

(b) CONSTRUCTION OF AUTHORITY.—Any nomination for cadets made by a Senator pursuant to this section is not a reallocation of a nomination. Such nominations are made in lieu of a Senator not submitting nominations for cadets for an academic year in accordance with section 51302 of this title due to death, resignation from office, or expulsion from office and the date of the swearing-in of the Senator's successor occurs after the date of the deadline for submittal of nominations for cadets for the academic year.

(Added Pub. L. 118-159, div. C, title XXXV, § 3537(a), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2316.)

**§ 51303. Non-competitive appointments**

(a) IN GENERAL.—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.

(b) APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATES SELECTED FOR PREPARATORY SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP.—The Secretary of Transportation may appoint each year as cadets at the United States Merchant Marine Academy not more than 40 qualified individuals sponsored by the Academy to attend preparatory school during the academic year prior to entrance in the Academy, and who have successfully met the terms and conditions of sponsorship set by 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; Pub. L. 116-92, div. C, title XXXV, § 3504, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1970.)

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.

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2019—Pub. L. 116-92 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

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 coun-

tries 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 of State, may appoint individuals from Panama to receive instruction at the Academy. Individuals appointed under this subsection are in addition to those appointed under any other provision of this chapter.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation shall be reimbursed for the cost (as determined by the Secretary) of the instruction and allowances received by an individual appointed under this subsection.

(d) ALLOWANCES AND REGULATIONS.—Individuals receiving instruction under this section are entitled to the same allowances and are subject to the same regulations on admission, attendance, discipline, resignation, discharge, dismissal, and graduation, as cadets at the Academy appointed from the United States.

(Pub. L. 109-304, § 8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1572.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51304(a) .....	46 App.:1295b(b) (5)(A), (B).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, § 1303(b)(5)-(7), as added Pub. L. 96-453, § 2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 1999; Pub. L. 99-368, § 5, Aug. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 776; Pub. L. 101-595, title VII, § 708(3), Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 2995.
51304(b) .....	46 App.:1295b(b) (6)(A)-(C).	
51304(c) .....	46 App.:1295b(b) (7)(A), (B).	
51304(d) .....	46 App.:1295b(b) (5)(C), (6)(D), (7)(C).	

The word “appoint” is substituted for “designate” and “permit” for consistency in the chapter.

**§ 51305. Prohibited basis for appointment**

Preference may not be given to an individual for appointment as a cadet at the United States Merchant Marine Academy because one or more members of the individual's immediate family are alumni of the Academy.

(Pub. L. 109-304, § 8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1572.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51305 .....	46 App.:1295b(b) (3)(E).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, § 1303(b)(3)(E), as added Pub. L. 96-453, § 2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 1999.

**§ 51306. Cadet commitment agreements**

(a) AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS.—A citizen of the United States appointed as a cadet at the