

Merchant Marine Academy cadets, if available, on each voyage.”

2018—Pub. L. 115-232, §3512(1), (3), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsecs. (b) to (e).

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 115-232, §3512(2), substituted “owned, subsidized by, or contracted with” for “owned or subsidized by”.

2008—Pub. L. 110-181, §3525(b), repealed Pub. L. 109-241, §307. See 2006 Amendment note below.

Par. (4). Pub. L. 110-181, §3525(a)(3), incorporated the substance of the amendment by Pub. L. 109-241, §307, into this section by adding par. (4). See 2006 Amendment note below and section 18(a) of Pub. L. 109-304, set out as a Legislative Purpose and Construction note preceding section 101 of this title.

2006—Pub. L. 109-241, §307, which directed the amendment of section 1295b(f) of the former Appendix to this title from which this section was derived, was repealed by Pub. L. 110-181, §3525(b). See 2008 Amendment note for par. (4) and Historical and Revision notes above.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2022 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 117-263, div. C, title XXXV, §3517(a)(2), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3074, provided that: “Paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of section 51307, as amended by paragraph (1), shall apply with respect to any failure to implement or adhere to the policies, programs, criteria, and requirements referred to in paragraph (1)(B) of such subsection that occurs on or after the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2022].”

§ 51308. Uniforms, textbooks, and transportation allowances

The Secretary of Transportation shall provide cadets at the United States Merchant Marine Academy—

- (1) all required uniforms and textbooks; and (2) allowances for transportation (including reimbursement of traveling expenses) when traveling under orders as a cadet.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1574.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51308	46 App.:1295b(d).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1303(d), as added Pub. L. 96-453, §2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 2000.

§ 51309. Academic degree

(a) BACHELOR’S DEGREE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Superintendent of the United States Merchant Marine Academy may confer the degree of bachelor of science on an individual who—

- (A) has met the conditions prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation; and (B) if a citizen of the United States, has passed the examination for a merchant marine officer’s license.

(2) EFFECT OF PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL DISQUALIFICATION.—An individual not able or allowed to take the examination for a merchant marine officer’s license solely due to a documented medical or psychological condition shall not be denied a degree for not taking the examination.

(b) MASTER’S DEGREE.—The Superintendent of the Academy may confer a master’s degree on

an individual who has met the conditions prescribed by the Secretary. A master’s degree program may be funded through non-appropriated funds. To maintain the appropriate academic standards, the program shall be accredited by the appropriate accreditation body. Non-appropriated funds received for this purpose shall be credited to the Maritime Administration’s Operations and Training appropriation, to remain available until expended, for those expenses directly related to the purpose of such receipts. The Superintendent shall maintain a separate and detailed accounting of non-appropriated fund receipts and all associated expenses. The Secretary may prescribe regulations necessary to administer such a program.

(c) GRADUATION NOT ENTITLEMENT TO HOLD LICENSE.—Graduation from the Academy does not entitle an individual to hold a license authorizing service on a merchant vessel.

(d) DEFINITION OF DOCUMENTED MEDICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION.—In this section the term “documented medical or psychological condition” means, with respect to an individual, a physical disqualification or psychological condition, including a mental health condition arising from sexual assault or sexual harassment, for which the individual has been treated or is being treated by a medical or psychological provider.

(Pub. L. 109-304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1574; Pub. L. 111-84, div. C, title XXXV, §3514, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2724; Pub. L. 117-263, div. C, title XXXV, §3511, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3065.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51309(a)	46 App.:1295b(g)(1).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1303(g), as added Pub. L. 96-453, §2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 2002; restated Pub. L. 108-136, title XXXV, §3515(c), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1794.
51309(b)	46 App.:1295b(g)(2).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1303(b)(8), as added Pub. L. 96-453, §2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 1997; Pub. L. 99-368, §5, Aug. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 776.
51309(c)	46 App.:1295b(b)(8).	

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 117-263, §3511(1), in heading, inserted “or psychological” after “physical”, and, in text, inserted “able or” before “allowed” and substituted “solely due to a documented medical or psychological condition shall” for “only because of physical disqualification may”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 117-263, §3511(2), added subsec. (d).

