GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PACS AND POLITICAL MANAGEMENT

The challenges of coordinated political action and campaign finance uncertainty make it more important than ever that professionally trained and savvy leaders manage political action committees. The graduate certificate program in PACs and political management is designed to give professional PAC managers the fundamental skill set to effectively run their organization’s political action committee and successfully tackle the daunting realities of political finance and action. The graduate certificate in PACs and political management’s five-course curriculum provides the kind of flexibility today’s political professionals want most - the ability to tailor course work to suit their particular goals while addressing their organization’s needs.

The program was developed in close consultation with leading experts in the PAC, political action, and campaign finance arenas. The resulting certificate work addresses the gamut of skills and knowledge necessary for successful PAC operation, from issue advocacy to solicitation, from fundraising to grassroots campaigns, from budgeting to candidate selection. Like the other certificate programs offered by the Graduate School of Political Management, any student who completes the certificate and successfully applies to the master’s program can count all 15 credits towards the political management or legislative affairs master’s degree.

Visit the program website (https://gspm.gwu.edu/pacs-and-political-management/) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines:

- Fall - July 1
- Spring - November 1
- Summer - April 15

Recommendations required:

Two (2) letters of recommendation from professional and/or academic references; at least one academic reference for those who graduated within the last five years.

Prior academic records:

Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended should be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission (https://www.naces.org/members.php).

Statement of purpose: In an essay of 250-500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in this field and describe your academic objectives, research interests, and career plans. Also, discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, as well as any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application form.

Additional requirements:

- A résumé.
- International students requesting a student visa from GW are not eligible to apply for this program.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

College of Professional Studies – Office of Admission
George Washington University
805 21st Street, NW
Suite 301
Washington DC 20052

Contact for questions:

CPS Office of Admission
applycps@gwu.edu ~ 571-553-0025 (phone) ~ 202-242-1047 (fax)
8:30 am - 5:00 pm EST, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 15 credits, including 3 credits in a required course and 12 credits in elective courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>LGAF 6234</td>
<td>PACs and Congress</td>
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<td>Electives</td>
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<td>Two political management courses selected from the following:</td>
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<td>PMGT 6410</td>
<td>Grassroots Engagement</td>
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<td>PMGT 6412</td>
<td>Issues Management</td>
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PMGT 6450  Rules, Laws, and Strategy
PMGT 6454  Fundraising and Budgeting
PMGT 6472  Maximizing Social Media

Two legislative affairs courses selected from the following:

LGAF 6202  Legislative Politics
LGAF 6222  Parties and Elections
LGAF 6224  Interest Group Politics
LGAF 6260  Special Topics: Domestic Policy

See CPS regulations (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/professional-studies/#regulationstext) for additional information regarding enrollment status and time limits.