



# **International Cadet Candidate Physical Fitness Examination**

## **Instruction Manual & Scoring Table**

Revised 10/03/2018

### **FOREWORD**

Life as a Coast Guard Academy cadet - and later as a military officer - is physically demanding. In addition to being required to participate in sports each year, cadets are required to take a Physical Fitness Examination (PFE) each semester. Experience indicates that individuals who cannot meet, or struggle to meet, our physical fitness standards are more likely to leave the Academy during the first few weeks of Swab Summer. To ensure that we are enrolling physically fit young men and women, cadet candidates are required to take the PFE as part of the application process.

## ADMINISTERING THE PFE TO INTERNATIONAL CADET CANDIDATES

The PFE is a 300-point test consisting of three elements worth a maximum of 100 points each. It must be administered in the following sequence with a maximum rest period of five minutes in between the events.

1. Cadence Push-Ups
2. Two-Minute Sit-Ups
3. 1.5 Mile Run

The candidate should ask either a coach or physical education instructor to administer the PFE. Before scheduling the test, the candidate should practice each event and concentrate on improving any weaknesses. On the day of the test, the candidate should be dressed in comfortable work-out clothing and running shoes; the candidate should arrive early enough to complete a thorough and active warm-up routine.

The examiner should review this manual and the PFE Scoring Form prior to the exam and have prepared an emergency action plan for medical assistance, if required. All necessary equipment for each event should be set-up before the test begins. All results should be marked on the PFE Scoring Form. At the beginning of the exam, the examiner should measure the height and weight of the candidate in gym shorts and t-shirt (no shoes), recording these results at the bottom of the PFE Scoring Form. After all events have been completed, use the scoring table contained in this manual to convert raw scores to points for each event; calculate and record the total score.

The examiner must provide contact information and both individuals should sign the form. By signing/submitting the form, the examiner and candidate are confirming that the exam was administered according to the instructions in this manual and that raw scores/points are true.

Scores must come from a single test session and cannot be pieced together from multiple sessions or practice tests.

## CADET PFE STANDARDS

All cadets at the Coast Guard Academy are required to pass the PFE at the beginning of each semester. The standard for graduation is 200 points and cadets should always strive to achieve this score. Any cadet who scores below 165 points will be recommended for suspended disenrollment and may be recommended for immediate disenrollment based on previous PFE performance. There is not a prescribed minimum performance for each individual event on the PFE; only total scores are assessed.

<u>Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
285-300	Max Club	200-221	C
258-284	A	165-199	D
222-257	B	0-164	F

New cadets take the PFE during the first week of Swab Summer. Cadets who score less than 130 points on this first test may be recommended for immediate disenrollment. By the end of Swab Summer, usually the third week in August, new cadets are expected to score at least 165 points. Cadets unable to achieve this score by the end of the first academic semester, usually the second week in December, are normally disenrolled. Consequently, an applicant who cannot attain a score of at least 130 points will not receive a full appointment. This standard may be raised based on the competitiveness of the applicant pool and the needs of the Coast Guard.

## CLASS OF 2022 PERFORMANCE

For your information and comparison, the following is a table of mean performances by the Class of 2022 from their initial Swab Summer Physical Fitness Examination in July 2018:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
1. Cadence Push-Ups	37	28
2. Two Minute Sit-Ups	81	78
3. 1.5 Mile Run	10:38	12:29

## EVENT 1 CADENCE PUSH-UPS

**Equipment:** A stopwatch.

**Description:** Push-Ups must be completed to cadence, with one push-up completed every two seconds for a maximum of 60 in two minutes. The examiner should give the “up” command at one second and “down” at the next. At the start of the event, lie on your stomach with your hands shoulder-width apart (directly under your shoulders); fingers should be facing forward; elbows are bent. On the “up” command, elbows are locked, body straight, hips may not be flexed. On the “down” command, back is straight with elbows bent to at least 90 degrees. Continue doing push-ups, staying on cadence, for as long as possible. No resting is permitted and your hand position cannot be changed. The event is finished when push-ups are not properly executed, you cannot stay with the cadence, or two minutes has passed.

**Precautions:** Resting is not allowed; do not lift your hands off the ground or change hand position; keep your body straight at all times; hips may not flex and buttocks should remain in line with your back and legs.

**Scoring:** Record the total number of properly executed push-ups. If the candidate is able to stay with cadence for two minutes, the maximum raw score is 60.



Figure 1  
Proper Up Position



Figure 2  
Proper Down Position

## EVENT 2 TWO-MINUTE SIT-UPS

**Equipment:** Gymnasium mat and a stopwatch.

**Description:** Lie on your back with your knees flexed so that your feet are flat on the floor and eight to twelve inches from your buttocks. Have someone hold your feet firmly; cross your arms across your chest with your hands firmly grasping your t-shirt above your shoulders. When the examiner begins the event with the “go” command, curl your torso up so your arms touch your thighs, then return to the start position. Repeat as many times as possible in two minutes.

