
Background: Government employment includes jobs at the federal, state, and local level. At each level, the government generally operates through semi-autonomous agencies, each with its own focus. About seven percent of the U.S. population works in government. Careers within the Federal Government are a significant source of employment for those in the D.C. area.

Job and Internship Search

U.S.A. Jobs: www.usajobs.gov
Presidential Management Fellows: www.pmf.gov
Partnership for Public Service: www.ourpublicservice.org/OPS
Pathways: www.usajobs.gov/StudentsAndGrads
Carey Compass: https://c16-shib.symplicity.com/sso
Also: Individual agency websites

Entry: Except for a few rare cases, applicants for federal jobs MUST be U.S. citizens. Additionally, some positions require different levels of security clearance which are typically obtained via a background investigation during the application process. In some ways the application process for government jobs is more straightforward than in the corporate world: most positions can be found on www.usajobs.gov or on individual agency websites. Most government agencies also have internship programs for which you can apply. However, the difficulty often lies in carefully crafting your application, including resume and application questions, to the exact specifications of the job requirements. It is important to answer the questions directly and provide as much detail as possible. The Presidential Management Fellows Program offers the best opportunity for individuals with a graduate degree seeking a career in government. The details of the application process are outlined later in this document.

Roles: MBAs serve a wide variety of different roles and functions within government. The range of agencies within federal, state, and local government provide numerous opportunities for individuals with business skills. Currently, the most popular fields for MBAs employed in government are contracting, human resources management, general business, budget analysis, and financial administration.

Industry Overviews, Tools, Research

Resources and News
Vault Guide to Government Agency Careers*

Federal Resume/KSA builder, resources and links: www.resume-place.com


Public Service Employees Network: www.pse-net.com

USA.gov: www.usa.gov

The White House: www.whitehouse.gov


Also: Individual agency websites

*Vault Guides can be purchased at various online retailers OR downloaded for free via Carey Compass. Once logged onto Carey Compass, click “VAULT guides – Career Insider” under “My Quicklinks.” You must create an account on the vault.com site using your JHU email address.

This Resource Guide is intended to provide an introduction to the industry and relay a sampling of the resources available to candidates. It is by no means comprehensive, nor intended to replace individual research based on specific job targets and/or career advising recommendations.
Agencies for MBAs

Dept. of Defense (DoD): www.defense.gov
Dept. of Treasury: www.treasury.gov
Dept. of Agriculture (USDA): www.usda.gov
Internal Revenue Service (IRS): www.irs.gov
Dept. of Health & Human Services (HHS): www.hhs.gov
Dept. of Labor (DoL): www.dol.gov
Dept. of Commerce: www.commerce.gov
Dept. of Justice (DoJ): www.justice.gov
Dept. of Interior (DoI): www.interior.gov
Dept. of Veterans Affairs: www.va.gov

Presidential Management Fellows (PMF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apply</th>
<th>Online Assessment</th>
<th>In-Person Assessment</th>
<th>Finalist Named</th>
<th>Job Fair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 5-19</td>
<td>November 5-19</td>
<td>January/February</td>
<td>February/March</td>
<td>March/April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is PMF? The PMF program allows recent graduates to compete for jobs against other people of their relative age and experience. It also provides management training, rotations through different agencies, and competitive entry-level salaries. The PMF program is a two-year commitment, during which participants are paid a full salary and benefits at the GS-9, GS-11, or GS-12 levels.

Application – Go to www.usajobs.gov, and follow the application instructions. You will need to submit a copy of your resume and graduate transcripts.

In-Person Assessment – If you score sufficiently high on the online assessment, you will be invited to schedule your in-person assessment at one of the assessment center locations.

Online Assessment – The online assessment consists of two parts: an untimed questionnaire and three essay questions.

Finalist and Job Fair – If your score is high enough in the interview, you will be named a finalist and be eligible for a PMF appointment. At this point, you will attend a job fair to meet potential agencies, and be eligible to apply for job opportunities. Note that being named a finalist is not a guarantee of employment.

Networking

LinkedIn Government: www.linkedin.com/skills/skill/Government
U.S. Government Relations and Public Affairs: www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=22294&trk=skills
Government Relations Professional Networking Group: www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=82054&trk=skills
GovLoop: www.govloop.com
Johns Hopkins Affinity Groups – Federal Government: www.alumni.jhu.edu/affinitygroups/federalgovernment

Events and Conferences

FOSE Government Technology Conference: www.fose.com
Next Generation of Government Training Summit: www.nextgengovt.com
American Association of Budget Professionals Symposium: www.aabpa.org

Questions about careers in government?
Contact Roger Williams at r.williams@jhu.edu