

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
COMMANDANT OF CADETS  
USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO 80840

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: CW

SUBJECT: United States Air Force Academy Candidate Information

TO: Parents and Candidates, Class of 1975

1. In order to assure that you are acquainted fully with an important policy of the United States Air Force Academy, the following is furnished:

a. When a candidate is sworn in as a cadet, he commits himself to a life of discipline and of service. He contracts to serve four years as a cadet at the Air Force Academy and, after graduation, to serve at least five years as an officer in the United States Air Force.

b. A cadet who does not fulfill his contract, as indicated above, may be ordered to active duty in enlisted status for up to four years.

c. The Academy does not provide specialist training nor assure entry into training for Law, Medicine, the Ministry, or other specialized professional occupations. Those young men who enter the Academy for a free education with no real desire to pursue an Air Force career may find the demands of the Academy excessive. Those who enter the Academy to please others often fail.

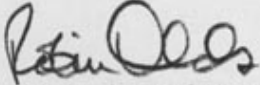
d. Standards of discipline, physical endurance, and study at the Academy are especially high. A new cadet, adjusting to these standards in an unfamiliar environment, must have the courage to give himself and the Academy a fair trial. Since proper evaluations require time and careful thought, the Academy will not consider favorably cadet resignations until after the sixth week of the academic year, which occurs around the first of October. After that time, Academy officials may recommend that the Air Force accept the resignation of any cadet whose continuation would not be in the best interest of the Air Force or of the cadet.

2. Another area of concern to me is the young man who is attracted to the Air Force Academy by the prestige, glamour, and uniqueness of the institution; but who has not considered seriously the impact of acceptance of the appointment. Some of these young men come here to "give us a try" with very little thought of staying for four years and accepting a commission in the Air Force upon graduation. I am very sorry to say, but must assure you, that these young men are seldom able to withstand the rigors of training and discipline, and either seek to resign or are disenrolled for various deficiencies. As a candidate, examine carefully your reasons for accepting the appointment offered and, if you have serious doubts about your motivation, don't accept.

3. The Academy program is tough, especially so this summer. Yet, very few young men find it impossible to meet this challenge. Most get real satisfaction from completing each phase of training here.

4. Please acknowledge receipt and understanding of this letter by affixing your signature below. Place one copy of this letter in the self-addressed envelope to USAFA (CWPP); keep the second copy for your information.

Sincerely



ROBIN OLDS, Brigadier General, USAF  
Commandant of Cadets

I have read and understand the policy and considerations outlined above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Candidate's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's Signature)