



The Global Standard in Public Service Education

Statement on the U.S. Federal Government Shutdown

Washington, DC (October 15, 2013) – *The Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) has issued the following Statement, approved by its membership by acclamation on October 11:*

The more than 280 schools of public policy and administration represented by NASPAA, the global standard in public service education, share a concern about the impact that the October 2013 U.S. federal government shutdown may have on the future of public service, and on wider confidence in public governance.

The reputation of public service is at stake for an entire generation of potential public servants. For over 10,000 students who receive master's degrees in public policy, affairs, and administration each year, public service is the highest calling. The U.S. is at risk of losing them as well as prospective future students. Hiring the best qualified, most publicly committed graduates is vital to the nation's future.

The U.S. is a global model of democratic governance. NASPAA believes it is critical for the nation that trust in the system of governance is restored. Therefore, NASPAA calls upon the leadership of all branches of the U.S. federal government to

- Acknowledge the importance of public service and public servants, and the essential role they play in the country and society.
- Demonstrate a commitment to public service by working together to restore the functioning of democratic governance in the United States.

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NASPAA, the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration, is the global standard in public service education. *It is the membership association of over 280 schools of public policy, public affairs, public administration, and public & nonprofit management, located across the U.S. and in 13 countries around the globe. NASPAA is also the recognized accreditor of master's degree programs in these fields. NASPAA's twofold mission is to promote excellence in education and training for public service and to promote the ideal of public service.*

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