**Precautions:** A sit-up will not count if you do not maintain the above form or if you allow your arms to swing away from the body during the sit-up.

**Scoring:** Record the number of properly executed sit-ups performed in a two-minute period.



Figure 3  
Start/Finish Position

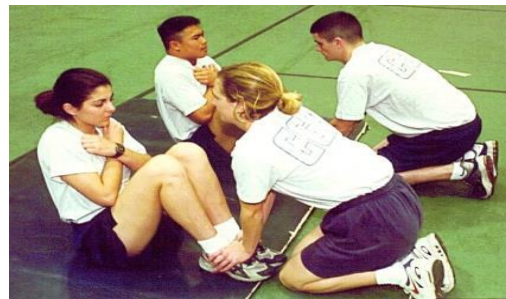


Figure 4  
Proper Sit-Up Position

### EVENT 3

#### 1.5 MILE (2.4 KILOMETER) RUN

**Equipment:** A measured 1.5 mile (2.4 kilometer) course and a stopwatch.

**Description:** You will cover the 1.5 mile (2.4 kilometer) course in the fastest possible time.

**Precautions:** You must be physically prepared for this event. If you become winded, or have a muscle cramp, you may walk; however, you must stay within the measured course. This event may not be completed on a treadmill or other fixed machine.

**Scoring:** Record the time, to the nearest second, that it takes to complete the 1.5 mile (2.4 kilometer) course.

#### INTERNATIONAL CADET CANDIDATE SWIMMING EVALUATION

**Equipment:** Any size swimming pool with an eight foot (2.5 meter) depth at some point and with a 25 yard (23 meter) length. A calm lake or other inland body of water may be used if a pool is not available. A stopwatch should be used for timing.

**Description:** Swim 25 yards (23 meters) using any stroke then, without resting, tread water for up to 15 minutes. Your head should remain above water at all times and you may not touch the sides or bottom of the pool at any time.

**Precautions:** A qualified lifeguard should be present during this evaluation.

**Scoring:** Record the time, to the nearest second, that it takes to complete the 25 yard (23 meter) swim. Record the time, in minutes, that the candidate treads water up to 15 minutes. If the candidate is unable to tread water for 15 minutes, the lesser time should still be recorded.

# PFE SCORING TABLE

Points	Event 1 Push-Ups Number		Event 2 Sit-Ups Number		Event 3 1.5 Mile Run Min : Sec		Points
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
100	60	48-60	100+	100+	<=8:06	<=10:01	100
99		47	99	99	8:07-8:10	10:02-10:05	99
98	59		98	98	8:11-8:14	10:06-10:09	98
97	58	46	97	97	8:15-8:19	10:10-10:13	97
96	57	45	96	96	8:20-8:23	10:14-10:17	96
95			95	95	8:24-8:27	10:18-10:22	95
94	56	44	94	94	8:28-8:32	10:23-10:26	94
93	55	43	93	93	8:33-8:36	10:27-10:30	93
92	54	42	92	92	8:37-8:40	10:31-10:34	92
91			91	91	8:41-8:45	10:35-10:39	91
90	53	41	90	90	8:46-8:49	10:40-10:43	90
89	52	40	89	89	8:50-8:53	10:44-10:47	89
88	51		88	88	8:54-8:58	10:48-10:51	88
87		39	87	87	8:59-9:02	10:52-10:55	87
86	50	38	86	86	9:03-9:06	10:56-11:00	86
85	49		85	85	9:07-9:11	11:01-11:04	85
84	48	37	84	84	9:12-9:15	11:05-11:08	84
83	47	36	83	83	9:16-9:20	11:09-11:12	83
82		35	82	82	9:21-9:24	11:13-11:17	82
81	46		81	81	9:25-9:28	11:18-11:21	81
80	45	34	80	80	9:29-9:33	11:22-11:25	80
79	44	33	79	79	9:34-9:37	11:26-11:29	79
78			78	78	9:38-9:42	11:30-11:33	78
77	43	32	77	77	9:43-9:46	11:34-11:38	77
76	42	31	76	76	9:47-9:50	11:39-11:42	76
75	41		75	75	9:51-9:54	11:43-11:46	75
74		30	74	74	9:55-9:59	11:47-11:50	74
73	40	29	73	73	10:00-10:03	11:51-11:55	73
72	39	28	72	72	10:04-10:07	11:56-11:59	72
71	38		71	71	10:08-10:12	12:00-12:03	71
70		27	70	70	10:13-10:16	12:04-12:07	70
69	37	26	69	69	10:17-10:20	12:08-12:11	69
68	36		68	68	10:21-10:25	12:12-12:16	68
67	35	25	67	67	10:26-10:29	12:17-12:20	67
66		24	66	66	10:30-10:33	12:21-12:24	66
65	34		65	65	10:34-10:38	12:25-12:28	65
64	33	23	64	64	10:39-10:42	12:29-12:33	64
63	32	22	63	63	10:43-10:46	12:34-12:37	63
62	31	21	62	62	10:47-10:51	12:38-12:41	62
61			61	61	10:52-10:55	12:42-12:45	61
60	30	20	60	60	10:56-10:59	12:46-12:49	60
59	29	19	59	59	11:00-11:04	12:50-12:54	59
58	28		58	58	11:05-11:08	12:55-12:58	58
57		18	57	57	11:09-11:12	12:59-13:02	57
56	27	17	56	56	11:13-11:17	13:03-13:06	56
55	26		55	55	11:18-11:21	13:07-13:11	55
54	25	16	54	54	11:22-11:25	13:12-13:15	54
53		15	53	53	11:26-11:30	13:16-13:19	53
52	24	14	52	52	11:31-11:34	13:20-13:23	52
51	23		51	51	11:35-11:39	13:24-13:27	51

