



Georgia Association of Public Plan Trustees®

Promoting Education for Public Retirement System Fiduciaries

Government Affairs Committee Guidelines

General Information and Responsibilities

Effective Date: August 24, 2017 | Revision Date: October 16, 2026

Overview:

The Government Affairs Committee acts as a liaison to the Georgia General Assembly, keeping up with legislative issues that impact the Georgia Association of Public Plan Trustees® (GAPPT) and its members, and informing the Board of Directors and members about important legislative and legal developments.

Structure and Appointment:

The Government Affairs Committee Chair is the leader of the Government Affairs Committee.

Government Affairs Committee Chair – Appointed by the Board of Directors

- Two-Year Term

Government Affairs Committee Vice Chair – Recommended by the Chair and appointed by the Board of Directors

- Two-Year Term (In addition to any Committee Member Term)

Committee Members – Recommended by the Chair and appointed by the Board of Directors

- Two-Year Term

Government Affairs Committee members and the Vice Chair report to the Chair. The Chair reports to the Board of Directors.

The Government Affairs Committee will have enough members to manage its activities and responsibilities. Generally, a person should not serve on more than one committee at a time, nor should two individuals from the same institution serve on the same committee.

Government Affairs Committee members typically serve two-year terms starting on May 1st and ending on April 30th. Members may be eligible for reappointment if recommended by the Government Affairs Committee Chair and approved by the Board of Directors.

Member Qualifications and Evaluation:

To serve on the Government Affairs Committee, an individual must be a GAPPT Affiliate, Plan Sponsor, or Emeritus member in good standing.

The Government Affairs Committee Chair evaluates committee members annually for their participation and compliance with these Guidelines.

Member Resignation or Removal:

A member may resign by giving the Government Affairs Committee Chair written notice. Additionally, a member will lose their committee position if they are no longer associated with the organization that formed the basis for their GAPPT membership. A member may also be removed from their committee position for cause. Reasons for removal include, but are not limited to:

- Engaging in conduct prohibited by the Bylaws or GAPPT policies.
- Failing to attend regularly scheduled Government Affairs Committee meetings.

Compensation and Expense Reimbursement:

Committee members serve without compensation. Members may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred while conducting or engaged in duties as allowed by GAPPT policy and with the Board of Directors' approval.

Refer to the GAPPT Reimbursement Policy.

Member Responsibilities:

Active Government Affairs Committee members should:

- Monitor legislative issues that affect the GAPPT and its membership.
- Under the guidance of the Government Affairs Committee Chair, inform the Board of Directors and members about important legislative and legal updates.
- With input from the Board of Directors, develop and implement legislative initiatives.
- Prepare for and attend committee meetings by asking questions, following up on assigned tasks, and reviewing any supporting materials in advance.
- Communicate effectively with other committee members.
- Encourage GAPPT members to apply for future committee member positions.
- Act as an ambassador for the GAPPT.
- Encourage other public retirement system professionals to attend GAPPT educational events.
- Avoid conflicts of interest and adhere to GAPPT policies.
- Refrain from conduct that reflects negatively on the GAPPT.

Chair Responsibilities:

In addition to the responsibilities required of a committee member, the Government Affairs Committee Chair is expected to guide the committee and collaborate with GAPPT Staff to develop work plans and meeting reports.

The Government Affairs Committee Chair should:

- Review these guidelines annually and provide updates to the Executive Director.
- In October, provide the Executive Director with the dates for next year's committee meetings.
- Inform the GAPPT Staff of any committee roster changes.
- When necessary, recommend a vice chair candidate for the Board of Directors' consideration and approval.
- Identify any committee member who may lobby on behalf of the GAPPT and submit the recommendation for Board of Directors approval.
- Approve agendas of committee meetings before their distribution.
- Attend scheduled GAPPT Board of Directors meetings.
- Report to the Board of Directors on the committee's meetings, including decisions made and follow-up actions with deadlines for implementation.
- Approve any committee meeting agendas before their distribution.
- Act as a facilitator by leading and supporting discussions during meetings.
- Report to the committee on the decisions made by the Board of Directors that impact the committee's work.
- When appropriate, assist the committee in recommending new policies and procedures that support the mission and goals of the GAPPT.

Committee Information:

The following information is intended to support the Government Affairs Committee's role.

Documents: The Government Affairs Chair should be familiar with the following:

- The GAPPT Bylaws.
- All GAPPT policies relating to legislative and lobbying efforts.
- O.C.G.A. § 47-1-17.
- The GAPPT calendar.

Meetings: The Government Affairs Committee is expected to meet as necessary to carry out its responsibilities.

Ad Hoc Committees: The Government Affairs Committee may establish ad hoc committees as needed. Each ad hoc committee will have enough members to manage its tasks and responsibilities.

Budget: If deemed necessary, the Treasurer will prepare a committee budget with input from the Executive Director and Government Affairs Committee Chair.

GAPPT Calendar and Planning Dates:

The GAPPT Calendar will be provided to the Government Affairs Committee Chair before January 1st. Any additions or changes should be submitted to the GAPPT Staff for inclusion.

Thank you for serving on the Government Affairs Committee. Questions or concerns may be directed to the Government Affairs Committee Chairperson or info@gappt.org.