



Volunteer Instructor Program

2009 Empower the Next Generation of Civic Leaders at Presidential Classroom

Presidential Classroom

With Washington, D.C., as our classroom, our mission is to provide the highest quality civic education programs for outstanding high school students. For nearly four decades, more than 125,000 students from across the United States and around the world have attended Presidential Classroom's week-long programs, gaining knowledge, insight and experience from this extraordinary educational opportunity.

Presidential Classroom expands students' knowledge of politics, government, and roles and responsibilities of institutions and organizations involved in policy-making. Students gain insights into the complexities of the policy-making process, as well as the interaction between government entities and organizations around the world. They experience the inner workings of government and policy formation first-hand, through seminars and site visits, in Washington, D.C.

Presidential Classroom is a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)3 civic education program, approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals Student Activity Listing and endorsed by the National Education Association, Congressional Youth Award and Who's Who Among American High School Students.

You are invited to apply for the 2009 Presidential Classroom Volunteer Instructor Program and begin a long-standing relationship with the nation's premier civic education program. Volunteer Instructors are the backbone of our weekly programs. Serving as our faculty, they are professionals with backgrounds in law, government, business, academia and the military.

At Presidential Classroom, students examine the federal government beyond the marble buildings. During each week-long program, students from the United States and abroad interact with members of Congress, presidential appointees, senior military officials, top business leaders and journalists. Students also observe Congress in action, visit renowned sites and debate key issues with their peers. Our Volunteer Instructors play a critical role in each PC student's experience.

Volunteer Instructors serve in one of our 15 week-long programs. Two instructors supervise each Caucus or Working Group of about 40 students, facilitate student discussions and guide them through program activities. Volunteer Instructors also act as role models, sharing their own career experiences and insights with students.



Days are long and active, beginning before 8 a.m. and ending after 10 p.m. Highlights of the week include:

- Seminars with government, military, corporate and media leaders
- Trip to Capitol Hill
- Embassy Seminars & Visits
- Touring national monuments, government buildings and museums
- Wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery
- Closing banquet and graduation dance

Professional Development

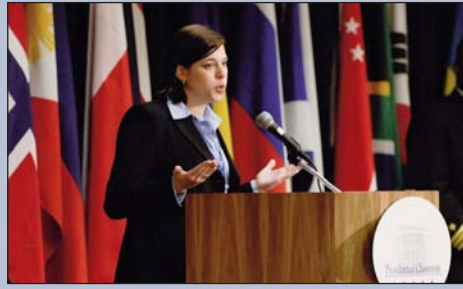
As a Presidential Classroom Volunteer Instructor, you will be given the chance to enhance your leadership, organizational, facilitation and other professional skills. You will also bolster teamwork skills as you work with colleagues from other agencies and organizations. In addition, there are networking opportunities that will increase your professional contact resources. At the end of your service, Presidential Classroom will award you with a certificate of participation. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management and many federal and military organizations recognize this experience as a professional development opportunity.

"Serving as a volunteer instructor has been the high point of my summer for several years. The students' enthusiasm, youthful spirits and brain power invigorate me; I can feel their hope and promise. It makes me want to be a better citizen and improve my own community."

*– Laurel Blewett
Volunteer Instructor*

"Being a volunteer Instructor for Presidential Classroom is one of the most gratifying personal and professional experiences I have ever had. PC gave me the opportunity to be involved with today's youth in a very substantial way and allowed me to enhance my leadership and facilitation skills. These students are our country's future; how lucky am I to be a part of that."

– Ginger Potter
Volunteer Instructor



Our Programs

★Inaugural 2009★

Join Presidential Classroom alumni and take a front row seat for the finale of one of the most riveting elections in history: the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States!

★Presidential Scholars Program★

Introduces the inner workings of the federal government and examines how current issues affect public policy.

★Intelligence & National Security★

Studies the role the government, military and private sector play in planning and executing defense and homeland security policy.

★Science, Technology & Public Policy★

Examines the role of the government in issues related to scientific discoveries and technological advances.

★Law, Justice & Human Rights★

Offers an in-depth look at the federal legal system and explores the issues of freedom and order in a democratic society.

★Communications & Journalism★

Investigates the relationship between the news media and government, with analysis of a free press, a well-informed citizenry and a democratic government.

★Global Health & the Environment★

Explores the impact and interconnections of the environment on global health and well-being.

★Future World Leaders Summit★

Explores international relations, diplomacy and the changing world economy.

Qualifications

An instructor candidate must have a bachelor's degree, show a high level of energy and interest in working with young people and possess good communication skills. Instructors must also have a general knowledge of U.S. government and politics, and be fluent in English.

In past years, we've received more than 500 applications for approximately 250 available instructor positions. We make selections based on the candidate's professional experience, ability to work with people of all ages, understanding of Presidential Classroom's mission, and availability to serve for six consecutive days (**Instructors for the Intelligence & National Security Program must be U.S. citizens**).

Each instructor is required to:

- Attend a PC Volunteer Instructor Program Orientation, presented the first Sunday morning of the week served.
- Fully participate in the week-long program, Sunday through Friday, approximately 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. daily.
- Attend all Classroom functions (including seminars and group meetings) and travel with the students to and from all activities.
- Adhere to Presidential Classroom rules while serving on the staff, including no smoking or drinking, and agree to the Instructor Terms of Participation.

Volunteer status & Accommodations

Students, PC staff, Program Assistants and Volunteer Instructors reside at the Georgetown University Conference Center in Washington, D.C. During large program weeks, Instructors may be housed in a nearby hotel. Instructors share a double occupancy room with another instructor. Presidential Classroom covers all the lodging costs.

We also provide meals, training, curriculum materials and travel for all instructors while in Washington. **We do not provide airfare or other travel expenses to/from Washington.** However, since this is considered professional development, many

instructors secure transportation financing from their employers.

As volunteers, Instructors receive no pay from Presidential Classroom. Instructor candidates must obtain their employers' approval and arrange personal or professional leave before being confirmed as instructors. Policy regarding leave with or without pay varies widely and is subject to the discretion of each employer. Many organizations grant training status or administrative or permissive leave to serve as a Volunteer Instructor.

Application process

Interested persons should apply online at www.presidentialclassroom.org/instructorapp

Military personnel may apply directly to Presidential Classroom or through their headquarter's public affairs office. All applications **MUST** include a brief (150 word maximum) biography. You are also encouraged to include a resume, especially if it provides relevant information not covered in the application or biography. Resumes and supporting documents can be uploaded online, or mailed/faxed to the information below:

Presidential Classroom
Attn: Program Director
119 Oronoco Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Fax: (703) 548-5728

Hard copy applications can also be downloaded from the internet and mailed to the above address.

Deadlines

Applications must be received by **November 15th, 2008**, for the Winter Session and **April 11th, 2009**, for the Summer Session. We will consider late applications after initial offers are made. We will interview finalists by phone before final selections are made. References will be contacted. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance on a rolling basis, after the above deadlines.