



Federal Academic Alliance

Benefits of Federal Academic Alliance

Our current and future Governmentwide Memorandums of Agreement include:

1. A focus on adult learners and non-traditional students for the purpose of employee development.
2. Not-for-profit-schools.
3. Enhanced collaboration between academic institutions and Federal agencies.
4. Reduced tuition rates and/or scholarships to Federal employees worldwide; some of the agreements extend the benefits to spouses and legal dependents.
5. Programs that address the Federal government's mission critical occupation skills in the areas of IT with an emphasis on Cybersecurity, Acquisition, Human Resources, Financial Auditing, Economics, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Federal Academic Alliance Partners

The Catholic University of America Metropolitan School of Professional Studies

Central Michigan University

Champlain College

College for America at Southern New Hampshire University

Drexel University Online

Excelsior College

Georgetown University - School of Continuing Studies

Pace University (iPace Program)

Park University

Penn State University

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota

University of Maryland - Francis King Carey School of Law

University of Maryland - Robert H. Smith School of Business

University of Maryland University College

Utica College

For more information: <https://go.usa.gov/xN545>



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U.S. Office of Personnel Management
Employee Services
Strategic Workforce Planning
Learning and Development

Federal Academic Alliance

<https://go.usa.gov/xN545>



Federal Academic Alliance

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) leads and serves the Federal Government in enterprise human resources management by delivering policies and services to achieve a trusted, effective civilian workforce. Our Governmentwide talent development focus is to ensure Federal employees have access to high-quality talent development opportunities in the identified Governmentwide mission critical occupations and leverage resources to increase impact.

The Chief Human Capital Officers (CHCO) Council and OPM established a joint initiative to address critical skills gaps and identified the following Governmentwide mission critical occupations: Economists, Human Resources, Cybersecurity, Auditors, Acquisition, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Additionally, OPM forecasts of future hiring trends suggest that healthcare be included under the STEM workforce. By developing formal relationships with learning institutions, OPM can lead the effort to help agencies address current skill needs.

OPM is partnering with colleges and universities as a part of the continuing efforts to provide higher educational opportunities to the Federal workforce by providing current Federal employees with the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education at reduced tuition rates. This program is a benefit that

Federal employees can take advantage of at their own pace to pursue or enhance their higher academic education. Some of the agreements extend the benefits to spouses and legal dependents.

The academic alliance is an additional educational resource for Federal employees and Federal agencies. The alliances address the demand for high-quality learning and development as well as the extremely fast pace of change in the learning industry.

With the endorsement of the CHCO Council, OPM began this leading effort to create relationships with colleges and universities to:

- Address current Governmentwide and agency-specific skills gaps
- Support career development for Federal employees
- Provide greater opportunities for Federal employees to obtain college degrees, certificates and/or college credits
- Provide this opportunity with colleges and universities that offer an online component to address our worldwide workforce
- Provide current college students with a greater understanding of the Federal Government



Frequently Asked Questions

I am a Federal employee, how do I get started?

You may find information at: <https://go.usa.gov/xN545>. For information about the programs, admissions, and contact information for each school, please visit our partners' websites listed on the back of this brochure.

Am I eligible for this program?

All Federal employees are eligible to take advantage of this resource. Some of the agreements also extend the benefits to spouses and legal dependents. For more information, please visit our partners' websites listed on the back of this brochure.

I am a training officer, and my agency would like to host an information session and/or contact the partners about collaboration with our training needs. Can you provide a point of contact?

Please contact our team at LearningandDevelopment@opm.gov, and we will provide the points of contact for each academic institution.

Does my agency have to provide tuition reimbursement to participate in this program?

No. Agencies have the discretion to offer this program based on their agency training policy. Please contact your Human Resources about your agency's tuition reimbursement policy.

Information about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) financial aid is available at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.