



## READY TO SERVE PERSONAL ASSESSMENT

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Serving as a presidential appointee is an honor. You will have the opportunity to serve your country and work on some of the most important issues of the day. You will also gain experience working with career public servants, talented and committed people in the administration, Congress and beyond. However, it is also a major life decision and comes with responsibilities. Here are questions to help you assess if this is a good fit for you at this time in your career.

### READINESS

- Am I committed to public service?
- Am I prepared to take an oath to uphold the Constitution and put the interests of the American people above my own?
- Am I ready to represent the values, vision and policies of the president?
- Am I comfortable being in a position where I serve at the pleasure of the president?
- Am I prepared to persist through a rigorous selection process?

### PERSONAL

- Do I have the level integrity needed to become a steward of the public trust?
- Am I qualified for the role?
- Am I committed to handling the workload?
- Am I prepared to deal with the scrutiny of being a public official, with elements of my private life shared with the public?

### FAMILY

- How can my family support me during my service?
- Will my family be subjected to unwanted scrutiny?
- Am I prepared to disclose financial and employment information about my spouse and dependent children?
- Will my spouse's current job pose a conflict of interest with my government role?
- What issues should I consider regarding relocation? (costs, temporary separation from family)

### FINANCIAL

- Am I satisfied with the compensation of a federal employee?
- Would I be comfortable divesting any of my assets to avoid conflicts of interest?
- If I have complex financial holdings, can I afford or am I willing to pay for the costs of serving, such as hiring an attorney or an accountant to navigate the vetting process?

### TEAM

- Who will I work for? Who else will I have the opportunity to work with?
- What happens if my boss leaves?
- Can I bring my own team to the organization, such as a chief of staff or public affairs person?

### PRE- AND POST-SERVICE OBLIGATIONS

- Am I prepared to commit to the [ethics restrictions](#) that will apply to my government role?<sup>2</sup>
- How will these restrictions impact my future employment opportunities? Will they temporarily preclude me for a time from advising clients in my area of expertise, lobbying, working for a contractor or being employed overseas?
- How will these restrictions impact my future earning potential?

### BENEFITS

- What will serving my country mean to me personally?
- What skills and experience will I gain by serving in the administration?
- What do people in my position typically do after their public service?
- What will I learn through this experience?