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. Newer 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; and the Naval Academy Center for Cyber Security Studies in Hopper Hall 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 nearly 600-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: nine in engineering; eleven in science, mathematics and computer science; and six 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 2022-2023