The Bennion Service House

Officers Circle # 614
Residence Application
2016-2017 Academic Year

Each year twelve undergraduate students who make significant service contributions to the University of Utah are selected to reside in the Bennion Service House on historic Officers Circle. Residents gain unique opportunities to examine their own civic engagement in a living and learning community, while engaging in and promoting various service experiences throughout the year. Residents seek ways to serve as catalysts for the Bennion Center’s mission of fostering life-long service and civic responsibility by engaging the University with the greater community in action, change and learning. Residents are expected to behave in a manner that is honest, respectful, courteous, and community-minded as this living environment is diverse and often engages with underserved populations.

**Application deadline:** March 8, 2016 at 12:00 pm.
Please submit application to Tammy Reque in the Bennion Center, Union Building #101 or email submission to: tammy.reque@utah.edu

**Resident interviews** will be held on March 10, 2016. Selected candidates will be invited to 30-minute interviews. Please allow time for this in your schedule.

**Note:** Applicants must apply for Housing prior to applying to live in the Bennion Service House. In filling out the application, please indicate your interest in the Bennion Service House in the Living and Learning portion of the Housing application. For information see: [http://housing.utah.edu/](http://housing.utah.edu/)
Requirements for living in the Bennion Service House include:

**Community Building:** The service house is a diverse community that includes twelve residents from a wide range of backgrounds and disciplines. Residents are expected to maintain respectful and inclusive practices while interacting with everyone, especially those who are different from themselves; both in the service house and the greater community. Each resident is responsible for maintaining a personal attitude that fosters an atmosphere of community building.

**GPA requirement** is cumulative 3.0. Students may seek special consideration for housing if they believe that the traditional academic measures do not represent his/her potential for academic success. For those who seek this exception please address this discrepancy by answering the additional question in the essay.

**Monthly and Annual Events:**

**Service House Dialogues:** Residents are involved in planning each Service House Dialogue, which includes selecting and researching dialogue topics, collaborating with community guest speakers, outreach, facilitation and general event planning. Participation is required for all residents. There are three dialogues in the academic year, held usually the third or fourth Tuesday of the month from 7-8:30pm.

**Officers Hollow:** Local children from Title I schools participate in a Halloween carnival and safe trick-or-treating October event, hosted in collaboration with the College of Social Work. Residents participate by decorating the house and providing activities for the kids.

**Saturday Service Projects (SSP):** Participation at each SSP is required of all residents. The SSP’s are held the third Saturday of the month. Time and location vary each month. Special assignments are given for Legacy of Lowell in September, MLK Day of Service in January, and Earth Day in April.

**Officers Circle activities and House programs:** These include program specific events planned by the residents and RA of the Service House. Officers Circle events are planned by all Officers Circle RA’s and includes monthly activities like Legends of the Hidden Gazebo.

**Project Youth:** Service House residents support and participate in the annual Project Youth event on campus, through leading a group of students and/or helping with logistics. The program seeks to inspire students from Title I elementary schools all over the Salt Lake valley to pursue higher education.

**Monthly House Meeting:** House meetings are typically held in the first Tuesday of the month from 7-8pm. Residents must help with associated set up and preparation.

**Cleaning Procedures:** Residents are required to clean-up after themselves at all times, with a special focus on cleaning common areas and dishes.

**Resident Group Photo:** Scheduled for a date in September. All residents required to attend.

*Other events and requirements will be added as needed.*
Application for Residency: Bennion Service House
2016-2017 Academic Year

The Bennion Center aims to support students who are interested in positively contributing to the community through action, change and learning.

Name_______________________________________ Date________________________________

Current Address______________________________________________________________

Cell phone number ______________________ Home phone________________________________

Email_________________________ Expected Graduation_____________________

Major(s)____________________________________________ Minor ____________________________

Student ID # ___________________________ Date of Birth ________________________________

GPA from fall 2014 semester ___________ Cumulative GPA __________________________

Will you be living at your current address over the summer? Yes or No

If summer address is unknown, please provide parent’s address below:

__________________________________________________________
(street) (apt. #)

______________________________________
(city) (state) (zip) (country, if not U.S.)

Are you willing to sign a residential living contract? Yes or No

Do you plan on living in the House for the entire academic year? Yes or No

List any financial support you are receiving: (grants, loans, scholarships, stipends, etc)

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
Please respond to the following questions:
(Please limit each response to fewer than 250 words.)

How will you contribute to the house, and to the wider residential living community at the University of Utah? (If you are a BC house resident this year, also respond with specifics regarding how you have contributed to these communities.)

Explain how living in the house would help you achieve your academic and community and civic engagement related pursuits.

Please describe your current interests in community engaged learning, community service and Civic engagement and how you have been engaged in these areas.

For students who need to address a GPA discrepancy; please explain why the traditional academic measures do not represent your academic success, why your GPA has fallen below 3.0 and how you plan on increasing it.

Scholarships are available for residents who reside in the house for the entire academic year and show a financial need along with an exemplary commitment to service. If you would like to be considered for a scholarship; please explain.

Please provide three references who can attest to your character and/or service experience

(Note: To remove any potential conflict of interest, please provide references who do not fall in these categories: paid Bennion Center staff members, family members or religious affiliates)

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Please submit your completed application to the Bennion Center by March 8, 2016 at 12:00pm