



National Academy of Public Administration 2026 National Conference

Washington DC
November 8 – 10, 2026
*Building the Future:
Modernizing Systems and
Empowering People*

At the National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20418





About the Academy

The National Academy of Public Administration is an independent, nonpartisan, and nonprofit organization chartered by Congress to be a trusted source of expertise that helps address society's most significant challenges and strengthens representative government that serves the people. For almost 60 years, the Academy has advanced the practice of good governance through research, convenings, and the insights of its more than 1,000 Fellows. Academy Fellows include former cabinet secretaries, governors, mayors, members of Congress, business executives, scholars, and public service leaders. Together, they form a powerful network dedicated to building a more effective, equitable, and trusted government.

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About the National Conference

Big challenges demand bold collaboration. From November 8 to 10, 2026, leaders from across the public administration community will gather at the National Academy of Sciences Building in Washington, DC to take on the questions defining this moment in government. How do we respond, and how do we build what comes next?

The conference lands at a pivotal time. It opens just days after the 2026 midterm elections, when the country will be full of talk about change and promises for the future. This is the room where that talk turns into substance.





The focus here is not the campaign and results of the elections but the work that follows it, the hard and vital work of governing well and making good on the promises made to the public, regardless of who wins.

This year's theme, *Building the Future: Modernizing Systems and Empowering People*, gets at the heart of it. Government runs on its people and its systems, and both are being tested and reinvented right now. Over three days, the people leading that change will share what they are learning while it is still unfolding.



Confirmed Speakers Include:



Eric Ueland
Deputy Director
for Management
at the Office
of Management
and Budget



**Kevin
Hennecken**
Senior Advisor
at the Office of
Personnel
Management
and Director of
Tech Force



**Dr. Paul
Lawrence**
Deputy
Secretary
of the U.S.
Department of
Veterans Affairs



**Jennifer
Anastasoff**
Executive
Director of
the Tech
Talent Project



**The Honorable
Tim Kaine**
U.S. Senator
of Virginia



Arun Gupta
CEO of the
NobleReach
Foundation

Additional Speakers Include:



Marc Dunkelman

Research Fellow at Brown University's A. Alfred Taubman Center for Public Policy and American Institutions and Author of *Why Nothing Works*

Kevin Hawickhorst

Research Fellow at the Foundation for American Innovation

Eli Lehrer

CEO of the R Street Institute

George Nesterczuk

former Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources

Noah B. Peters

Senior Advisor for Policy and Legal Affairs and Counsel at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management





Around these voices, plenary sessions, keynotes, and concurrent breakout discussions run throughout the three days, digging into the questions at the center of the theme. Expect conversations on modernizing the federal workforce, bringing new technical talent into government, the future of the civil service, providing effective oversight, fiscal sustainability and the ties between federal and state budgets, and how agencies deliver results in a period of rapid change.



The conference will also feature the moments that celebrate and recognize public service. The Arthur S. Flemming Awards honor outstanding federal employees, a distinction carried since 1948 by past winners from Neil Armstrong to leaders across science, law, and public health. The Academy will induct its 2026 class of Fellows, the field's highest form of peer recognition. And the Brownlow, Roback, and George Graham awards celebrate the best scholarship, the rising talent, and the exceptional service that move the field forward.

New to This Year's Conference



New to this year's National Conference, the Academy will launch the Richardson Leadership Lab that will bring students of public policy and administration into the room with accomplished public servants for an honest conversation about leadership, integrity, and the future of the field. Inspired by the life and legacy of Elliot L. Richardson, one of the nation's most principled public servants, the Lab is built to be interactive rather than ceremonial.

Leaders will share not just what they accomplished but how they navigated hard decisions, built trust, and stayed grounded in their values. Through a leadership roundtable, short talks on the forces that will reshape

public service over the next thirty years, and small-group discussions, students will leave not simply inspired but challenged, with a clearer sense of what principled leadership asks of them and new confidence in their own ability to serve.

Few gatherings put practitioners, scholars, elected leaders, and the next generation of public servants in the same room to shape the future of government together. This is one of them.



Why Sponsor the National Academy of Public Administration's National Conference?



Sponsoring the National Conference puts your organization in the room where the future of government is being worked out, in front of the people driving it.

The audience is senior and hard to reach anywhere else in one place. Attendees include Academy Fellows, federal, state, local, and tribal government executives, leaders from higher education and the nonprofit world, and the emerging talent stepping into public service. These are the decision-makers and thought leaders your organization wants to stand in front of, gathered around a shared focus on results.



