Midshipman Questionnaire

Do you qualify to be a Midshipman in 1812?
Read the questions below and check yes or no.

1. Can you read and write?
   - □ NO - Sorry! You won’t be able to perform your duties as a Midshipman without these skills.
   - □ YES - Off to a good start! A Midshipman needs reading, writing, grammar, and penmanship skills to keep an official journal. Officers in training also need to know math and geography for navigation.

2. Do you have seafaring experience?
   - □ NO - That’s okay! It is not required.
   - □ YES - 58% of Midshipmen have previous seafaring experience.

3. Do you come from a coastal state?
   - □ NO - No problem. Midshipmen come from all regions of the United States
   - □ YES - The majority of Midshipmen come from Atlantic coastal states.

4. Are you between the ages of 12 and 18?
   - □ NO - That’s all right. Boys younger than twelve and men over twenty can serve as Midshipmen.
   - □ YES - You’re in good company. The average age is 17.

5. Do you have a letter of recommendation from a senator?
   - □ NO - You will have to get one!
   - □ YES - Good! Political and social connections are essential to gain an appointment as a Midshipman.

Even if you have all the qualifications necessary, your chances of becoming a Midshipman are only one in ten.