest, 5=lowest)
****Please denote only the academies that you wish to attend. *******

Air Force _____ Merchant Marine _____ Military _____ Naval _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

United States Air Force Academy
HQ USAFA/RRS
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200
USAF Academy, CO 80840-5025
(800) 443-9266
http://www.usafa.af.mil

United States Coast Guard Academy
15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320-4195
(800) 883-USCG (883-8724)
http://www.cga.edu

United States Merchant Marine Academy
300 Steamboat Road
Kings Point, NY 11024-1699
(800) 732-6267
http://www.usmma.edu

United States Military Academy (West Point)
Director of Admissions
United States Military Academy
600 Thayer Road
West Point, NY 10996-9902
(914) 938-4041
http://www.usma.edu

United States Naval Academy
Dean of Admissions
United States Naval Academy
117 Decatur Road
Annapolis, MD 21402-5017
(800) 638-9156
http://www.nadn.navy.mil

Candidates interested in attending service academies should complete a pre-candidate questionnaire and/or initiate a candidate file to be open at the academy(s) they wish to attend.