

Information for Applying to the United States Coast Guard Academy

<http://www.cga.edu/apply/>

The U.S. Coast Guard Academy is proud to educate leaders of a **multi-mission, maritime** military force. As a commissioned officer in the Coast Guard, you will be leading a team of men and women who are continually called on to serve their community, country and fellow citizens.

While the United States Coast Guard is notable as the **oldest life-saving service in the world**, its roles include more than just Maritime Safety and Security. The Coast Guard is also called upon for critical service in protection of natural resources, maritime mobility (management of maritime traffic, commerce and navigation) and national defense.

At their [beautiful campus](#) on the Thames River in New London, Connecticut, the Academy provides a four-year **Bachelor of Science degree** program with a **full scholarship** for each individual. Each year, approximately 200 ensigns (or junior officers) are commissioned during graduation exercises in May.

Following graduation, newly commissioned ensigns report for duty aboard cutters and at sector offices in ports nationwide. Graduates of the academy are **obligated to serve five years** in the [U.S. Coast Guard](#), though many choose to stay and make a rewarding, life-long career of their maritime military service.