U.S. Naval Academy Facts

The School
Founded as the Naval School in 1845, the United States Naval Academy today is a four-year service academy that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally and physically to be professional officers in the naval service.

Location
The Academy is set on 338 acres between the south bank of the Severn River and historic downtown Annapolis, the state capital of Maryland. Annapolis is 33 miles east of Washington D.C., and 30 miles south of Baltimore.

Campus
The campus is called the Yard and features tree-lined brick walks, French Renaissance and contemporary architecture and scenic vistas of the Chesapeake Bay. The Bancroft Hall dormitory complex, the Naval Academy Chapel, and other century-old buildings make the Academy a National Historic Site. New facilities, such as the Wesley Brown Field House, the Uriah P. Levy Center and Jewish Chapel, a multi-purpose Alumni Hall, Rickover Hall engineering complex, Hendrix Oceanography Laboratory, give the academy state-of-the-art educational and training resources.

Students
Approximately 4,400 men and women, known as midshipmen, represent every state in the U.S. and several foreign countries.

Faculty
The approximately 500-member Naval Academy faculty is an integrated group of military and civilian instructors in approximately equal numbers. The student-faculty ratio is 8:1, with most class sizes ranging from 10 to 22 students.

Academics
In addition to a core curriculum of academic and professional courses, majors are offered in 26 subject areas including engineering; science; mathematics; computer science, and in humanities and social sciences.

Professional
Midshipmen study subjects such as small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering, naval weapons, leadership, ethics and military law during the four-year program. In addition, midshipmen train at naval bases and on ships in the fleet during part of each summer.

Athletics
Midshipmen can choose from a total of 35 intercollegiate varsity sports: 19 for men, 13 for women, and three co-ed.

Extracurricular
Exciting extracurricular activities are offered in areas ranging from engineering societies to military professional clubs and associations.

Graduation
Bachelor of Science degrees specifying a major field are awarded to midshipmen upon graduation in May. They receive commissions as ensigns in the U.S. Navy or second lieutenants in the U.S. Marine Corps and serve at least five years of exciting and rewarding service as officers.

Academic Year 2021-2022