



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
101 BUCHANAN ROAD
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND 21402-5100

Dear Midshipman Candidates of the Class of 2027 and Parents,

The Plebe Sponsor Program provides members of the U.S. Naval Academy's entering class an opportunity to develop and benefit from informal exchanges with civilian and military members in Annapolis and its adjacent communities. This program provides midshipmen with a home away from home during their first year at the Academy. Plebes typically visit with their sponsors on Saturdays when they have liberty.

To encourage a mutually beneficial relationship, Plebes may invite sponsors to sporting events and other activities at the Academy throughout the year. There is also an annual Plebe Sponsor Appreciation Weekend, typically in early winter, which allows the midshipmen to show their appreciation to their sponsors.

The degree of involvement and the length of the connection between sponsors and midshipmen is determined strictly by how the relationship evolves. In many cases the Plebe-sponsor connection leads to a friendship that lasts long after a midshipman has graduated. The matching process, to the extent possible, is based on the Plebe's preferences as recorded on the Plebe Questionnaire. In the questionnaire, Plebes may request a specific sponsor by listing the individual's name, address, telephone number and/or email. The sponsor must meet all eligibility criteria and must also request the Plebe on a sponsor application.

Active duty and retired military (E-6 and above or O-3 and above) and civilians will be considered for assignment as sponsors. All sponsors must be over the age of 28. Sponsors must reside within the Baltimore, Washington, and Annapolis metropolitan area and agree to attend a mandatory briefing that is held during the summer. All sponsors undergo a thorough background check. If you have a friend or family member who meets the eligibility criteria and would like to be your Plebe's sponsor, please have them contact the Plebe Sponsor Coordinator with their name and address at sponsor@usna.edu. Applications must be filled out and returned no later than July 15, 2023. This deadline must be met in order to match Plebes with their sponsors, those who do not have a specific by-name request for a sponsor family will be matched based on interests and preferences.

The first year at the Academy is an exciting time for Plebes and their families. Please direct questions about the Plebe Sponsor Program to the Plebe Sponsor Coordinator at sponsor@usna.edu.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JPM III", is positioned above the typed name of the Commandant of Midshipmen.

J. P. MCDONOUGH III
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of Midshipmen