

I hope you and your families are having a great July 4th weekend. This weekend, we celebrate our freedoms granted to us by God and protected by our great military.

As we reflect on our independence, our heritage, and our storied and great history, I want to share about the opportunity for any high schooler to apply for a nomination to join one of the U.S. service academies.

There are five service academies: the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA), the United States Naval Academy (USNA), the United States Military Academy at West Point (USMA), the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) and the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA). Nominations are required for all the academies except for the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, to which appointments are made on the basis of an annual nationwide competition.

If you're interested in learning more or applying to one of the service academies, visit my website at [edwards.house.gov/services/military-academy-nominations](https://edwards.house.gov/services/military-academy-nominations).

Happy July 4th, and may God continue to bless Western North Carolina and the United States!

With my warmest regards,



Chuck Edwards  
Member of Congress

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