

★ U.S. House of Representatives Page Program ★



PAGE PROGRAM FACT SHEET

• 2010 SCHOOL YEAR •

WHAT IS THE PAGE PROGRAM?

Pages are young people who are hired to serve as support staff for the U.S. House of Representatives. They are students in their junior year of high school, who experience living, studying and working in Washington, D.C. The program includes living in community at the House Page Residence Hall, studying at the House Page School, and working for the U.S. House of Representatives.

ELIGIBILITY

Students applying for the program should meet the following requirements:

- 3.0 GPA or higher in five core academic subjects
- High school junior
- A United States Citizen or subject to the agreements of the Department of State and possess a valid social security card
- 16 years old by the beginning of the Page term, but no older than 17

Students completing either sophomore or junior year (rising juniors or seniors) are eligible to participate in the summer program.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The Page Program includes both a school and work experience. Pages serve as support staff to the Members of the House of Representatives. Pages live in the Page Residence Hall and receive a monthly salary. The following guidelines apply to all Pages:

- Pages adhere to the Code of Honor and Code of Conduct, and abide by all policies and procedures as outlined in the Page Handbook.
- Pages maintain a neat appearance and a hairstyle that is appropriate for a business environment.
- Pages wear a House ID badge and the official Page uniform at school and work.

Pages earn a monthly gross salary of \$1,804.83, from which automatic monthly deductions are made for federal and state taxes, social security, and the 35% room and board fee. Pages are paid on the last working day of the month.

House Pages follow the House Calendar, which is subject to change. Thus, travel plans and tickets may have to change accordingly. It is strongly recommended that all travel tickets purchased during a Page's tenure be refundable and changeable.

Pages are only permitted to return home on weekends when there are no scheduled Washington Seminars; family emergencies and religious observances are an exception. Pages are not generally allowed to leave the Page Program to attend family, home school, or community activities or functions that conflict with Page Program activities.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS

All Pages must be sponsored by a Member of Congress. The first step for interested applicants is to contact your Representative to seek sponsorship and learn about that party's application procedures. Please visit the official House Web site (www.House.gov) and enter in your zip code to find out which Member represents your district. Applicants may also contact other House Members within their state to seek sponsorship. All communication regarding application to the Page Program is made through the Sponsoring Member's Office. Demand for the Page Program is greater than the limited number of slots available; unfortunately, not all applicants who seek a Page position can be accepted.

In addition to completing the application requirement, applicants will be asked to provide:

- Social security number
- Photo ID
- Parental/Guardian consent form
- Official transcript of high school grades
- A minimum 250-word written essay (personal statement)
- Two letters of recommendation

Pages are appointed for one semester.

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THE HOUSE PAGE SCHOOL

The House Page School is located in the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress and is accredited through the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. During the academic year, classes begin at 6:45 a.m. and include mathematics, English, social studies, science, French/Spanish, and Washington Seminars.

The fall semester begins in September, after Labor Day, and runs until approximately the end of January the following year. Spring semester begins near the end of January and runs until approximately the first week in June.

SUMMER SESSIONS

There are two four-week summer sessions. Pages are appointed to one session, which depends on the Sponsoring Member's eligibility period.

The Summer Sessions for 2010 are as follows:

Session 1: June 6–July 2

Session 2: July 11–August 6

Summer Pages begin school at 7:00 a.m. Pages earn 0.5 credits upon successful completion of the summer academic component.

HOUSE PAGE WORK EXPERIENCE

As House staff, Pages are supervised by adult, full-time House employees and work as a team for party members. Their primary duties are delivering legislative correspondence within the congressional complex; monitoring phones in Member cloakrooms; and occasionally preparing the House Floor for sessions. To perform their duties, Pages must be able to do the following:

- Work well as a team
- Walk considerable distances in a day
- Carry and deliver packages of up to 25 pounds
- Answer phones and speak fluent English

HOUSE PAGE RESIDENTIAL LIFE

The Page Residence Hall is staffed by a director, an assistant director, and four proctors, all of whom are adults and live in the Page Residence Hall. Each room is furnished, has a private bath, and houses up to four occupants.

The dorm is co-educational, with one floor for young men and one for young women. Rooms are inspected weekly, and curfew is strictly observed at 10:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and on Sundays. Curfew on Fridays and Saturdays is at 11:00 p.m. Security for the residence hall includes foot patrols and a lobby desk staffed around the clock by U.S. Capitol Police.



NEED MORE INFORMATION?

To learn more about applying to the House of Representatives Page Program, please contact your Representative's Office.

