



# Open Government Federal Advisory Committee Q&A

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Hosted By:  
The U.S. Open Government Secretariat

May 10, 2024

# Agenda

Time	Topic
1:00 - 1:05	General Announcements & How to Engage
1:05 - 1:15	Federal Government's Opening Remarks
1:15 - 1:25	Overview of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)
1:25 - 1:35	Overview of Open Government Federal Advisory Committee (OG FAC)
1:35 - 2:00	Application Q&A (pre-submitted questions)
2:00 - 2:25	Open Q&A
2:25 - 2:30	Closing Remarks & Next Steps

# General Announcements & How to Engage

# General Announcement

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## Meeting Recording Disclaimers

**This event will be open to the public, and is being recorded. A copy of who attended the session, the agenda, notes taken from the session, and the recording of the session will all be posted publicly to the [open.usa.gsa](https://open.usa.gsa) website.**

Image Credit <https://www.privacypolicies.com/blog/meeting-recording-disclaimers>

# A Message from GSA Legal

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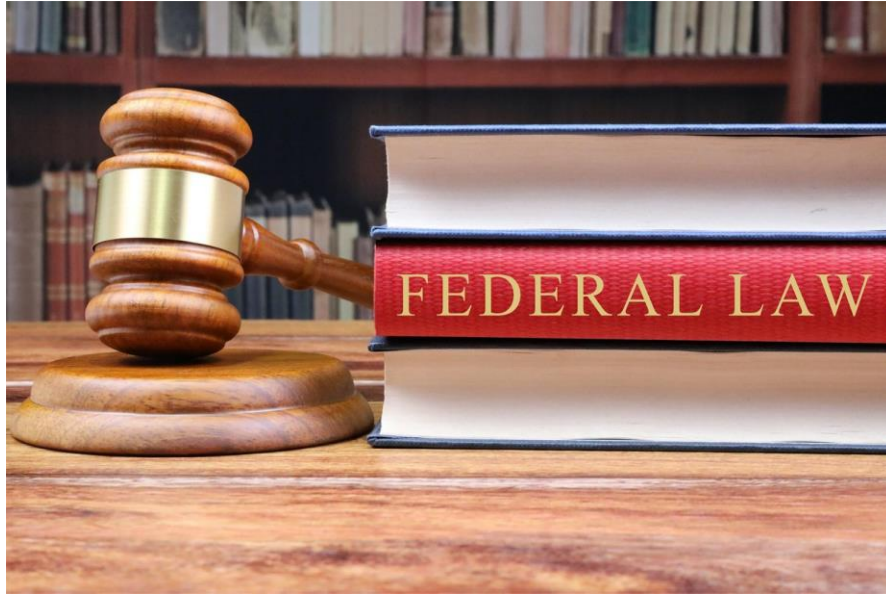


Image Credit <https://thebluediamondgallery.com/legal08/f/federal-law.html>

**“The purpose of this engagement session is to provide general guidance on the Committee nomination process. However, GSA does not intend to use any individual or collective opinion expressed in this forum as a guideline in the formulation of any agency policy or regulation.”**

# Norms of Engagement

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1



## **Be Respectful**

Treat all participants with courtesy and respect.

4



## **Be Concise**

We will adhere to designated time limits for each speaker.

2



## **Stay On Topic**

Stick to the agenda and scope of the meeting and avoid unrelated topics.

5



## **Encourage Participation**

We promote active participation, active listening, and input.

3



## **Provide Constructive Criticism**

If you disagree, provide constructive feedback.

6



## **Follow the Facilitator's Guidance**

Please follow instructions for a smooth process.

# How to Engage

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## Zoom Logistics



- Please use the **Q&A button** to submit your questions for the public Q&A section of the agenda.
  - **Note:** Your questions will be viewable to everyone.
  - If you would like to be taken off mute to ask a question please use the **raise hand feature**. Please keep questions to under 2 minutes.
- Additional links or comments of a logistical nature from the Federal team will appear in the **chat** box.
- You will have the ability to **upvote** questions/comments you agree with or would like to see answered. This will help inform the process of how we choose/get to questions during the open Q&A session.
- The Open Government Secretariat will provide responses to all questions either during the meeting or after on [open.usa.gsa.gov](https://open.usa.gsa.gov).

