

The Southern Military Institute is a non-denominational Christian institution seeking to admit young men who desire an education in engineering and science. SMI is the only four-year, traditional all-male military college in the United States. SMI does not have and does not seek to have commissioning authority in the Armed Forces of the United States. Cadets desiring officer commissions will be directed to existing National Guard Officer Candidate Schools (OCS) in states that are local to SMI. Applicants must be male citizens of the United States and not be less than seventeen (17) or more than twenty-eight (28) years of age at the date of their enrollment. Applicants may not be married or divorced, or have legal dependents. Age waivers for up to four (4) years may be granted for applicants who have served in the active or reserve armed services of the United States, or in the National Guard of a State.

SMI military training is rigorous and designed to prepare young men for leadership in civilian careers during peacetime or, in the event of war, for ground combat. It is a rigorous mental and physical experience beginning with the basic training period called the "RATLINE." This period, during the first part of the fourth-class (RAT) year, is a physically and mentally challenging period designed to test character, develop confidence, and form a class bond that will last a lifetime. Cadets are required to take physical fitness tests, physical education courses, military training, and participate in intramural sports programs. The U.S. Army enlistment medical criterion is used as a basic admission physical fitness standard. Candidates for admission who are denied admission on medical grounds may request a waiver by writing to the Director of Admissions. The SMI Corps Surgeon will review the case, seek assistance from independent medical specialists as appropriate, and make a recommendation on the medical waiver to the Superintendent.

Background

Applicants to SMI must present a secondary school record showing a **MINIMUM OF** 16 academic credits earned at the time of graduation. The 16 credits must include four (4) in English, two (2) in algebra, three (3) in science, and two (2) in Geometry. Trigonometry and calculus are desirable. The following is intended only as a general guideline for desired academic credits and is not a requirement for admission:

- English – 4
- Social Studies – 3
- Sciences – 3
- Algebra – 2
- Geometry – 2
- Trigonometry – 1
- Calculus – 1
- Foreign – 1

TOTAL CREDITS = 18

All applicants are **REQUIRED** to take the College Board Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or American College Testing Program (ACT). The SAT or ACT should be taken in the senior year prior to January (for SAT) or December (for ACT). Information about the SAT or ACT may be obtained from the applicant's high school guidance office.

Whole Man

Acceptance for admission to SMI will be based on the whole-man evaluation concept. This concept of evaluation takes into account not only demonstrated academic aptitude, but also demonstrated leadership potential, demonstrated moral convictions, and community service. A prospective cadet should be active in one or more church and civic activities, such as the Boy Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, student government organizations, National Honor Society, and intramural or varsity sports.

Two Character references should be provided by the applicant. These references should be someone who knows the prospective cadet personally and has specific knowledge of the prospective cadet's character and moral convictions. Examples of good references are Church leaders, teachers, employers, coaches, or Alumni of VMI, The Citadel, or West Point.

Matriculation

All SMI cadets must make the following pledge upon matriculation at the Southern Military Institute:

"I hereby pledge to serve as a cadet of the Southern Military Institute, and will obey all legal orders of the constituted authority of the Institute. I give my word of honor, as a member of the SMI Corps of Cadets and as a future Alumnus of the Institute, that I will never lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do. I affirm that I am not married or divorced, and that I have no legal dependents. I will not join or affiliate with any secret society or fraternity while a member of the SMI Corps of Cadets. So help me God. "

Application

New cadets are enrolled at the beginning of each new session in September. Application for admission may be made from September 1st until May 30th of the academic year prior to matriculation. The following items are required for determination of admission:

- A completed application form (no fee required)
- An official transcript of the high school record, to be mailed with the application form.
- Results of SAT or ACT tests(test scores are to be reported from the testing agency, if not included on the high school transcript)
- Two (2) letters of recommendation
- Physicians Statement attesting to physical fitness to conduct rigorous military training

Admission

Prospective cadets will be ranked according to academic achievement and the whole-man rating concept. Decisions for admission will be made on all applications beginning in February. Selected applicants will be sent appointments that are tentative pending establishment of a reservation. A reservation requires submission of satisfactory medical and dental reports, a signed acceptance of the appointment, and payment of a \$250 advance deposit. The advance deposit is deducted from the total charges for the first year of enrollment. It is refundable if requested in writing before June 30, or if the applicant is found physically disqualified.

SMI reserves the right to cancel an appointment or reservation if the recipient is found to be physically unfit for military training or if a subsequent academic or conduct record is found unsatisfactory. All factors being equal for a given ranking of individuals, the preference for admission will be given to the applicant from a southern state and the competitors will be moved to the next lower ranking level for further consideration.

Prov Appt

SMI honours all provisional appointments to VMI, The Citadel, and West Point. SMI will also issue Provisional Appointments to sons of VMI, The Citadel, and West Point Alumni upon request. Sons of members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) and United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also eligible for Provisional Appointments to SMI.

Any cadet who holds a Provisional Appointment and who meets the minimum requirements for admission is automatically reserved an appointment to the SMI Corps of Cadets for the year indicated on his appointment certificate.

Transfer

SMI welcomes applications from students wishing to transfer from another college or university. The transfer students must not be married or divorced, must not have any legal dependents, and must not be less than 17 nor more than 28 years of age on the date of their matriculation. Age waivers may be granted for applicants having prior active duty, reserve or National Guard service. At least three years (six semesters) residence at SMI is required for graduation regardless of the number of course credits approved for transfer. All transfer applicants must submit an official transcript of their secondary school record and this should include standardized test scores (SAT or ACT). Transfer students must have a cumulative 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all college courses taken for credit.

Tuition & Fees

Values given for tuition and fees are only estimates. The actual values are expected to decrease by 10-15%. Current estimates for one year are:

- Tuition: \$12,000
- Room and Board: \$2,700
- Fees*: \$2,300
- TOTAL” \$17,000

* Fees include quartermaster, uniform, and student service charges.

Financial aid will be available in the form of scholarships, grants, and low interest loans to assist in off-setting the high cost of this unique private educational Institution.