



PAGE PROGRAM FACT SHEET

· 2009 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 come to Washington D.C. to live, work, and study as Pages. The program includes the House Page Residence Hall, the House Page School, and work responsibilities within the House.

ELIGIBILITY

Students applying for the academic program should meet the following requirements:

- 3.0 GPA based on major courses, no electives
- High school junior
- 16 years old by the beginning of the Page term

Eligibility for participation in the summer program includes students who have just completed their high school sophomore or junior year.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

During the academic year, Pages are required to attend the Page school in addition to their responsibilities 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 are required to maintain a neat appearance and a hairstyle that is appropriate for a business environment. Pages must also wear ID badges and uniforms at work and school.
- House Pages follow the House Calendar, which is subject to change. Plans and airline tickets may have to be changed or canceled if the House calendar dictates it. **Never purchase non refundable tickets** based on the **tentative calendar** in the Page Handbook.
- Pages are permitted to return home only on weekends when there are no Washington Seminars, except in cases of a family emergency. Pages will be unable to leave the Page program to attend family, home school, or community activities or functions if they occur during the school or workweek.
- Pages earn \$21,134.00 annually, with a monthly gross salary of \$1,761.91. Automatic deductions are made for federal and state taxes, social security, and the Residence Hall fee. Pages are paid on the last working day of the month.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS

All Pages must be sponsored by a Member of Congress, so the first step is to ask a Member of Congress for sponsorship. Contact your sponsoring Member to learn about that party's application procedures. **All communication regarding the Page program must be made through the sponsoring Member.**

Applicants will be asked to provide:

- Social security number
- Parental consent form
- Official transcript of high school grades (for academic-year Pages)
- Written essay
- Resume of extracurricular activities
- Letters of recommendation

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THE HOUSE PAGE SCHOOL

Academic Pages are usually appointed for one semester only. 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. 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. Classes begin at 6:45 a.m. and include mathematics, English, social studies, science, French/Spanish, computer technology and Washington Seminars.

SUMMER SESSIONS

There are two three-week summer sessions. Pages are appointed for one session. The first summer session begins approximately the second week in June and runs through the end of June. The second summer session usually begins after the Fourth of July and runs through the end of July.

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:

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

HOUSE PAGE RESIDENCE HALL

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

The dorms are coeducational, 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. Monday through Thursday and Sunday, and 12:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Security for the residence hall includes foot patrols and a lobby desk staffed around the clock by U.S. Capitol Police. Pages are required to sign in at the desk after 6:00 p.m. Before taking up residence, Pages must sign the Residence Hall Agreement, delineating payment requirements, responsibility for damage, and accepted uses of the Page Residence Hall.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

For more information about the House of Representatives Page Program, please contact the office of your representative.