# Federal Government Opening Remarks



# Opening Remarks

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**GSA**

**GENERAL SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION**

Domestic Implementation  
Management



**Daniel W. York**  
**Director, Open Government Secretariat**  
**U.S. General Services Administration**

# Opening Remarks

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**WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF  
SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

Policy Leadership



**Denice Ross**  
**Deputy U.S. Chief Technology Officer**  
**Office of Science and Technology Policy**



## Advisory Committee as a Multi-Stakeholder Forum

“A structured environment designed to maximize participation and cooperation between government and civil society by bringing relevant partners into the discussion and ensuring that all voices are heard.”

- Open Government Partnership

# Areas of Member Expertise

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## Access to Information

Improve effectiveness of access to information legal frameworks.

## Anti-Corruption

Develop or strengthen a whole-of-government anti-corruption strategy or roadmap.

## Civic Space

Strengthen enabling environment and spaces for civil society and civic action.

## Climate and Environment

Use open government to strengthen implementation of strategies or agreements on climate and environment.

## Digital Governance

Strengthen transparency and public oversight of AI and data protection frameworks.

## Fiscal Openness

Advance public oversight and inclusion reforms across the budget and spending cycle.

## Gender and Inclusion

Adopt open government reforms to promote the full participation of women politically, socially and economically.

## Justice

Advance people-centered justice reforms.

## Media Freedom

Develop or reinforce legal frameworks that protect the rights of journalists and independent media.

## Public Participation

Mainstream or embed fit-for-purpose, high quality and inclusive public participation practices across key government sectors, processes, and institutions.

# Overview of Federal Advisory Committee Act

# The Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)

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Sometimes the Federal Government can benefit from outside advice

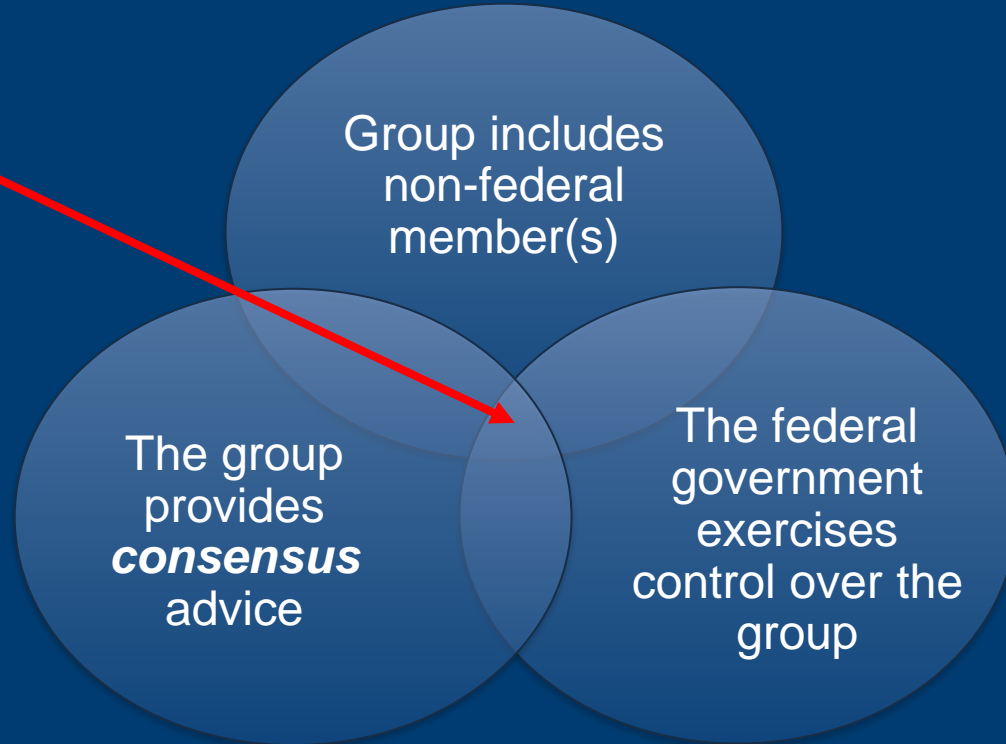
**FACA**

The public has a right to know who is influencing Federal Government decision-making

# When does the FACA apply?

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**FACA**



# Establishing Federal Advisory Committees

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## How

- Executive Order
- Statutory Mandate
- Discretionary Authority (including GSA Administrator)

## Who

- Federal Employees, Special Government Employees (SGEs), & Representatives
- Committee Management Officer (CMO)
- Designated Federal Official (DFO)

## What

- Must file a charter with committee details (e.g. costs, meeting frequency, termination date) before taking any action



# FACA Meeting & Records Requirements

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Generally, advisory committee meetings are noticed and open to the public



FACA Sec. 10(b): “[R]ecords, reports, transcripts, minutes, appendixes, working papers, drafts, studies, agenda, or other documents which were *made available to or prepared for or by each advisory committee* shall be available for public inspection and copying ... until the advisory committee ceases to exist”



Exceptions:

- Meetings involving classified info, personally identifiable info (PII), proprietary info, etc.

