



# John S. McCain Strategic Defense Fellowship Program



## Cade Brandt Bennett

Cohort 6 Fellow, John S. McCain Strategic Defense Fellowship Program

**Organization:** Office of the Under Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment

**Education:**

- James Madison University, Master of Arts, Political Science – European Union Policy, August 2025
- James Madison University, Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies, May 2024

Growing up in a military family, Cade developed an early interest in U.S. national security and defense. After spending a year in Europe studying European Union Policy, he hopes to apply his understanding of transatlantic relations and allied cooperation to support the DoW’s mission during a critical period in international security. The McCain Fellowship is an opportunity to expand his understanding of how acquisition, modernization, and international partnerships contribute to U.S. and allied defense readiness. He views the McCain Fellowship as an important step toward a long-term career in defense and national security, focused on acquisition and international affairs. Cade previously worked as a Staff Assistant for the House Majority Leader Steve Scalise, a graduate research assistant, and completed a research analyst internship for the Department of Homeland Security. Cade loves martial arts, having previously trained and competed in wrestling, Judo, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, Muay Thai, boxing, and MMA.

