

United States Air Force Academy

Colorado Springs





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USAFA Mission

The mission is to educate, train, and inspire men and women to become officers of character motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation

USAFA Motto

"Integrity First, Service Before Self, and
Excellence in All We Do"

History of the Academy

- The USAFA's campus is located on a mesa at 7000 feet. It borders the northern edge of Colorado Springs
- President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill establishing the United States Air Force Academy on April 1, 1954.
- Women entered the Air Force Academy for the first time on June 28, 1976. The first class graduated in May, 1980.

Famous Graduates

Steve Ritchie

USAFA 1964

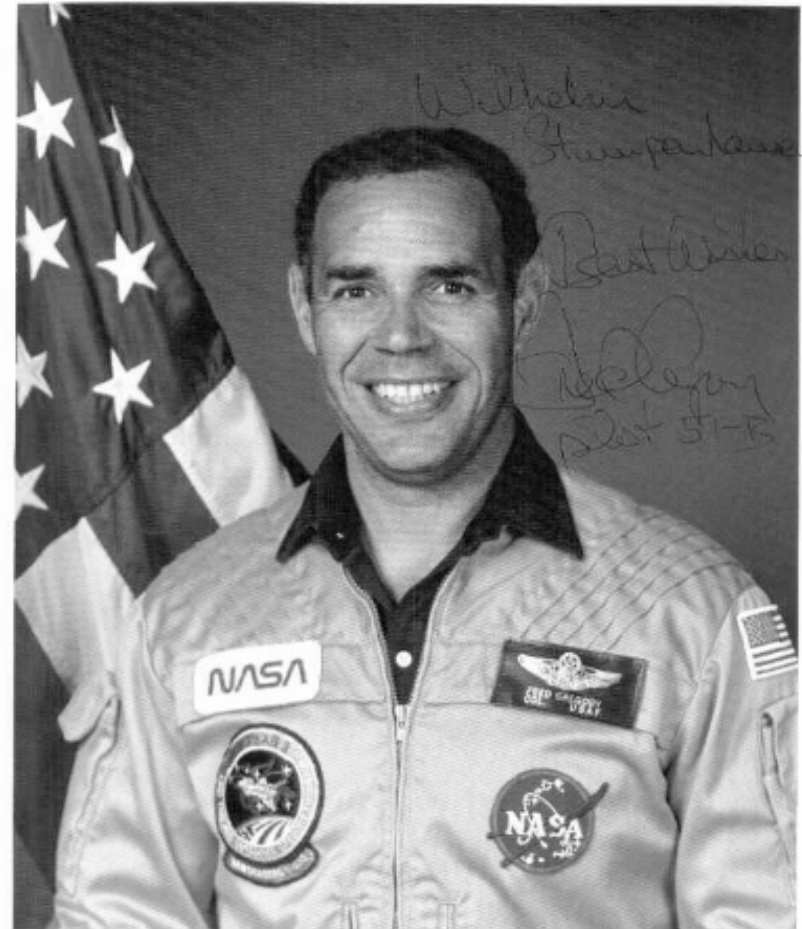
- Shot down five MIG 21s during the Viet Nam War
- Only pilot named an ace during Viet Nam



Famous Graduates

Frederick Gregory USAFA 1964

- Former Deputy Administrator of NASA.
- First African-American to pilot the space shuttle.



Frederick D. Gregory

Famous Graduates

Lance Sijan

USAFA 1965

- Awarded the Medal of Honor.
- Shot down over North Viet Nam - evaded enemy forces for 46 days. Captured and died in captivity in 1968.



Famous Graduates

LeRoy Homer USAFA 1987

Was the co-pilot of United Airlines Flight 93, which crashed into a reclaimed coal-mining area near Stonycreek and Shanksville on September 11, 2001.



Apply to the Academy

Basic Eligibility Requirements

To attend one of the service academies, applicants **MUST**:

- be 17 but not yet 23 years of age by July 1 of year admitted.
- be a U.S. citizen at time of enrollment (exception: foreign students nominated by agreement between U.S. and another country).

Apply to the Academy

Basic Eligibility Requirements (continued)

- be of high moral caliber
- be unmarried
- not be pregnant or have a legal obligation to support a child or children
- nomination by a Congressmen, Senator or the Vice President is required