



**NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER SCHOOL FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY AND RESOURCE STRATEGY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20319-5066**

Dear Class of 2026,

Welcome to the Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy. It is my absolute honor to congratulate you on your selection to attend one of the nation's premier institutions for national security and resource strategy studies. Your presence here is a testament to your talents, abilities and your potential to serve at the highest levels of strategic leadership where the intersection of warfighting capability, industrial strength, and strategic decision-making shape the future of our national security.

The Eisenhower School educates joint warfighters, national security leaders, defense industry executives and allied partners for strategic leadership roles. Our purpose is clear: to cultivate leaders who know how to transform economic and strategic resources into effective national power. We are a catalyst for change, a proving ground for strategic thinkers, and a pillar of progress for our warfighters and policymakers. At Eisenhower, we thrive on creativity, collaboration and teamwork, and a passion for life-long learning. Throughout the year, you will be immersed in an executive leadership program designed to sharpen your ability to lead in complex environments, explore new warfighting concepts, and deepen your understanding of the dynamic global security environment.

This year we celebrate the 102nd anniversary of our institution, founded in 1924 as the Army Industrial College. Over a century later, our mission remains steadfast: to develop senior leaders who can navigate the space between strategy and execution, ensuring our nation retains its competitive edge in an era of great power competition. The curriculum is demanding, rigorous, and intellectually diverse, exposing you to a broad spectrum of ideas, cultures, and strategic perspectives. At Eisenhower, you will develop the tools necessary to shape policy, drive innovation, and lead at the highest levels of government, industry, and the military.

Beyond the classroom, you will build lifelong connections with an operationally diverse cohort of military officers, government officials, and industry leaders who will be your teammates and allies for years to come. The challenges facing our nation demand leaders who are bold, innovative, and willing to make tough decisions. While academic rigor is at the heart of this experience, we urge you to take advantage of the opportunities to engage with your classmates in athletic programs and social settings outside the seminar room. The experiences both in and outside the classroom are what make Eisenhower unique, and I encourage you to make the most of your time with us.

On behalf of our faculty and staff, congratulations again. I am confident you will find your time at Eisenhower professionally and personally rewarding. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the faculty and staff, we are committed to your success and stand ready to support you and your families over the course of the academic year. I look forward to connecting with each of you, hearing your story, and partnering with you as we embark on this journey together. Go Tigers!

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Aguilar", is positioned above the printed name.

KIRSTEN G. AGUILAR
Brigadier General, USAF
Commandant

"BUILDING STRATEGIC LEADERS FOR THE FUTURE"