

An Interview: U.S. Representative Ken Calvert (R-Calif.)

The cadets of Paul Revere Division and TS Independence asked Rep. Calvert about service academies, technology and more.



Petty Officer 3rd Class
Bradley Vargas, NSCC

Q: What do you think a Sea Cadet can do to increase their chances of being accepted into a service academy?

Calvert: I think any steps Sea Cadets can take to demonstrate they have a wide range of experiences will only help. Obviously, being involved with the Sea Cadets is a great start along with getting good grades. Also, it is

always positive to demonstrate leadership among your peers, such as serving in student government, being a team captain, or being named as a student of the month. Participating in team sports and community service are other ways of increasing your chances.



Chief Petty Officer
Nathan Booth, NSCC

Q: Do you take into consideration the Sea Cadet program when drafting bills or policies that might affect them?

Calvert: I certainly do every year during the appropriations process in which we fund the federal government. As part of that process Congress has provided annual funding

for the Sea Cadet program. I also like to use the Sea Cadet program as a model for other opportunities to engage young Americans.

Q: What is your favorite branch of the military?

Calvert: That is kind of like asking a parent to choose a favorite child. All of our branches perform a unique and critical role, and together they combine to make up the finest military force in the world.



Petty Officer 3rd Class
Jacob McCormick,
NLCC

Q: Do you have any relatives who have served in the military?

Calvert: My father served in the Navy during World War II.



Able Cadet
Adam Niles, NLCC

Q: Due to constant changes and advancements in technology, how do you see the Sea Cadet program changing in the future?

Calvert: We have seen tremendous developments in the technology used in our daily lives, and that applies to our military as well. I fully expect those developments to transfer over to the Sea Cadet programs and training.



Seaman Apprentice
Dylan Trinh, NSCC

Q: What are some of your favorite things you get to do as a congressman?

Calvert: I have been fortunate enough to meet and visit with American service members in various locations around the world. Seeing their professionalism, sacrifice, and dedication to protecting our national security is truly inspiring. I've also been

able to fly on Air Force One with President Bush, which is an unforgettable experience.

Q: Where do you see the Sea Cadet program and other youth military programs in the future?

Calvert: The Sea Cadet program has seen tremendous growth from its first unit of 78 young men to now more than 380 units and 9,000 young men and women. I expect even more growth in the years to come as young Americans look for ways to explore the opportunities our military programs have to offer.



Seaman Recruit
Angelina Branco,
NSCC

Q: What advice would you give young men and women in the Sea Cadet program?

Calvert: As my father used to say, hope is not a planning option. So I would encourage them to figure out where they want to be in 10 or 20 years, and then develop a strategy for how they are going to achieve their goals. 🧭



Petty Officer 2nd Class
Decklan Eaden, NSCC