

The Choice to  
**VOLUNTEER IS CLEAR**

“Every person has a longing to  
be significant; to make a contribution;  
to be a part of something noble and purposeful.”

John C. Maxwell

“It is not what  
we get.

But who we become, what  
we contribute... that gives meaning to our lives.”

**Tony Robbins**

# WHY VOLUNTEER?

Volunteers are the heart of NIGP. They bring diversity, perspective, talent, skill, and passion into the discussion as the Institute develops and implements its mission to serve the public procurement profession. As volunteers serve the Institute, the Institute serves the profession, and the profession serves society.

In today's environment, everyone has to carefully choose how to spend their time. Serving as an NIGP Volunteer can prove to be one of the most valuable and rewarding choices you make.

- Channel your creative energy for a cause that is meaningful to you
- Gain expertise on complex issues that are integral to business and the economy
- Influence the future direction of public procurement
- Build valuable networks and relationships with your peers and NIGP members
- Gain prominence in the field and bring visibility to your agency
- Grow as a leader the only way you can - through experience

# WHAT IS MY COMMITMENT?

- A commitment to volunteer the time that's sufficient to make a difference
- A commitment to engage in purposeful conversation and the work to be accomplished
- A commitment to the mission of NIGP and the advancement of public procurement

Volunteerism comes in different shapes and sizes. There are quick opportunities through focused task forces as well as longer time commitments. Some opportunities can be accomplished through individual effort rather than as a group. Most volunteer opportunities do not require travel. Several opportunities include the need to engage thought leaders who are not practicing professionals but who bring unique expertise and perspective to the table. Their inclusion inspires innovation.

# WHAT CHOICES DO I HAVE?

The Institute offers a wide range of formal, volunteer opportunities; depending on the amount of time and skill you can contribute:

- **The Governing Board and the three Councils** (Finance, Member, and Talent) require a three-year commitment, monthly tele-conference calls, and some face-to-face meetings which require travel. A travel stipend is available.
- **NIGP Committees** require a three year commitment, limited conference calls, and typically no travel requirements. Examples include committees that support diversity, our scholarship program, the annual Forum, Institute awards, policy development and position statements for the Institute.
- **NIGP Chapter Ambassadors** require a three year commitment and they travel 3-5 times each year to deliver presentations and serve as liaisons to NIGP chapter affiliates, and some face-to-face meetings which require travel. A travel stipend is available.
- **NIGP Task Forces** require limited conference calls over a shorter, but intensive, period of time.

There are also many informal volunteer opportunities including:

- **Workshop presenters** at the annual Forum
- **Subject matter writers** for the Institute's publications
- **Reviewers** of draft standards and practices
- **Researchers** on public procurement trends and benchmarks
- **NIGP Instructors.** (These positions are independent contractors of the Institute who are compensated for their services. Contractors are not eligible to serve on the NIGP Governing Board or Finance Council. If this is of interest to you, contact the Talent Council and they can connect you with NIGP's staff.)

# HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM ELIGIBLE TO SERVE?

The best way is to visit [www.nigp.org](http://www.nigp.org), select **About NIGP** in the navigation ribbon, and review the section on **Leadership/Volunteer**. A synopsis of requirements...

Opportunity	Members	Time	Education	Certification	Experience	Travel
Governing Board	11	3 Years	Bachelors	Must hold a current professional credential recognized by NIGP	3 Years on a Non Profit Board (NIGP or Chapter Preferred)	Yes
Finance Council	11	3 Years	Bachelors	Must hold a current professional credential recognized by NIGP	3 Years Financial Management	Yes
Member Council	11	3 Years	Associates	Must hold a current professional credential recognized by NIGP	3 Years on a Board, Committee, Related	Yes
Talent Council	11	3 Years	Bachelors	Must hold a current professional credential recognized by NIGP	3 Years Leadership Development	Yes
Chapter Ambassadors	18	3 Years	NA	NA	Current or past Chapter leader/contributor	Yes
Institute Committees	11 per committee	3 Years	NA	NA	Aligned with talent and skills	No
Institute Task Forces	7 to 11 per task force	Limited	NA	NA	Aligned with talent and skills	No

## HOW DO I BEGIN?

Share your desire to contribute with the NIGP Talent Council at [talent@nigp.org](mailto:talent@nigp.org).

The Talent Council's key role is to recognize your potential and maximize it within the context of volunteer leadership.

**What's most important is to begin the conversation -  
and begin your journey as a leader within the Institute.**

How do you want to contribute to the Institute?

What talents and skills are you willing to share?

Are you a planner? Writer? Strategist? Researcher? Assessor?

Maybe a Public speaker? Creative thinker? Financial wizard? Dreamer? Developer?

Do you like to work alone?

Do you thrive when the best minds are around you?



## **What are your burning passions that will make your volunteer experience meaningful?**

