GEORGIA SENATE

PAGE PROGRAM



2023 Welcome Packet



Senate Pages,

Welcome to the Georgia Capitol and the Georgia Senate! We are excited to have you serve as a Senate Page. Throughout the day, you will get to meet your Senator along with other legislative leaders and state employees.

While serving as a page, you will learn more about the legislative process, see floor votes and assist legislators by passing along messages from key stakeholders outside of the Chamber. You will hear discussion on a variety of issues and will see passionate speeches from different members on policy issues impacting your local communities.

We hope that the experience today provides insight into what it means to have a role in public service and inspires you to get involved in the future, whether that means running for office, working for a state agency or volunteering. Public service and involving yourself in the political process will enable you to make the positive change you want to see in your community, state and nation.

I hope today is informative and engaging but also fun! Please take time to enjoy the Capitol Museum on the fourth floor and the beautiful grounds outside. We look forward to having you back in the Senate.

Sincerely,

 

Lt. Governor Burt Jones

**WELCOME TO THE GEORGIA SENATE!**

 Welcome to the Georgia Senate Page Program! We hope this experience will be a

 great one that you’ll always remember. As a Senate Page, you will serve the Senators

 by delivering important information and messages to them in the Senate chamber

 during the legislative session day.

 The Page Program provides students like you a first-hand opportunity to observe and

 participate in your state government. While paging, you will work for the full legislative

 day and at day’s end you will receive a certificate of service and $10.00 honorarium pay.

 **YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 12 YEARS OLD TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM.**

 **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS**.

The Page Desk is located on the 3rd floor of the State Capitol, directly across from the Senate chamber. The Page Director will be there to assist you. Please arrive at the Page Desk at the time designated to complete Page Orientation. Start times for Page Orientation varies, and is based on the time the Senate convenes each legislative day. Please see Page 4 for more details. This orientation will give you a general overview of your duties as a page. You should be neatly dressed and wear comfortable shoes.

Your service as a Page is counted as a day “present” in school. Pursuant to O.C.G.A §20-2-692, “Children who serve as Pages of the General Assembly during the school year, either at regular or special sessions, shall be credited as present by their school in which enrolled in the same manner as an educational field trip, and such participation as a Page shall not be counted as an absence, either excused or unexcused.”

 Please read through this packet carefully to ensure your trip to the Senate goes smoothly.

 If you have questions that we haven’t answered here, please don’t hesitate to contact your sponsoring Senator’s office and the Senator’s staff will be happy to assist you.

 Enjoy your experience and thank you for your service to the Georgia Senate!



SERVING AS A SENATE PAGE



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| **THE DAY BEFORE YOU SERVE**  |  |
| You should call the automated Page Information Line at **(404) 657-7004** after 5:00 P.M.the day before you are scheduled to serve to confirm that the Senate will be in session and find out when you will need to report for duty. The Senate convening time determines the time you will need to report for service. As a general rule, the Senate convenes at 10:00 A.M., but convening times vary on occasion. After confirming the Senate convening time for your service date, you will need to report to the Page Director at the Senate Page Desk (outside the Senate chamber on the 3rd Floor of the State Capitol) for Page Orientation at one of the following times:  |
| **Senate Convening Time** | **Page Report Time** |
| 9:00 AM | 8:00 AM |
| 10:00 AM | 8:30 AM |
| 12:00 PM | 10:00 AM |
| 1:00 PM | 12:00 PM |
| It is important that you call the Page Information Line the night before you are scheduled to serve to verify your exact start time. |

SERVING AS A SENATE PAGE



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| **AGE REQUIREMENT & RULES OF OPERATION** |  |
| **YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 12 YEARS OF AGE TO SERVE AS A PAGE.** **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.** If you are under the age of 16, a parent or guardian is required to sign you in and out. If your parents or guardians want to stay at the Capitol while you are serving, seating is available in the Senate gallery on the 4th floor to watch the legislative session.The Georgia Senate welcomes young men and women with physical disabilities who wish to Page. Please notify your sponsoring Senator’s office upon registration if you will require special accommodations during your time at the Capitol. No flash photography is permitted in the Senate chamber while the Senate is in session. As an alternative to sitting in the gallery, there are many attractions near the Capitol to visit. You may not chew gum or eat candy while performing your duties as a Page. You are not allowed to use your cell phone, iPod/MP3 player, CD player, portable game system, or any other form of electronic devices while performing duties as a Page. This includes making posts to social media.Please do not bring items of value with you to be left at the Page Desk while paging. The Page staff has no place to store or secure any personal items or valuables.  |
| **DRESS CODE** |  |
| While serving as a Page, you will need to dress appropriately. Dress code that is “Business” or “Business Casual” is required. Young men should wear dress pants and a dress shirt. Young ladies should wear a dress shirt with dress pants or a knee-length (or longer) skirt; work appropriate dresses are also acceptable. *You may not wear jeans, shorts, sweatshirts, t-shirts, skirts shorter than knee-length, or any shirt that exposes the midriff.* If you think it may not be acceptable, it probably isn’t! You will be on your feet and moving around most of the day, so please wear comfortable shoes. |

