Graduate Hall Director: Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to have direct Residential Programs (Residence Life) experience to apply for the GHD position?
While relevant experience is preferred, it is not mandatory.

On average, what is the weekly time commitment required of a GHD?
GHDs work approximately 20 hours per week during the academic year. This work will include supervision of student staff (one on one meetings and staff meetings), crisis intervention (on-call responsibilities), incident follow up, committee work, and administrative tasks (budget, programming, facilities management, etc.).

What are the responsibilities of a GHD that is on-call?
While on-call, GHDs are expected to respond to emergency situations within 15 minutes. GHDs receive calls on an on-call phone provided by Residential Programs. While on-call, GHDs are supported by multiple layers of our on-call system both within and outside of Residential Programs.

How often will I be on-call during the year?
Each GHD will be on-call approximately 10 days per academic semester.

What are the hours GHDs are on-call?
- Sundays – Thursdays: GHDs are on-call from 5PM to 9AM the next day.
- Fridays & Saturdays: GHDs are on-call from 5PM to 5PM the next day.
- During designated University holidays that occur on weekdays when the office is closed, GHDs are on-call until the office reopens.

What kinds of situations can I expect to deal with when I am on-call?
Some examples of crisis situations that you may be required to respond to include: hospitalizations due to alcohol intoxication or minor injuries, wellness or psychological concerns, sexual assaults, noise violations, bias incidents, interpersonal conflicts, facilities emergencies, etc.

What is the compensation for the GHD position?
Each year, compensation includes a stipend of $5,000 (payable in installments throughout the academic year), dining dollars (amount varies), and a furnished room on or near the Morningside campus.

What are the living accommodations like?
Living accommodations vary. Some GHDs live by themselves in spaces similar to a small studio apartment (some with kitchens, some without kitchens), while others live in two bedroom apartments with another GHD. All spaces include a private bathroom. If you are placed in a two-bedroom apartment, it is possible that you will be sharing the space with someone of a different gender.

Can I live in the accommodations with a partner, spouse, and/or children?
Residential Programs does not explicitly prohibit GHDs from living with a partner/spouse or child. Unfortunately, we generally cannot provide this accommodation due to the size and limitations of on-campus housing.

Should you have further questions regarding the GHD position please consult the GHD position description or contact:

Associate Director, Keith Blankenship (kpb2118@columbia.edu)
or
Associate Director, Tara Hanna (tkh2105@columbia.edu).