



Military Corner

Annapolis

The United States Naval Academy is a four-year coeducational federal service academy located in Annapolis, Maryland. Established in 1845 under George Bancroft, it is the second-oldest of the United States' five service academies, and educates officers for commissioning primarily into the United States Navy and Marine Corps. The 338-acre campus is located on the former grounds of Fort Severn. The entire campus is a National Historic Landmark and home to many historic sites, buildings, and monuments.

Candidates for admission generally must both apply directly to the academy and receive a nomination, usually from a congressman. Students are officers-in-training and are referred to as Midshipmen. Tuition for Midshipmen is fully funded by the Navy in exchange for an active duty service obligation upon graduation. Approximately 1,300 "plebes" enter the Academy each summer for the rigorous Plebe Summer, but only about 1,000 Midshipmen graduate. Graduates are usually commissioned as Ensigns in the Navy or Second Lieutenants in the Marine Corps, and occasionally as officers in the US Air Force, US Army, and U.S. Coast Guard. The academic program grants a bachelor of science degree with a curriculum that grades Midshipmen's performance upon a broad academic program, military leadership performance, and mandatory participation in competitive athletics. Midshipmen are required to adhere to the Academy's Honor Concept.

On 8 August 1975, Congress authorized women to attend service academies. The class of 1980 was inducted with 81 women midshipmen. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Naval_Academy]