Sponsorship connects your brand to that audience and to the moments that define the conference:

- Reach attendees across all three days through the printed program, event signage, the livestream, and the Academy's digital platforms
- Associate your name with the events people remember, from the Flemming Awards to the induction of the 2026 class of Fellows
- Invest in the next generation of public servants through the Richardson Leadership Lab and student participation
- Connect with speakers, Academy leaders, and prominent Fellows in the field
- Align your organization with a trusted, nonpartisan convener whose work carries weight across public administration

This is a chance to stand behind building a stronger, more capable government, at exactly the moment it matters most.



Sponsorship Levels & Benefits



There are many ways to support the Academy's National Conference. We are also offering dedicated sponsorships of the Richardson Leadership Lab, our inaugural program bringing together students and accomplished public servants, detailed later in this packet. If you do not see exactly what you are looking for, or you would like to combine elements into something tailored to your goals, we would welcome the conversation. Reach out to our team and we will build a sponsorship package that fits your organization's desired goals and impact.



Presenting Sponsor

\$25,000

(Four Available)

A premier level of visibility for organizations that want their name closely tied to the conference. Presenting Sponsors are featured in the conference program and share in the marquee benefits of the event.

- Logo featured on the front page of the printed program
- Full-page advertisement on an inner cover of the program
- Prominent branding throughout the conference
- Recognition from the podium by Academy leadership
- Invitation to an exclusive dinner with select conference speakers, Academy leaders, and prominent Fellows
- Eight complimentary registrations
- Opportunity to send a follow-up message to conference attendees after the event, subject to Academy editorial approval
- Logo in the printed program, on conference materials, and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Recognized as a supporter of the Richardson Leadership Lab with your logo on Lab signage and materials
- A reserved place at the Lab's interactive roundtables for your organization's emerging leaders or recruiters

Gold Sponsor

\$10,000

Strong visibility and recognition throughout the conference. Gold Sponsors are acknowledged from the stage and featured across conference materials.

- Half-page advertisement in the printed program
- Prominent branding throughout the conference
- Recognition from the podium by Academy leadership
- Six complimentary registrations
- Opportunity to send a follow-up message to conference attendees after the event, subject to Academy editorial approval
- Logo in the printed program, on conference materials, and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Recognized as a supporter of the Richardson Leadership Lab with your logo on Lab signage and materials



Silver Sponsor

\$5,000

Meaningful support with visibility across the conference. Silver Sponsors are recognized in the program and throughout the event.

- Quarter-page advertisement in the printed program
- Prominent branding throughout the conference
- Four complimentary registrations
- Opportunity to send a follow-up message to conference attendees after the event, subject to Academy editorial approval
- Logo in the printed program, on conference materials, and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Recognized as a supporter of the Richardson Leadership Lab with your logo on Lab signage and materials

Bronze Sponsor

\$2,500

An accessible way to support the conference and be recognized among its sponsors. Bronze Sponsors receive visibility in the program and across conference channels.

- Logo listing in the printed program
- Prominent branding throughout the conference
- Two complimentary registrations
- Logo on conference materials and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Recognized as a supporter of the Richardson Leadership Lab with your logo on Lab signage and materials



New Fellow Induction Sponsor

\$7,500

(One Available)

Sponsor the induction of the 2026 class of Fellows, the field's highest form of peer recognition and one of the most meaningful moments of the conference. As the sole sponsor of the induction, your name is part of a celebration of leadership in public administration.

- Full-page advertisement placed next to the induction agenda in the printed program
- Your logo featured on photos taken at the induction reception photobooth
- Recognition from the podium during the induction ceremony
- Prominent branding throughout the conference
- Four complimentary registrations
- Logo in the printed program, on conference materials, and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media

Livestream Sponsor

\$5,000

(One Available)

Carry the conference beyond the room by sponsoring the livestream that brings the event to a national audience. Your logo appears alongside the Academy's throughout the broadcast, reaching viewers well past the attendee list.

- Your logo displayed on the livestream next to the Academy's logo
- Quarter-page advertisement in the printed program
- Prominent branding throughout the conference
- Four complimentary registrations
- Logo in the printed program, on conference materials, and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media



Add On Sponsorships

These can be added to any sponsorship or purchased on their own.



Lanyard Sponsor

\$5,000 (One Available)

Put your logo around the neck of every attendee. As the exclusive lanyard sponsor, your brand is visible in every session and event across all three days.

- Exclusive logo placement on the conference lanyards worn by all attendees
- Logo in the printed program, on conference materials, and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media

Refreshment Break Sponsor

\$3,000 (Three Available)

Keep attendees fueled and connected between sessions. Your branding appears at the refreshment stations for your sponsored day.

