



U.S. Public Service Academy

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Help Us Build the Next Great American Institution

Recent events underscore how much our nation depends upon strong public institutions and competent civilian leadership at all levels of society. National disasters such as 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina, along with our struggle with international terrorism, have highlighted the importance of public service and convinced Americans that we must improve our capacity not only to deal with future emergencies but also to confront daily challenges both locally and globally. As part of this effort, America must create an undergraduate institution designed to develop a new generation of young leaders dedicated to public service: the U.S. Public Service Academy.

A Founder's Dream

The U.S. Public Service Academy will realize George Washington's dream of a national public university. As the civilian counterpart to the military service academies, the Academy will provide a service-oriented, leadership-focused education to roughly 5100 undergraduate students.



A "West Point for Public Service"



The Academy will be modeled on the successful military service academies. Spots for incoming freshmen will be allocated by state, following a congressional nomination process. The intensive academic program will focus on civic education and leadership development, with stringent requirements for public service internships, study abroad, and service learning courses. **Academy graduates will spend five years serving their nation** by working in health care, law enforcement, emergency management, education, and other essential public service fields at the local, state, and national levels. The Academy will cost roughly \$205 million annually and will be funded as a **public-private partnership**.

A Nation's Need

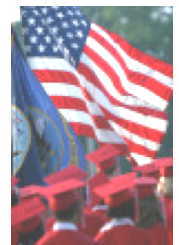
Our national security depends on having strong civilian leadership, and America faces a **growing shortage of public servants** and civic leaders at all levels of society. Yet America does not offer a national undergraduate institution dedicated to developing civilian leaders.

A Unique Institution

Like the military academies, the Academy will create a **campus culture of service** that will foster strong bonds among undergraduates committed to the same patriotic goals. The Academy's rigorous, service-focused curriculum will produce students who are well-equipped for a lifetime of public leadership. It will be **an inspiring symbol** that will raise the visibility and prestige of public service.

A Winning Idea

The Academy will be the defining institution of our generation, a college that captures the patriotic spirit of our young people and channels it into public service. It will be **a unifying institution** that brings students from every corner of America to one campus to study, serve, and lead together. The idea has won broad bipartisan support, both in Congress and across the nation. The U.S. Public Service Academy Act, introduced in March 2007, is co-sponsored by Arlen Specter (R-PA) and Hillary Clinton (D-NY) in the Senate and Christopher Shays (R-CT) and James Moran (D-VA) in the House of Representatives.



America Deserves Our Best