

**U.S. Merchant Marine Academy  
Office of Health Services  
Department of Dental Services  
Patten Hall  
Kings Point, NY 11024**

**Record of Dental Examination for Third Molar Status**

**Instructions:** Please complete this form in conjunction with a licensed dental provider. A routine dental evaluation is required including bitewing and panorex radiographs not older than 12 months from 1st day of Indoctrination. If dental provider checks either box #2 or box #3, the signature of parent or legal guardian is required on the Assumption of Financial Responsibility for Third Molar Extraction/Oral Surgery/Associated Costs section on the reverse side. This completed form must be returned **four weeks prior to Day 1 of Indoctrination.**

|                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Plebe Candidate's Full Name:</b> |                               |
| <b>Social Security Number:</b>      | <b>Date of Birth:</b>         |
| <b>Home Mailing Address:</b>        | <b>Home Telephone Number:</b> |

**This portion must be completed and signed by a Licensed Dental Provider.**

Dear Doctor: The patient you are examining is a Plebe Candidate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA). This Plebe Candidate needs your assessment of his/her Third Molar status for worldwide duty with minimal or no medical services for prolonged periods of time. This assessment must comply with Department of Defense Instruction 6025.19 [<http://www.public.navy.mil/ia/Documents/602519p.pdf>].

**Please mark (X) the blocks** that best describe the condition of the Plebe Candidate, using as a suggested minimum a clinical examination with mirror and probe, and bitewing and panorex radiographs. **This form is meant to determine fitness for prolonged duty without ready access to dental care and is not intended to address the Plebe Candidate's comprehensive dental needs. You are assessing unerupted, partially erupted, or malposed teeth with historical, clinical, or radiographic signs or symptoms of pathosis that are recommended for removal.**

1.  The following third molars have been extracted or congenitally missing and are not present \_\_\_\_\_

Plebe Candidates who have their wisdom teeth removed after their DoDMERB physical and before arrival at USMMA must submit a letter from their oral surgeon stating they are healed and cleared for unlimited physical activity (according to USMMA standards).

2\*.  All / some third molars have fully erupted, are in occlusion and functional \_\_\_\_\_

3\*.  The following third molars have not been extracted \_\_\_\_\_

\* Plebe Candidates must provide a letter from their dentist supporting a decision to retain third molars. A Parent/Legal Guardian must sign Assumption of Financial Responsibility for Third Molar Extraction/Oral Surgery/Associated Costs section on the reverse side of this form.

Dental Provider Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Dental Provider Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Bitewings: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Panorex: \_\_\_\_\_

Dental Provider Signature/State License Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Examination \_\_\_\_\_

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**ASSUMPTION OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
THIRD MOLAR EXTRACTION/ORAL SURGERY/ASSOCIATED COSTS**

**Please read and sign below if your dentist has checked either box #2 or box #3 on the Page 1 of this form.**

On the advice of our family dentist, I have elected **not** to have my son's/daughter's third molars (wisdom teeth) removed prior to enrolling as a Midshipman at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. The Dental Provider, listed on the front side of this form has issued a letter (attached to this form) supporting the decision to retain the third molars.

I understand that the USMMA does not have an Oral Surgeon on staff and **cannot assume financial responsibility** for third molar extraction/oral surgery/associated costs. Should my son's/daughter's third molars be deemed a risk for infection, **as determined exclusively by the USMMA Senior Dental Officer**, I accept, as a condition of my son's/daughter's acceptance into the USMMA, full financial responsibility for the extraction of affected teeth. Those who elect to have surgery after arriving at USMMA must get pre-approval for elective surgery from the USMMA Senior Dental Officer outlining the course of action if they should develop a surgical complication.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Plebe Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian for Minors

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Plebe Candidate's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Plebe Candidate

**Special note to Plebe Candidates / Parent/Guardian regarding Third Molars/Wisdom Teeth:**

The Academy expects Plebe Candidates will arrive at the Academy with no potentially disqualifying dental conditions. Examples of disqualifying dental conditions include the presence of Third Molars (wisdom teeth), either erupted or impacted, that cannot be maintained in a good state of health. You must be able to achieve fully deployable status (DoD Class 1 or 2) and be ready for sea duty within 11 to 16 months of arrival at USMMA, and not have a DoD Class 3 dental status hold due to your third molars. Class 3 dental status is considered any condition that may prevent you from performing optimally and could become emergent within 12 months. These conditions include the following: infections, caries / restorations, missing teeth, periodontal conditions, oral surgery (unerupted, partially erupted, malposed teeth with historical, clinical, or radiographic signs or symptoms or pathosis that are recommended for removal), and other disorders or pain dysfunction requiring active treatment. DoD Class 3 status disqualifies you from deployment for sea duty, thus severely impacting your ability to meet academic standards.

During your two sea duty deployments you will be on a ship (surface or submarine) with minimal or no medical/dental care services for prolonged periods of time, 4 months and 8 months respectively. The above treatment course is designed to accommodate the realities of life on a ship on the high seas. Should you develop a condition that requires emergent dental care, you will not have the choice of services/providers that you normally would have on/around campus at USMMA and/or at home. Correction of all dental defects and removal of wisdom teeth, when indicated, before arriving at the Academy will maximize your dental health, prevent lost academic time, minimize any dental conditions affecting sea duty clearance and go a long way toward ensuring your success as a USMMA Midshipman. If your civilian dentist has recommended you have your wisdom teeth removed, we strongly suggest you follow their advice. It is also HIGHLY recommended that any wisdom teeth, which are symptomatic or partially erupted, in jaws that are not large enough to accommodate them, be removed at least 3 to 6 months prior to admission to allow time for healing and to prevent any potential future problem from interfering with your academic studies, regimental training, and sea duty clearance.

The USMMA's Department of Dental Services' overall goal is to facilitate YOUR success as you prepare to enter USMMA and begin your career as a credentialed Merchant Mariner. If you have questions or concerns regarding any potentially disqualifying dental condition, please feel free to contact Dr. Isabel Martins, D.M.D., the USMMA Senior Dental Officer at (516) 726-5680, Option #2, for assistance.