BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES
HOSTESS REQUIREMENTS
Circa 1972
Braniff employs about 920 stewardesses flying the United States (Mainland and Hawaii), Mexico, and military charters to the Far East and Europe. Braniff has a Latin American division with a separate stewardess corps made up of girls from these countries. American-based girls do not fly farther south than Mexico, although all of Braniff’s commercial routes are available to them on passes and at reduced rates.

QUALIFICATIONS

*Age:* 19½ minimum at time of employment.
*Height:* 5’2” to 5’9”.
*Weight:* 105 to 135 pounds.
*Vision:* Uncorrected vision must be at least 20/50; 20/100 if contact lenses are worn.

*Marital status:* Single applicants, childless widows, and divorcees are accepted. You may marry and keep flying after completing probation.

*Education:* High school graduates; college or working experience preferred.

*Language:* Spanish, Chinese, or Japanese is preferred in addition to English.

*Citizenship:* United States citizen or permanent visa.

*Health:* Must pass a physical examination.

TRAINING

In 1968 Braniff opened a two-million-dollar International Hostess Training College, which is the prettiest and most compact training school I
have visited. It is a modern high-rise building situated in a residential area of Dallas. The décor reflects the airline’s routes—vibrant colors and Latin American folk art decorate every room. It is the most personal institutional building I have ever been in (every bedroom has a different color scheme, with Mexican bedspreads and art on the walls). The building has all the luxuries of an expensive beauty spa: heated swimming pool, beauty salon, game room complete with a pool table for dates, color television, a 40-foot-square mirrored exercise room with sinister-looking contraptions to push and bump you into shape, plus a sauna that accommodates twelve people, and bathrooms in black marble throughout.

Braniff transports its trainees to Dallas for a five-week program. Everything is provided during training (makeup, room and board, hair styling, cab fares, and even the first visit to a dermatologist), so incidental expense money is all you need. Because Braniff doesn’t have bases in cities with an exorbitant cost of living, it suggests that trainees have a minimum of only $150 to cover expenses after training until their first paycheck.

Dormitory rules are liberal on weekends, and dates may be entertained in the game rooms and lounges throughout the week in the afternoon and evening (should you have the time). Graduation is celebrated with a champagne luncheon.

Braniff will give a generous advance of $250 to new hostesses to help them get settled. This money is deducted from their future paychecks.

Since all expenses are paid by Braniff (although it does suggest you bring $100 for incidental expenses during training), trainees can safely begin a career with Braniff with less than the savings recommended by most of the other major airlines.

**UNION**

Membership is mandatory. Hostesses join ALPA after the five-month probation period has been completed. The dues are $8.00 per month.

**UNIFORMS**

Braniff was the first airline to introduce high fashion into uniform design. Emilio Pucci has designed the hostess costumes since 1965. A
multiple-style outfit was introduced in 1971 that included dresses and pantsuit.

The initial cost of the uniforms to new hostesses is $240, and is paid for by a $15 deduction from each paycheck. Replacements following a reasonable period of wear are paid for by the company.

### SALARY

*(Through 1972)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly base pay for 70 hours' flight time:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First six months</td>
<td>$465.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six months to one year</td>
<td>480.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second year</td>
<td>505.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing to Nine years</td>
<td>695.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incentive pay for each hour flown over 68:

| Per hour | $13.00 |

Expenses:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midnight snack</td>
<td>1.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Paychecks are received on the 5th and 20th of every month, including base and incentive pay. Expense checks arrive on the 1st and 15th.

Each girl flies an average of 80 to 85 hours per month. A new hostess flying 80 hours (70 hours' pay and 10 hours' incentive pay) might receive a paycheck like this:

5th-of-the-month paycheck (base pay plus incentive)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$362.50 minus $63.00 taxes 15.00 uniform</th>
<th>$78.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1st-of-the-month expense check

| $60.00 2.50 cleaning expense | $62.50 |

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The 20th-of-the-month paycheck and 15th-of-the-month expense check would presumably be the same, giving a monthly net income of $694.

FRINGE BENEFITS

Hostesses receive two weeks' paid vacation from one through seven years of employment.

Braniff has an insurance program for its employees, and pays 100 percent of the premiums for accident, health, medical, and surgical policies.

Braniff does not offer educational aid to its stewardesses.

RESERVE POLICY

New hostesses are on reserve until they have enough seniority to hold a flight. This can be within the first few months of flying.

TRAVEL BENEFITS

At the end of six months' service, a hostess receives one Braniff pass. At the end of the first year of employment, unlimited passes, with a fee of $6 for coach and $12 for first class, are issued. These may be used at any time, including vacation, without other restrictions. Husbands and parents are also eligible to use any of the allotted passes. Two non-Braniff passes are permitted per year, to be used during vacation.

Braniff has reduced-rate agreements with most domestic and international airlines, the discounts ranging from 50 to 90 percent.

BASE CITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>No. of Hostesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City, Mo.</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Braniff considers a girl’s preference when making base assignments, but final decisions are subject to available openings. When trainees graduate from hostess college, age determines seniority, with the oldest girl having first choice of base assignment.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Braniff participates in the Thomas Dooley Foundation program. The company allows hostesses to hold outside jobs subject to supervisory approval.

Braniff requires its hostesses to appear in promotional and nonflight assignments. The girls are paid for these, but the rate varies with the type of special assignment.

**WHERE TO APPLY**

Application forms may be obtained by writing to:

Manager of Employment
Braniff Building
Exchange Park
Dallas, Texas 75235

or from Braniff airport counters and ticket offices. Personal application may be made at the Dallas office. Braniff calls in qualified applicants for a personal interview, or notifies them of an interview to be given in their area. The average time between application and acceptance is three weeks.