



Federal Policy Agenda for the 119th Congress (Second Session)

About Grant Professionals Association (GPA)

Headquartered in Kansas, the Grant Professionals Association (GPA) represents thousands of professionals across all 50 states and internationally who manage, write, and administer billions of dollars in public and private funding each year. GPA members work in nonprofits, local and state governments, health care, and philanthropic organizations, assuring that taxpayer and philanthropic dollars are responsibly invested in solutions that work to strengthen communities. GPA advances excellence in grant practice through education, certification, ethics, and nonpartisan advocacy for a fair, transparent, and effective federal grants system.

The Current Landscape

GPA's national needs assessment and 2025-member survey highlight recurring challenges to the grants landscape: shortened Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) windows, inconsistent compliance guidance, and limited communication during the prolonged government shutdown. These disruptions have and continue to hinder the ability of grantees, including nonprofits and local governments, to deliver critical services, underscoring the need for stronger oversight, predictable funding processes, and professional recognition for those managing federal grants.

Federal Policy Principles

GPA's 2026 federal policy agenda is guided by the following nonpartisan principles that strengthen the entire grants ecosystem and reflect the ethical standards of the profession:

- **Fair & Predictable Federal Grants** – Ensure stable funding cycles, clear and reasonable timelines, and consistent Office of Management & Budget (OMB) oversight to support effective program delivery.
- **Equitable & Ethical Grantmaking** – Advance data-driven, fact-based approaches that promote fairness and opportunity across all communities.
- **Transparency & Accountability** – Require clear agency communication, public data access, and consistent interpretation of guidance during disruptions or policy changes.
- **Grant Workforce & Professionalization** – Recognize the expertise of grant professionals and support investments in workforce training and development.

GPA's advocacy is nonpartisan and rooted in its ethical commitment to:

- Promote efficient, transparent, and fair grantmaking practices;
- Support policies that value grants as drivers of innovation, economic growth, and community capacity;
- Educate policymakers on how grants leverage private and local resources to achieve measurable public benefit; and
- Advance professional recognition for the grant professionals who ensure compliance, programmatic and fiscal accountability, and impact.

These principles are essential to a grant system that works—one that is fair to applicants and efficient for agencies, while maintaining public trust in how public and philanthropic dollars are used.

Partnering for Solutions

GPA and its members stand ready to serve as a constructive, nonpartisan partner to Congress, federal agencies, and sector allies. By drawing on the firsthand experience of the professionals who craft proposals, design, manage, and evaluate grants every day, GPA offers unique expertise to strengthen the effectiveness, equity, and integrity of federal grantmaking nationwide.

By working together, we can create a grants system that is predictable, transparent, and equitable—one that empowers professionals, strengthens communities, and ensures every public dollar makes a lasting impact.

For more information, please contact Mike Chamberlain, CEO, Grant Professionals Association, at mike@grantprofessionals.org.