2009—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 111-84 inserted before last sentence “Nonappropriated funds received for this purpose shall be credited to the Maritime Administration’s Operations and Training appropriation, to remain available until expended, for those expenses directly related to the purpose of such receipts. The Superintendent shall maintain a separate and detailed accounting of nonappropriated fund receipts and all associated expenses.”

§ 51310. Deferment of service obligation under cadet commitment agreements

The Secretary of Transportation may defer the service commitment of an individual under

section 51306(a)(5) of this title (as specified in the cadet commitment agreement) for not more than 2 years if the individual is engaged in a graduate course of study approved by the Secretary. However, deferment of service as a commissioned officer under section 51306(a)(5) must be approved by the Secretary of the military department that has jurisdiction over the service or by the Secretary of Commerce for service with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1575.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51310	46 App.:1295b(e)(5).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1303(e)(5), as added Pub. L. 96–453, §2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 2001; Pub. L. 97–31, §12(144)(B), Aug. 6, 1981, 95 Stat. 166; Pub. L. 108–136, title XXXV, §3515(b)(6), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1793.

§ 51311. Midshipman status in the Navy Reserve

(a) APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.—Before being appointed as a cadet at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, a citizen of the United States must agree to apply for midshipman status in the Navy Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, Navy Reserve).

(b) APPOINTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A citizen of the United States appointed as a cadet at the Academy shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy as a midshipman in the Navy Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, Navy Reserve).

(2) RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.—The Secretary of the Navy shall provide for cadets of the Academy who are midshipmen in the United States Navy Reserve to be—

(A) issued an identification card (referred to as a “military ID card”); and

(B) entitled to all rights and privileges in accordance with the same eligibility criteria as apply to other members of the Ready Reserve of the reserve components of the armed forces.

(3) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of the Navy shall carry out paragraphs (1) and (2) in coordination with the Secretary of Transportation.

(Pub. L. 109–304, §8(b), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1575; Pub. L. 109–163, div. A, title V, §515(g)(2), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3236; Pub. L. 110–181, div. C, title XXXV, §3523(a)(1), (b), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 598, 600.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51311(a)	46 App.:1295b(b)(3)(F).	June 29, 1936, ch. 858, title XIII, §1303(b)(3)(F), (c), as added Pub. L. 96–453, §2, Oct. 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 1999, 2000; Pub. L. 105–261, div. A, title V, §568, Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2031; Pub. L. 106–65, div. A, title X, §1066(b)(5), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 772.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
51311(b)	46 App.:1295b(c).	

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110–181, §3523(b), repealed Pub. L. 109–163, §515(g)(2). See 2006 Amendment note below.

Subsecs. (a), (b)(1), (2). Pub. L. 110–181, §3523(a)(1), incorporated the substance of the amendment by Pub. L. 109–163, §515(g)(2), into this section by substituting “Navy Reserve” for “Naval Reserve” wherever appearing in section catchline and text. See 2006 Amendment note below and section 18(a) of Pub. L. 109–304, set out as a Legislative Purpose and Construction note preceding section 101 of this title.

2006—Pub. L. 109–163, §515(g)(2), which directed the amendment of section 1295b of the former Appendix to this title from which this section was derived, was repealed by Pub. L. 110–181, §3523(b). See 2008 Amendment note for subsecs. (a), (b)(1), (2) and Historical and Revision notes above.

§ 51312. Board of Visitors

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be a Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy (referred to in this section as the “Board” and the “Academy”, respectively) to provide independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall be composed of—

(A) 2 Senators appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate in consultation with the ranking member of such Committee;

(B) 3 Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives in consultation with the ranking member of such Committee;

(C) 1 Senator appointed by the Vice President, who shall be a member of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(D) 2 Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Minority Leader, at least 1 of whom shall be a member of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(E) 5 individuals appointed by the President; and

(F) as ex officio members—

(i) the Commander of the Military Sealift Command;

(ii) the Deputy Commandant for Operations of the Coast Guard;

(iii) the chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(iv) the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(v) the chairman of the Advisory Board to the Academy established under section 51313; and

(vi) the Member of the House of Representatives for the congressional district