

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

116th CONGRESS

A RESOLUTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 116-15

Resolution to Approve Regulations for the SFC Sean Cooley and SPC Christopher Horton Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program

Be it resolved, that the Committee on House Administration, pursuant to H. Res. 107, 116th Congress, as amended by H. Res. 812, 116th Congress, hereby issues the following regulations regarding the SFC Sean Cooley and SPC Christopher Horton Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program:

Sec. 1. Selection

Those selected for the SFC Sean Cooley and SPC Christopher Horton Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program (Program) will be provided the opportunity to participate in the Program as a Fellow. The number of fellowships in the first year of the Program shall be limited to 40 equally divided between Democratic and Republican Members.

Sec. 2. Eligibility

The fellowships will be filled by a surviving child (including a stepchild), spouse, parent, or sibling of:

- (a) A person who dies in the line of duty while serving as a member of the Armed Forces (including the reserve components and the National Guard), regardless of the duty status of the member while serving, unless such death was a result of the willful misconduct of the member; or
- (b) A veteran who dies from a service-connected disability (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code) during the four-year period beginning on the date of the last discharge or release of the veteran from the Armed Forces.

Sec. 3. Fellowship Status

- (a) Fellowship appointments will be established by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and approved by the Committee on House Administration (Committee).

- (b) A candidate who is selected for a fellowship will become an employee of the CAO and be detailed to the respective Member office, Fellows will be eligible to receive the same benefits as all other employees of the CAO.
- (c) Fellows are only eligible for a single-year placement. The Program does not offer tenured or guaranteed employment; employment is at-will. This at-will employment relationship exists regardless of any other written statements or policies contained within the Program documentation or any verbal statement to the contrary made by an employee of the organization or Member office.

Sec. 4. Compensation and Benefits

- (a) Fellows are subject to pay and compensation policies under the House Employees Position Classification Act (2 U.S.C. §§ 291 *et seq.*), to include cost-of-living and step increases.
- (b) The rate of compensation assigned to each Fellow will be determined in consultation with the Member office and the Program Director as deemed appropriate based on the position requirements and as approved by the Committee.

Sec. 5. Duration

- (a) Fellowships are limited to one year, are contingent upon adequate employee performance, as well as the Member's continued representation of his or her district. If a Member does not maintain continued representation of his or her district (voluntarily or involuntarily) the Fellow's employment may, upon the determination of the Program Director after consultation with the Committee, be terminated and the position will be returned to the Program.
- (b) If an individual decides to leave his or her fellowship position prior to the completion of the one-year period, he or she may, upon the determination of the Program Director after consultation with the Committee, forego any future participation in the Program and the position will be returned to the Program.

Sec. 6. Member Offices

- (a) Offices participating in this Program will be required to sign a Statement of Understanding (SOU) with the Program. The SOU will serve as a general agreement as to certain terms and conditions for Member offices hosting Fellows.
- (b) Members shall be limited to hosting either one Program Fellow or one Wounded Warrior Fellow at any given time.

Sec. 7. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodation

In the event a reasonable accommodation is needed, the CAO in conjunction with the Member office will work to arrange for any reasonable accommodation. At the conclusion of the fellowship, all equipment and materials provided as accommodation will be returned to the CAO.

Adopted February 12, 2020