Points	Event 1 Push-Ups Number		Event 2 Sit-Ups Number		Event 3 1.5 Mile Run Min : Sec		Points
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
50	22	13	50	50	11:40-11:43	13:28-13:32	50
49		12	49	49	11:44-11:47	13:33-13:36	49
48	21		48	48	11:48-11:52	13:37-13:40	48
47	20	11	47	47	11:53-11:56	13:41-13:44	47
46	19	10	46	46	11:57-12:00	13:45-13:49	46
45	18		45	45	12:01-12:05	13:50-13:53	45
44		9	44	44	12:06-12:09	13:54-13:57	44
43	17	8	43	43	12:10-12:13	13:58-14:01	43
42	16	7	42	42	12:14-12:18	14:02-14:05	42
41	15		41	41	12:19-12:22	14:06-14:10	41
40		6	40	40	12:23-12:26	14:11-14:14	40
39	14	5	39	39	12:27-12:31	14:15-14:18	39
38	13		38	38	12:32-12:35	14:19-14:22	38
37	12	4	37	37	12:36-12:39	14:23-14:27	37
36		3	36	36	12:40-12:44	14:28-14:31	36
35	11		35	35	12:45-12:48	14:32-14:35	35
34	10	2	34	34	12:49-12:52	14:36-14:39	34
33	9	1	33	33	12:53-12:57	14:40-14:43	33
32			32	32	12:58-13:01	14:44-14:48	32
31	8		31	31	13:02-13:05	14:49-14:52	31
30	7		30	30	13:06-13:10	14:53-14:56	30
29	6		29	29	13:11-13:14	14:57-15:00	29
28	5		28	28	13:15-13:18	15:01-15:04	28
27			27	27	13:19-13:23	15:05-15:09	27
26	4		26	26	13:24-13:27	15:10-15:13	26
25	3		25	25	13:28-13:31	15:14-15:17	25
24	2		24	24	13:32-13:36	15:18-15:21	24
23			23	23	13:37-13:40	15:22-15:26	23
22	1		22	22	13:41-13:44	15:27-15:30	22
21			21	21	13:45-13:49	15:31-15:34	21
20			20	20	13:50-13:53	15:35-15:38	20
19			19	19	13:54-13:57	15:39-15:43	19
18			18	18	13:58-14:02	15:44-15:47	18
17			17	17	14:03-14:06	15:48-15:51	17
16			16	16	14:07-14:11	15:52-15:55	16
15			15	15	14:12-14:15	15:56-15:59	15
14			14	14	14:16-14:19	16:00-16:04	14
13			13	13	14:20-14:24	16:05-16:08	13
12			12	12	14:25-14:28	16:09-16:12	12
11			11	11	14:29-14:32	16:13-16:16	11
10			10	10	14:33-14:37	16:17-16:21	10
9			9	9	14:38-14:41	16:22-16:25	9
8			8	8	14:42-14:45	16:26-16:29	8
7			7	7	14:46-14:50	16:30-16:33	7
6			6	6	14:51-14:54	16:34-16:37	6
5			5	5	14:55-14:58	16:38-16:42	5
4			4	4	14:59-15:03	16:43-16:46	4
3			3	3	15:04-15:07	16:47-16:50	3
2			2	2	15:08-15:11	16:51-16:54	2
1			1	1	15:11-15:14	16:55-16:58	1
0			0	0	15:15+	16:59+	0