Phi Beta Kappa: Key into State and Local Government Service

June 24, 2022
What is the Volcker Alliance?

The Volcker Alliance empowers the public sector workforce to solve the challenges facing our nation.

We envision a public sector workforce with the experience, preparation, and commitment to ensure government is accountable and delivers with excellence.
Who am I? Why am I talking to you?

Peter Morrissey, Director, G2U Initiatives

The Government-to-University Initiative (G2U) is a collaborative, national effort to connect jobseekers to public service jobs.
Why should I care about state and local government?
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1. **There are immense opportunities**

2. State and local governments deliver every sort of service

3. State and local government is a fulfilling place to work
Immense Opportunity
Which reflects the breakdown of jobs by level of government?

NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT JOBS BY LEVEL, IN MILLIONS

A: 10 Local, 8 State, 2 Federal
B: 6 Local, 8 State, 6 Federal
C: 4 Local, 8 State, 10 Federal
D: 2 Local, 6 State, 14 Federal
Immense Opportunity
Which reflects the breakdown of jobs by level of government?

NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT JOBS BY LEVEL, IN MILLIONS

A  B  C  D

Local  State  Federal

4  8  10

8  8  8

6  6

10  14

2

Immense Opportunity
Which reflects the breakdown of jobs by level of government?
Immense Opportunity
All levels of government need your skills

Percent share of employed population over the age of 16 who work in government

Source: US Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey
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Many types of work

Which of these services or programs are delivered by S/L government and which are not?

- Public Schools
- Medicaid
- TANF
- Zoning
- Public Assistance
- Section 8 Housing
- Water Quality
- Affordable Care Act
- SNAP
- Scientific Research
- Infrastructure
- Public Health
- CARES Act
- Community Development
- Civil Rights Enforcement
- Parks
- Environmental Protection
- COVID Response
- Homeless Services
- Federal Highways
- Community Development
- The Volcker Alliance
- Empowering and Inspiring Public Servants
Many types of work
Most of them are!

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- Medicaid
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- Environmental Protection
- Public Health
- COVID Response
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- Community Development
Many types of work
Actually, all of them are

Public Schools
Medicaid
TANF
Zoning
Public Assistance
Water Quality

Affordable Care Act
SNAP
Scientific Research
Infrastructure
Section 8 Housing

Civil Rights
Enforcement
Parks
Environmental Protection
Public Health
COVID Response
Homeless Services
Federal Highways
Community Development
CARES Act
Why should I care about state and local government?

1. There are *immense* opportunities

2. State and local governments deliver every sort of service

3. **This work really matters**
Fulfilling Opportunities to Serve
State and local government work matters

• Local and state government is where most government happens
• It features every sort of job in almost any field
• The work is hard, and that’s a good thing
• It is impactful and rewarding
• Job satisfaction among young leaders is high
Do state and local governments really need me?
Do state and local governments really need me?

1. Yes! They need all sorts of talented people

2. Yes! They need your skills

3. Yes! They need your values
Jobs in government are opening
Government needs the leadership of the next generation

Local, state governments struggle to replace exiting workers

Government Is Hiring, But Faces Tough Competition for Workers

State and local government workforce facing worst challenges in 50 years
Do state and local governments really need me?

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Are my skills relevant?

Hypothesis:
Graduates with degrees in the liberal arts and sciences can find jobs in government
Are my skills relevant?

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Graduates with degrees in the liberal arts and sciences can find jobs in government.

Conclusion:
Liberal arts and sciences graduates are **UNIQUELY SUITED** to thrive in government and build fulfilling, impactful careers.
Top rated skills for public sector employees
Which of these skills were rated most valuable by current young government leaders?

Data Analytics
Quantitative Analysis
Project Management
Overcoming Obstacles
Oral Communication
Written Communication
Financial Acumen
Which of these skills were rated most valuable by current young government leaders?

Top rated skills for public sector employees

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- Quantitative Analysis
- Project Management
- Oral Communication
- Written Communication
- Overcoming Obstacles
- Financial Acumen
Top rated skills for public sector employees

The most successful young public servants are:

- Critical thinkers and complex reasoners
- Strong communicators
- Good listeners, always searching for new lessons
- Principled and ethical
- Creative and innovative
- Unafraid of obstacles and comfortable with uncertainty
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Your generation is ready to create change

Young People Are Participating In Political Life, and Many More Might Do So If Given the Opportunity

The percentage of young people, ages 18-29, who said they had performed each action, and the percentage who said they have not but may do so in the future.

- **Have Done It**  |  **Might Do It in the Future**
- **Talk to friends about politics and elections**
  - 66%
  - 11%
- **Talk to friends about how racism affects society**
  - 56%
  - 16%
- **Try to convince others to vote**
  - 45%
  - 23%
- **Attend a march or demonstration**
  - 29%
  - 31%
- **Donate money to a campaign**
  - 24%
  - 28%
- **Register others to vote**
  - 23%
  - 34%
- **Volunteer for a political campaign**
  - 14%
  - 31%

**CIRCLE** Tufts University Tisch College - CIRCLE
Source: CIRCLE/Tisch College 2020 Post-Election Youth Survey
Get the data
Expectations of government are shifting
You believe government has responsibility to create change

Gen Z more likely than other generations to want an activist government

% saying government ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation</th>
<th>Should do more to solve problems</th>
<th>Is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gen Z</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millennial</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gen X</td>
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<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boomer</td>
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<td>49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silent</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pew Research Center
Being part of the solution

Transforming government requires engagement

Share of respondents that agreed/strongly agreed with statement, "I trust the [federal/state/local] government."
Fulfilling Opportunities to Serve in Government

Government work matters

“There’s an opportunity to bring your talents and your analytical skills within [local] government to really serve communities that usually get left out of conversation, discussion, and public decision-making.”

-Helen Chin, Asst. to the City Manager for Homelessness
Culver City, CA
So how do I get in?
So how do I get in?

Comprehensive listings of open opportunities

USAJOBS  GOVERNMENTJOBS  indeed
So how do I get in?

Ways to get your foot in the door
So how do I get in?

Your universities are resources

Your universities are your partners in equipping you with skills and connections to make the public service leap.

Look to your:

• Career services staff
• Advanced degree and continuing education programs
• Faculty
• Public service job fairs
• Alumni
The Volcker Alliance
We are here to help – it’s our job
Contact Us

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