

Senate Page Leadership Program

Teacher/Parent FAQ: Schoolwork

Q: Will the student attend school?

A: No. Students are *excused* from school for the duration of the General Assembly session in Richmond. Teachers should mark students as having an “excused absence” in their records. Please see the Virginia Administrative Code sections 8VAC20-110-40 and 8VAC20-110-50 for more information. If your school has questions pertaining to the manner in which an extended absence of this magnitude should be documented, please ask administrators to contact the Superintendents of Public Instruction at the Virginia Department of Education.

Q: How will the student receive assignments when they are participating in this program?

A: It is the responsibility of the student, parents, and teacher to collectively determine how the student will receive his or her assignments each week. The Page Program recommends that teachers give an all-inclusive packet of assignments directly to the parent or student each Friday. This work should be completed and turned in the following Friday when the next packet is picked up if possible. Please note that the Senate Page Program is not responsible for handling the transfer of assignments through any means, including but not limited to: mail, fax, scans/emails, online assignments, and quizzes/tests (*see FAQ #4*). Additionally, please note that students participating in this program will be working from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and will be expected to complete assignments within the program, as well as attend field trips to historical sites and other educational venues. The Senate Page Program urges teachers to note that students participating in this program may not have enough time to complete all assignments that students at the school are able to complete. As a result, the program encourages teachers to prioritize assignments due to time constraints.

Q: When will the student do homework?

A: Senate Pages are required to attend a mandatory study hall from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. During this time period, they will have access to tutors who are experienced at teaching in many of the usual middle- and high-school fields of study (i.e. math, science, English, social studies). Please note that these tutors are simply resources for the Pages to utilize, and that no formal classes will be held during the program. In addition to the mandatory two hour nightly study hall, Senate Pages often have downtime during the day (usually during breaks, or when they are in-between jobs), and are encouraged to work on assignments during this time as well.

Q: How will the student take his or her exams and quizzes?

A: We strongly recommend test taking be scheduled on a Friday at school. Our staff will administer tests, if necessary, per the guidelines in our program handbook and this FAQ. Students in the program will be excused from work to come home if they need to take exams. Due to the fast-paced environment during session, and the

importance placed on pages, *it is highly recommended that teachers allow students to take proctored exams and quizzes on Fridays at school* which are generally much slower-paced, or on the weekend (students go back to their home districts from Friday afternoon and return their assigned hotel on Sunday night).

Q: To whom should assignments be sent on a weekly basis?

A: Assignments that need to be sent via mail or e-mail must be sent to the following:

Senate Page Program
C/O Senate Clerk's Office
P.O. Box 396
Richmond, Virginia 23218
pageinfo@senate.virginia.gov

Please include the page name and all necessary instructions. We recognize that many students obtain, complete and return assignments through web applications administered by their school.