# **Overview of the Open Government Federal Advisory Committee (OG FAC)**

# Purpose of the OG FAC

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## Access to Information

Improve effectiveness of access to information legal frameworks.

## Anti-Corruption

Develop or strengthen a whole-of-government anti-corruption strategy or roadmap.

## Civic Space

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# OG FAC Operations

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## *Everyone Can Observe and Provide Input*

The OG FAC will operate in accordance with all provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) which requires:

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### **All Meetings Be Open to the Public:**

Information on how to attend will be available on the GSA Open Government Secretariat website, through social media, and posted at least 15 days before a scheduled meeting via a notice in the Federal Register.

2

### **Allows For Public Comment:**

Written public comments will be accepted through the life of the Committee and oral public comments will be permitted when the agenda allows.

# OG FAC - Term & Appointment

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## *The Logistics of Serving*



Members will serve for **one (1) to three (3) year terms**, and no member will serve for more than **six (6) consecutive years**.



The GSA Administrator will appoint all members, and the OG FAC is expected to be a continuing entity with **charter renewals every two years**.



**Not more than 20 members total**

- $\frac{2}{3}$  From public/civil society
- $\frac{1}{3}$  From the Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Government

# OG FAC - Who Should Apply

## *Representation that Reflects American Society*

- The OG FAC seeks diverse individuals from the American society to serve on the Committee.
- We value opportunities to increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility on our federal advisory committees and we encourage a cross-section of those directly affected, interested, and qualified to apply.



# OG FAC - How Do I Apply?

*Nominations Due May 28, 2024*

1



## Preparing your Nomination Package

Any interested person and/or organization may nominate qualified individuals for membership. Individuals are also encouraged to self-nominate. The following items must be submitted:

- (1) A **letter of nomination** stating the nominee's name and organizational affiliation(s), nominee's field of expertise, specific qualifications to serve on the Committee, and a brief statement of interest, including if the nominee is interested in serving as the Chair of the Committee;
- (2) A **professional resume or curriculum vitae (CV)**; and
- (3) A **short biography** (no more than two paragraphs) describing the nominee's professional and educational qualifications, including a list of relevant activities and any current or previous service on advisory committees.

2



## Submitting your Nomination Package

- Email with the subject line "**OG FAC Nomination**" to [ogfac@gsa.gov](mailto:ogfac@gsa.gov).
- **Arthur Brunson**  
Designated Federal Officer (DFO)  
General Services Administration  
Office of Government-wide Policy  
1800 F Street NW  
Washington, DC 20405

# Public Q&A Pre-Submitted Questions



# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Questions 1, 2, & 3*

**Would you consider removing the requirement to include someone else's resume or CV?**

*(from 5/2 Public Participation and Community Engagement Request for Information Listening Session)*

**Is there a page limit for Resumes/CV?**

**How much published experience is necessary to apply?**

# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Questions 4, 5, & 6*

**Would members of the Open Gov FAC be allowed to participate remotely (without going to Washington, DC)? & Will all of the meetings be in person or by zoom?**

**Question about the meetings, are they in person or Zoom?  
Overall, what is the estimated time commitment of a committee member?**

**How many hours of work are expected per person, per year?**

# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Questions 7 & 8*

**What does success look like for the OG FAC?  
Who will 'own' the work streams?**

**What is the outcome GSA is aiming to achieve? What level of Transparency and how can Civil or Industry assist in the transition?**

# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Question 9*

**Would a performance and efficiency Service Level Agreement (SLA) be part of the discussion?**

# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Question 10*

**What work, financial, or other personal reporting will advisory committee members be expected / required to do?**

# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Question 11*

**To what extent can Tribal governments participate as appointed members of the OG FAC?**

# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Question 12*

**For current government employees, do you have to be a certain GS Level to be considered for membership of the OG FAC?**

# Questions

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## *Pre-Submitted Question 13*

**Would I have to be based in the USA or be an American Citizen in order to be a member of the Committee?**



# Public Q&A Open Discussion

# Reminder!

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## *How to Engage in Zoom*



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# Closing Remarks & Next Steps

# Thank You!



Contact Us: [ogfac@gsa.gov](mailto:ogfac@gsa.gov)