Graduate Hall Director
Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to have direct Residence Life experience to apply for the GHD position?
While relevant experience is preferred, it is not mandatory to be selected for a GHD position.

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, advising hall council, and administrative tasks (budget, programming, facilities management, communicating with partner offices, assisting with departmental processes, etc.).

What would my support structure look like as a GHD?
As a GHD, you will be part of an “area” team (E-Block, West Campus, or Southfield), led by an Associate Director and including 4-5 Residence/Graduate Hall Directors. All GHDs will directly supervise a team of approximately 6-10 undergraduate RAs. GHDs report to either an Associate Director or Assistant Director of Residential Life or a Residence Hall Director, depending on position.

Where does Residential Life fit in to the organizational structure of Columbia?
Residential Life supports the undergraduate students of Columbia College and the Fu Foundation School of Engineering & Applied Science. Residential Life is a part of a group of three offices known as Undergraduate Student Life. These three offices are Residential Life, Student Engagement, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs. The three offices of Undergraduate Student Life report to the Dean of Undergraduate Student Life, who reports to the Dean of Columbia College and the Dean of the Fu Foundation School of Engineering & Applied Science.

What is the compensation for the GHD position?
Each year, compensation includes a stipend of $6,400 (payable in installments throughout the academic year), a campus meal plan, 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, while others live in two-bedroom apartments with another GHD. All spaces include and private bathroom and access to a kitchen. 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 identity.

Can I live in the accommodations with a partner, spouse, and/or children?
Residential Life 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:

Residential Life
reslife@columbia.edu