SERVING AS A SENATE PAGE

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| **ARRIVAL** |  |
| It is very important for you to arrive at or before the designated times for check-in and Page Orientation. When you arrive, you will need to be able to tell the Page Director the name of the Senator who is sponsoring you. Although you are sponsored by either the Lieutenant Governor or one sponsoring Senator, you will be working for the Senate as a whole. Your official duty as a Page begins with Page Orientation, which is conducted by the Page Director, and is completed upon adjournment of that day’s session. Adjournment time varies daily and may be as early as 11:00 A.M. or as late as 6:00 P.M. Please be sure you have a phone number to contact a parent or guardian once session is over.   |
| **SIGN OUT/DEPARTURE** |  |
| Upon adjournment of the Senate, see the Page Director to sign out on the Page payroll sheet. Once you sign out, you will be presented with a certificate of service and a $10 honorarium. If you have to leave before the Senate adjourns, you are still required to sign out with the Page Director.In the first 20 days of the legislative session (Jan-Feb), the Senate will often adjourn before noon so that Senate committees can meet. On these early adjournment days, you and your parents should determine if you will be dropped off, or if someone will remain at the Capitol with you while you’re paging. Please discuss with your parents which option is best for you on your service date.SERVING AS A SENATE PAGE |
| **LUNCH & SNACKS** |  |
| You are on your own for lunch unless your sponsoring Senator takes you to lunch. You are welcome to bring your lunch with you, and should check with your sponsoring Senator’s office about storage options.There is a snack bar on the first floor of the Capitol. A cafeteria is across the street in the Sloppy Floyd (Twin Towers) Building, and on the 6th floor of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building (CLOB). |

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| **PICTURES WITH YOUR SPONSORING SENATOR** |  |
| You will have an opportunity to have your picture made with the Lieutenant Governor and your sponsoring Senator. The Page Director will instruct you on when to take the picture with your sponsoring Senator. Pictures are generally taken right before lunch (depending on the daily schedule), so please do not leave for lunch without checking with the Page Director. A copy of your picture(s) will be mailed to you as soon as it is processed, generally 4-6 weeks after you serve but possibly longer depending on the schedule of the Senator’s staff.  |
| **CERTIFICATE & HONORARIUM** |  |
| Upon adjournment of the Senate, you will sign out with the Page Director, and receive a certificate recognizing your service to the Georgia Senate. If you have to leave before the Senate adjourns, you are still required to sign out with the Page Director.Once you sign out with the Page Desk, you will be paid a $10.00 honorarium for your service as a Page. |

**MAPS AND DIRECTIONS**

 **From the South:**

 Take I-75/85 North to Exit 245 (Capitol Avenue). At the bottom of the exit ramp, continue

 straight through the stop sign. At the first traffic light, turn left onto Hank Aaron Drive.

 The Capitol will be approximately one mile down on the left.

 **From the North:**

 Take I-75/85 South to Exit 248A (Martin Luther King Jr. Drive). Bear right onto Martin

 Luther King Jr. Drive. The Capitol will be on the left.

 **From the East:**

 Take I-20 West to Exit 58A (Capitol Avenue). Turn right on Capitol Avenue. The Capitol

 will be approximately one mile down on the left.

 **From the West:**

 Take I-20 East to Exit 56B (Winsor St./Spring St./Stadium). At the third light, turn left

 onto Central Avenue. Go to Mitchell Street and turn right. The Capitol will be two blocks down on the left.

 **Parking:**

 Parking is always an issue during the legislative session. Public parking is available at

 these locations: Cash and credit card payments are accepted at these locations.

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| **Archives Surface Lot/Fraser Street Surface Lot** *(operated by Elite Parking)*359 Fraser Street, Atlanta, GA | **Capitol Lot Daily** *(operated by Elite Parking)*218 Capitol Avenue, Atlanta, GALocated on Capitol Avenue near the State Capitol. |
| **Pete Hackney** (*operated by the Georgia Building Authority)*162 Jesse Hill Jr., Drive, Atlanta, GALocated at the corner of Jesse Hill Jr. Drive and Decatur Street. | **Memorial Lot***(operated by Elite Parking)*80 Memorial Dr, S.W., Atlanta, GA |
| **Steve Polk Plaza** *(operated by Elite Parking)*65 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Atlanta, GALocated near Underground Atlanta & Georgia Railroad Freight Depot. |

 Use this link to view the Capitol Hill parking map:

 <http://gba.georgia.gov/sites/gba.georgia.gov/files/related_files/document/GBAParkingMap%208-15-2015%20Low%20Res.pdf>

 **Online mapping:**

 If you want to go online and search for directions from your house or hotel to the Capitol using your favorite mapping site (Google Maps, MapQuest, etc.), the street address you will want to use for the Capitol is:

**18 Capitol Square SW**

**Atlanta, Georgia 30334**

**HOTELS NEAR THE STATE CAPITOL**

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| **Sheraton – Atlanta Hotel** 165 Courtland St. NE Atlanta, GA .59 miles(404) 659-6500  | **Residence Inn – Atlanta Downtown** 134 Peachtree St NW Atlanta, GA 0.6 miles(404) 522-0950  |
| **Embassy Suites – Olympic Centennial Park** 267 Marietta St. NW Atlanta, GA 0.7 miles(404) 223-2300 | **Hampton Inn & Suites – Atlanta** **Downtown** 161 Spring St. NW Atlanta, GA 0.7 miles(404) 589-1111  |
| **Omni Hotel – CNN Center** 100 CNN Center NW Atlanta, GA 0.71 miles404-659-0000  | **Wyndham Garden Hotel** 175 Piedmont Ave. NE Atlanta, GA 0.8 miles(404) 659-2727 or 800-996-3426  |
| **Baymont Inn & Suites** 175 Piedmont Ave. NE Atlanta, GA 0.8 miles(404) 659-7777 or 877-229-6668  | **Marriott – Atlanta Marquis** 265 Peachtree Center Ave. NE Atlanta, GA 1.1 miles(404) 521-0000  |



