

(6) Two positions shall be allocated for individuals nominated by the Panama Canal Commission.

(d) COMPETITIVE SYSTEM FOR APPOINTMENT.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM.—The Secretary shall establish a competitive system for selecting individuals nominated under subsection (b) to fill the positions allocated under subsection (c). The system must determine the relative merit of each individual based on competitive examinations, an assessment of the individual's academic background, and other effective indicators of motivation and probability of successful completion of training at the Academy.

(2) APPOINTMENTS BY JURISDICTION.—The Secretary shall appoint individuals to fill the positions allocated under subsection (c) for each jurisdiction in the order of merit of the individuals nominated from that jurisdiction.

(3) REMAINING UNFILLED POSITIONS.—If positions remain unfilled after the appointments are made under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall appoint individuals to fill the positions in the order of merit of the remaining individuals nominated from all jurisdictions.

(e) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION IN ADVANCE OF APPOINTMENTS.—When a nominee of a Senator, Representative, or Delegate is selected for appointment as a cadet, the Senator, Representative, or Delegate shall be notified at least 48 hours before the official notification or announcement of the appointment is made.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1570; Pub. L. 111-383, div. C, title XXXV, §3503, Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4518; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §566(d), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2139.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51302(a) .....	46 App.:1295b(b)(1)(A).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1303(b)(1)-(3)(A), as added Pub. L. 96-453, §2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 1998; Pub. L. 101-595, title VII, §708(1), (2), Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2995.
51302(b) .....	46 App.:1295b(b)(2)(A) (related to nominations). 46 App.:1295b(b)(1) (less cl. (A)). 46 App.:1295b(b)(3)(A)(ii) (related to who may be nominated).	
51302(c) .....	46 App.:1295b(b)(3)(A) (less (ii) (related to who may be nominated)).	
51302(d) .....	46 App.:1295b(b)(2)(A) (related to selection), (B), (3)(B), (C).	

In subsection (b)(6)(A), the words “residents, or sons or daughters of residents, of an area or installation” are substituted for “a resident of the area or installation” in 46 App. U.S.C. 1295b(b)(1)(B) and “sons or daughters of residents of any area or installation” in 46 App. U.S.C. 1295b(b)(3)(A)(ii) to resolve an inconsistency in the source law and to conform to the probable intent of Congress. Although 46 App. U.S.C. 1295b(b)(1)(B) provides that a nominee must be a resident, 46 App. U.S.C. 1295b(b)(3)(A)(ii) allocates positions only for sons or daughters of residents.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 114-328 added subsec. (e).

2011—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 111-383, §3503(1), inserted “the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Guam.”

Subsec. (b)(5), (6). Pub. L. 111-383, §3503(2), redesignated par. (6) as (5) and struck out former par. (5) which read as follows: “The Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands may nominate residents of the Northern Mariana Islands.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2016 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 114-328 applicable with respect to the appointment of cadets and midshipmen to the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, the United States Air Force Academy, and the United States Merchant Marine Academy for classes entering these service academies after Jan. 1, 2018, see section 566(e) of Pub. L. 114-328, set out as a note under section 7442 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

§ 51303. Non-competitive appointments

The Secretary of Transportation may appoint each year without competition as cadets at the United States Merchant Marine Academy not more than 50 qualified individuals with qualities the Secretary considers to be of special value to the Academy. In making these appointments, the Secretary shall try to achieve a national demographic balance at the Academy.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1572; Pub. L. 114-328, div. C, title XXXV, §3516(a), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2789.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51303 .....	46 App.:1295b(b)(3)(D).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1303(b)(3)(D), as added Pub. L. 96-453, §2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 1999.

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328 substituted “50” for “40”.

§ 51304. Additional appointments from particular areas

(a) OTHER COUNTRIES IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE.—The President may appoint individuals from countries in the Western Hemisphere other than the United States to receive instruction at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Not more than 12 individuals may receive instruction under this subsection at the same time, and not more than 2 individuals from the same country may receive instruction under this subsection at the same time.

(b) OTHER COUNTRIES GENERALLY.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation, with the approval of the Secretary of State, may appoint individuals from countries other than the United States to receive instruction at the Academy. Not more than 30 individuals may receive instruction under this subsection at the same time.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation shall ensure that the country from which an individual comes under this subsection will reimburse the Secretary for the cost (as determined by the Secretary) of the instruction and allowances received by the individual.

(c) PANAMA.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation, with the approval of the Secretary