



Political leaders are responsible for executing on the new administration's ambitious agenda. To drive change and make a difference, these incoming appointees must be familiar with how to navigate and succeed in a complex federal organization.

As a trusted advisor on the presidential transition and the development of federal leaders, the Partnership for Public Service is uniquely positioned to quickly get political appointees up to speed. Through Ready to Govern®, we prepare these individuals to manage in the federal government and deliver results for the American people.

We offer a series of courses featuring proven content developed from hundreds of conversations with federal leaders. These sessions are led by a bipartisan faculty of current or former political appointees and career executives. Using their experience, they provide practical, actionable information to guide incoming leaders and help them streamline operations to make meaningful change in government.

We understand the importance of preparing these individuals to govern as soon as they enter office, and our programs reflect that urgency. By relaying the most vital information appointees need, we can work to ensure they'll have an immediate impact in their roles.



PARTNERSHIP
FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Nola Tolsma at (202) 869-3084 or readytogovern@ourpublicservice.org

PROGRAM FEATURES



ACCELERATE LEADERSHIP CAPABILITY

We frontload information and resources appointees need to get acquainted with their agencies and the federal landscape. Using this essential executive-tailored guidance, leaders will be able to avoid common missteps and advance agency productivity.



ADVANCE POLICY PRIORITIES

We prepare appointees to pursue the administration's priorities. Appointees will learn to optimize relationships with policy enablers, like human resources staff and information technology specialists, to ensure they build strong teams and internal support systems needed to further key initiatives.



UNDERSTAND GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES

Our curriculum deepens appointees' understanding of the federal government and the unique aspects of managing within it. We explore key laws, executive orders and regulations that they'll need to know for their roles and use to get things done.



BUILD EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIPS

For incoming appointees to succeed, they need to quickly build networks with their peers from other agencies. Leaders will develop these relationships through our onboarding events so they can collaborate across government.

“I had a lot of epiphanies and ‘aha’ moments. Overall, the courses gave me frameworks and things to think about and red flags to look for.”

FORMER DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY

1,500⁺

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
SINCE 2013

FACULTY

Incoming appointees have extremely impressive backgrounds. But they come with a range of government and management experience, and they will serve in roles that vary widely.

That's why we've assembled a dynamic faculty to focus on the key needs of each participant. Since our faculty have served in similar roles in the public, private and social sectors, they are ideally positioned to share insights, lessons learned and advice based on their experiences managing and leading complex organizations.

65⁺

FACULTY AND
SPEAKERS

5

CHIEFS OF STAFF

7

FORMER DEPUTY
SECRETARIES

6

FORMER
SECRETARIES

CURRICULUM

Our 90-minute courses emphasize the most relevant information appointees need to do their jobs effectively. Participants will increase their expertise and executive skills by engaging in meaningful conversations with their peers and faculty, internalizing key lessons and best practices, and receiving actionable resources needed to implement proven strategies. Political appointees may self-select into these sessions based on their responsibilities and interests.

“The atmosphere was a safe one. I felt that people could share candidly and give others advice without egos getting in the way or people being offended.”

FORMER DEPUTY ASSISTANT
ATTORNEY GENERAL

BUILDING A STRONG TEAM: POLITICAL-CAREER COLLABORATION

Learn to build a strong team by overcoming traditional stereotypes held by both appointees and career executives, partnering alongside career staff, navigating governance structures at your agency, and maximizing employee effectiveness

ETHICS AND OPTICS

Recognize and avoid common legal and ethical violations, and identify the stakeholders who can help you navigate federal rules and regulations

FEDERAL ACQUISITION: ACCOMPLISHING MISSION PRIORITIES AND MANAGING RISK

Leverage federal acquisition as a strategic tool to accomplish mission priorities by understanding the acquisition life cycle and your role in this process

FEDERAL IT: ACCELERATE YOUR SUCCESS WITH TECHNOLOGY

Use IT to achieve business goals by recognizing opportunities and constraints, including cybersecurity, performance, sustainability and customer satisfaction

HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE CHIEF OF STAFF

SPECIALTY COURSE FOR CABINET- AND COMPONENT-LEVEL CHIEFS OF STAFF

Prepare for this unique position by understanding the expectations of the role and how the responsibilities vary at agencies across government

STAKEHOLDER STRATEGIES: WORKING WITH THE WHITE HOUSE, OMB AND OTHER AGENCIES

Recognize and learn to build and manage successful relationships with key players within the White House, OMB and other federal agencies

SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION: DRIVING RESULTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Develop strategies to focus and execute your agenda in a challenging federal environment by prioritizing your goals, leveraging key stakeholders and establishing a roadmap for successful execution

TALENT: ACCOMPLISHING MISSION THROUGH PEOPLE

Understand what is unique about the federal personnel system and learn how to use tools and resources to get the most out of the workforce to achieve mission

WHAT EXECUTIVES NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HIRING

Leverage federal hiring practices and special authorities to bring in talented political appointees and career staff needed to drive agency performance

WHAT THE FEDERAL BUDGET PROCESS MEANS TO YOUR SUCCESS

Become familiar with the federal budget process and understand how it affects the president's priorities and funds the operations of the federal government

WORKING WITH CONGRESS

Build productive relationships with members of Congress and their respective committees by understanding how to work with them effectively—content will focus on how to partner with lawmakers to deliver on your mission, testify before Congress and manage congressional oversight

CUSTOM SESSIONS

Though our curriculum is designed for appointees across government, we also offer customized courses to provide more agency-specific guidance. Leaders can request highly tailored programs that focus on their particular missions and initiatives. These custom sessions help appointees develop even more specialized expertise on specific topics relevant to their work.

SMALL-GROUP AND ONE-ON-ONE OPPORTUNITIES

EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLES

These roundtable discussions are designed to connect, inform and inspire political appointees to lead and govern well. During these events, appointees network with their colleagues from across government; share strategies and tips related to addressing common challenges; and discuss timely, complex and cross-cutting issues with their peers.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE HOURS

Following their participation in Ready to Govern, executives can request to meet one-on-one or in small groups with any of the more than 100 members in our [Strategic Advisors to Government Executives](#) program. These former C-suite executives from agencies across government will leverage their expertise and experience to help appointees navigate the federal environment, accelerating their ability to contribute to more efficient and effective federal leadership.

“Ready to Govern provided me with the opportunity to meet fellow presidential appointees with the goal of sharing common questions, concerns and strategies for leadership.”

FORMER COMMISSIONER



**PARTNERSHIP
FOR PUBLIC SERVICE**

Ready to Govern® is a program that provides educational services, namely, onboarding and leadership development sessions in the field of government management.

The Partnership for Public Service is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to revitalize our federal government by inspiring a new generation to serve and by transforming the way government works.

ourpublicservice.org