- Branding on signage at the refreshment stations for one conference day
- Logo in the printed program, on conference materials, and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media

New Fellow Congratulation Ads

\$1,500 (Full page ad)

\$750 (½-page ad)

Congratulate a newly inducted Fellow or the whole 2026 class with an ad in the printed program. A simple way to show support for the Academy's newest members.

- A congratulatory advertisement in the printed program
- Recognition as a supporter of leadership in public service

Invest in the Next Generation of Public Service Leaders Sponsor the Richardson Leadership Lab



The Academy's inaugural Richardson Leadership Lab will bring students of public policy and administration into the room with accomplished public servants for an honest conversation about leadership, integrity, and the future of the field. Inspired by the life and legacy of Elliot L. Richardson, one of the nation's most principled public servants, the Lab is interactive rather than ceremonial, built around a leadership roundtable, short talks on the forces reshaping public service, and small-group discussions where students work through the toughest challenges facing government.



Why Sponsor the Richardson Leadership Lab



Sponsoring the Leadership Lab aligns your organization with the next generation of public service leaders at the very start of their careers. The Lab will bring together the rising students who will run public institutions for decades to come, which makes it a rare and direct way to reach emerging talent and stand out as an organization that invests in people, not just moments.

The impact is real and immediate. Your support brings students into the room who could not otherwise afford to be there, connects them with accomplished leaders worth learning from, and helps launch a program built to shape how public servants think about principled leadership for years to come. This is a chance to stand with the future of public service, and to be remembered as one of the organizations that helped build it.



Inaugural Sponsor

\$10,000 (Five Available)

Be one of the inaugural supporters of the Richardson Leadership Lab, with your name tied to the program in its first year and premier billing throughout.

- Named a Inaugural Sponsor of the Richardson Leadership Lab with exclusive presenting-level branding across Lab signage and materials
- Your logo on student and participant communications for the Lab
- A reserved place at the Lab's interactive roundtables for your organization's emerging leaders or recruiters
- Full-page advertisement in the printed conference program
- Six complimentary registrations to the full National Conference
- Logo on Lab materials and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Opportunity to send a follow-up message to Lab attendees after the event, subject to Academy editorial approval

Lunch Sponsor

\$7,500 (One Available)

- Host the Lab's working lunch, where students and accomplished public servants continue the conversation over a shared meal.
- An invitation for an organizational representative to attend the Lab
- Named sponsor of the Richardson Leadership Lab lunch with branding in the lunch space
- Your logo on Lab signage and materials
- Four complimentary registrations to the full National Conference
- Logo on Lab materials and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Opportunity to send a follow-up message to Lab attendees after the event, subject to Academy editorial approval



Student Access Sponsor

\$5,000

Cover the cost of attendance for students who could not otherwise be in the room, including travel and related expenses. Each Student Access Sponsorship supports five students, making you the reason the next generation has a seat at the table.

- Underwrites attendance for five students, with your organization credited on their participant materials
- An invitation for an organizational representative to attend the Lab
- Recognized as a Student Access Sponsor making student participation possible
- Two complimentary registrations to the full National Conference
- Logo on Lab materials and on the Academy website
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Opportunity to send a follow-up message to Lab attendees after the event, subject to Academy editorial approval

Lab Champion

\$2,500

An accessible way to support the inaugural Leadership lab and be recognized as a champion of the future of public service leaders.

- Recognized as a supporter of the Richardson Leadership Lab
- Your logo on Lab materials and on the Academy website
- Two complimentary registrations to the full National Conference
- Recognition in the Academy newsletter, communications, and social media
- Opportunity to send a follow-up message to Lab attendees after the event, subject to Academy editorial approval



Due: 10/21/2026

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Selected Sponsorship

Package Level

(s): _____

Please indicate the name of the individual/
company/organization as you would like
it to appear on the conference website:

Email your company/organization logo to
gtownsend@napawash.org (PDF, JPEG, or
PNG format). Artwork must be received by
October 21, 2026.

Payment Information:

- ☐ Check – Make checks payable to “National Academy of Public Administration” and mail to: National Academy of Public Administration, 1600 K Street, NW, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20006
- ☐ Credit Card – To pay by credit card, visit this Academy Form and select “Other.”
- ☐ ACH – Electronic payment option is available. Truist Bank, Routing 061 000 104, Account #100 021 627 8266

For questions and additional information,
please contact Gillian Townsend at
(202)-204-3661 or gtownsend@napawash.org.

Agreement and Signature

Forms must be signed to reserve and
confirm the sponsorship package.

I understand all sponsorship fees are to
be paid in full with the application.

Signature of Authorized

Representative: _____

Date: _____

