

National Cadet Special Activities Guidelines

One of the biggest benefits of being a cadet is the ability to attend National Cadet Special Activities. Selection to attend NCSA's can be very competitive. This document will help you know what to do to enhance your chances of being selected

1. Attend encampment as soon as you are able. You must have attended an encampment before applying for an NCSA. There are winter encampments offered by some wings that fulfill this requirement.
2. Take the cadet oath seriously - The squadron commander has the responsibility of not only signing your application but also of ranking the priority in which cadets are selected for an activity. Attendance at an NCSA is a privilege for the best cadets. In order to secure his approval wear your uniform properly, promote regularly, and be involved.
3. Determine the NCSA's you are interested in and for which you are eligible. Some NCSA's have age, grade in school, or cadet rank requirements. See attached list of current National Cadet Special Activities.
4. Submit a Special Activities Request Form to Cadet Commander.
5. Once approved by the Squadron Commander you may submit the online application. This must be done the deadline determined by National Headquarters.
6. Print the completed application and make 4 copies. Bring them in for the squadron commander's signature. You will mail one copy to Ohio Wing, one copy will be placed in your squadron file, one copy will be kept safely at home to take with you to the activity, and one copy will be taken to Ohio Wing for your review board.
7. Some tips:
 - a. You may apply to as many activities as you have time and money to attend.
 - b. You should apply to more than one NCSA because you may not get your first choice.
 - c. Transportation is not included in fees – except Cadet Officer School and International Air Cadet Exchange.
 - d. You must have an e-services account to apply online so make sure your account works prior to the deadline.
 - e. Some NCSA's require a review board. These are usually held at Wing Headquarters in January.
 - f. This is an application process. Selection is not guaranteed. A slotting process is used to rank applicants. Applicants will be notified in March regarding which, if any, NCSA's they may attend.
 - g. You may turn down a slot if you are no longer available or interested.
 - h. You will have until April 15th to pay.
 - i. Do not purchase plane tickets until selection is confirmed.
8. Special Procedures
 - a. Civic Leadership Academy – application is made in the fall.
 - b. Hawk Mountain and National Emergency Services Academy should be applied for during the Dec-Jan application process even though their

websites indicate later deadlines. Hawk Mountain applicants will have to go to the Ohio Wing Review Boards.

- c. Space Camp, Aviation Challenge, and EAA Air Academy are not done through National Headquarters or Ohio Wing. You do not need to submit a Request to Attend Wing, Regional or National Activity Form to attend these activities.
9. A slotting process is used to determine who is selected for each NCSA. Applicants are first ranked by Ohio Wing and then by National Headquarters
- a. To assist the wing in ranking you may be asked to complete a Cadet Data Sheet. Fill in as much information as you can. This is not the time to be bashful about your accomplishments.
 - b. The slotting process considers your current rank, your age, how long you have been in CAP, and how many NCSA's you have previously attended. A cadet that is promoting rapidly and has achieved at least one milestone award will have a greater chance of being selected than a cadet who does not promote.
 - c. In addition to the official slotting process used by National Headquarters the Wing can use the information from your Cadet Data Sheet to assist in ranking cadets.
 - Cadets that are motivated and show involvement at various echelons (squadron, group, wing) will have the highest priority in getting the NCSA of their choice.
 - A cadet who promotes regularly, is active in the squadron, and involved in community activities will more than likely be approved by Wing to compete for an NCSA.
 - Cadets whose personal conduct or attitude is deemed unsatisfactory may not be approved by Wing and thus not get selected for an NCSA.

National Cadet Special Activities

Air Force Careers

Undergraduate Pilot Training Familiarization Course
Air Force Pararescue Orientation Course –Basic /Advanced
Air Force Space Command Familiarization Course
Air Force Civil Engineering Orientation
Honor Guard Academy – Basic/ Intermediate/Advanced

Aviation Careers

Aircraft Manufacturing & Maintenance Academy
Michael King Smith Aviation Business Academy
National Blue Beret
National Flight Academy – Glider/ Powered

Leadership Careers

Civic Leadership Academy
National Character & Leadership Symposium
Cadet Officer School/ Falcon Flight
International Air Cadet Exchange
National Cadet Competition

Technology Careers

Advanced Technologies Academy
Engineering Technologies Academy
JROTC Aerospace & Technology Honors Camp

Special

Aviation Challenge
EAA Air Academy
Space Camp
Hawk Mountain – PA Wing
Hot Air Balloon Academy – IL Wing

Apply directly on NESAs website:

National Emergency Services Academy

- National Ground Search And Rescue (NGSAR) School – Basic/ Advanced
- NGSAR Team Leader Course
- NGSAR First Responder Course
- Incident Command System School – Basic/ Advanced
- Mission Aircrew School (MAS) Course – Basic/Advanced