

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

May 4 - 10, 2025

COALITION ORGANIZATION TOOLKIT

WELCOME!

Our nation's 2 million career civil servants play a vital role in our everyday lives.

Yet today, they face unprecedented threats. The current administration has arbitrarily fired scores of federal employees, shuttered entire agencies and offices, and disrupted essential public services.

To push back on these harmful efforts, the nonpartisan, nonprofit Partnership for Public Service recently launched an <u>#ISupportFeds campaign</u> that invites members of the public and federal employees to submit stories about civil servants who make a difference.

We invite you to join us as supporters of Public Service Recognition Week, kicking off on May 4. This toolkit also includes sample social media language you can use to amplify your support toward civil servants and outlines other ways you can take part in Public Service Recognition Week and show your support for federal employees.

Your participation will help ensure the public recognizes, defends and advocates for those who serve our nation in vital and underappreciated ways.

WHAT IS PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK?

Celebrated during the first full week of May, Public Service Recognition Week, or PSRW, honors those who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees. **Throughout the nation and the world, PSRW** is an opportunity to educate others about the vast and essential work public servants do, why they have chosen public service careers, and how they make our lives better every day.

Every year, from the steps of the Capitol to the smallest towns, public servants participate in ceremonies, information fairs, parades and other events—both online and in person—to honor government employees.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

There are many myths and misconceptions about the federal workforce. But the truth is, career civil servants ensure our food and water are safe, our veterans get the care they need, children get nutritious school lunches, seniors get the benefits they've earned, travelers get where they need to go safely and so much more. When their work suffers or stops, we all suffer.

Stripping career civil servants from government weakens its expertise and ability to provide vital public services. Championing civil servants' work and impact—and their role as nonpartisan employees committed to the public good—is critical to showing people what is at stake if the apolitical federal workforce is decimated.

Below are data points and additional information that may be useful to share with others.

Did you know:

- The vast majority of the roughly 2 million federal career civil servants—more than 80%—work outside the Washington, D.C., area, in every U.S. state and territory, and in countries around the world. These employees do day-to-day work to deliver on the mission of government for countless communities. Learn more
- Civil servants are viewed more favorably than the federal government as a whole. When asked whether civil servants are committed to helping people like me, 50% of Americans agree, according to our 2024 national poll. Learn more
- Nearly one-third of federal employees are veterans. Learn more
- Agencies that have a primary mission to protect U.S. national security account for more than 71% of the federal civilian workforce. Learn more

Public Service 101: Five Things You Should Know About Civil Servants

PSRW MESSAGES

- 1. Federal employees play a vital role in our daily lives. Our nation's civil servants take a constitutional oath to serve the public good, working tirelessly to move our country forward. They ensure our food and water are safe, assist veterans and seniors with accessing their benefits, provide disaster relief, protect our borders, keep us safe while we travel, deliver weather forecasts, and much more. Share your story about a federal employee who has made an impact in your life to help demonstrate why they matter and what the public stands to lose if their work is disrupted
- 2. The federal workforce is under threat. The current administration has arbitrarily fired federal employees, closed agencies, and disrupted essential public services. These actions seek to upend our government's professional, nonpartisan civil service, a cornerstone of our democracy. Civil servants should be celebrated for their invaluable contributions to our nation, not stripped from government, which only weakens its expertise and ability to deliver vital public services to the American people.
- 3. Now more than ever, career civil servants need your support. Public Service Recognition Week provides a key opportunity to champion the work and impact of civil servants while highlighting their role as nonpartisan employees dedicated to the public good. It's essential to show the public what's at stake if the apolitical federal workforce is undermined. Join the #ISupportFeds campaign and use this toolkit to amplify your support.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

At the heart of Public Service Recognition Week is the opportunity to invigorate public servants by offering them the support and recognition they richly deserve but seldom receive.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Share a story about a federal employee who has made a difference in your life to help us demonstrate why public servants matter and what is at stake if their work is disrupted. Tearing apart the government's apolitical, merit-based workforce would undermine federal services and harm the public. Help us protect the civil service and show federal employees that you've got their back.

Click here to share your story with us.

POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Agency Leaders

- Happy Public Service Recognition Week from us at [Insert Agency]. We're proud to work together to keep our nation running and moving forward. Thank a public servant for their positive impact today! #PSRW2025 psrw.org
- I'm proud to be a leader at [Insert Agency] who works alongside talented colleagues dedicated to serving the American public. Join me in recognizing the hard work and commitment of my fellow public servants. #PSRW2025 psrw.org
- Celebrate Public Service Recognition Week with us at [Insert Agency] I'm humbled to be a [Insert Agency] leader alongside hardworking and talented colleagues. Learn more about #PSRW2025 at psrw.org.

Public Servants

- Happy Public Service Recognition Week! I'm proud to be a public servant working in my community to make
 a difference and serve the American people. Learn how you can celebrate public servants this week at psrw.
 org. #PSRW2025
- As a public servant at [Insert Agency], I care deeply about my work and my constitutional oath to serve
 the public good. Join me in celebrating incredible public servants this Public Service Recognition Week.
 #PSRW2025 psrw.org
- This Public Service Recognition Week, I am proud to be a public servant at [Insert Agency]. My fellow public servants and I work to make our country better, safer and stronger. Learn how you can celebrate #PSRW2025 with us at psrw.org.

General

- Happy Public Service Recognition Week! Thank you to the millions of public servants who work tirelessly to keep us safe, healthy and prosperous. Your dedication and commitment to serving the public is unmatched. #PSRW2025 psrw.org
- For more than 40 years, Public Service Recognition week has served as a time to honor those who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees. These public servants are dedicated to improving our lives for the better. Learn how you can celebrate #PSRW25 at psrw.org.
- From protecting our national parks to ensuring our food is safe, public servants play a vital role in our everyday lives. Celebrate #PSRW2025 by sharing a story about a public servant whose work has made a positive impact on you: https://bit.ly/ISupportFeds. #ISupportFeds

SHARE OUR RESOURCES

Resources for Federal Employees

Right now, there is a lot of uncertainty about the future of the nonpartisan civil service and the state of the
federal workforce. This hub is a resource for federal employees to answer frequently asked questions about
various civil service proposals that affect federal employees. It is also meant to create a safe space for information sharing and community building among civil servants, and to respond to what federal employees
need in this moment and in the months to come. Help us share this hub with civil servants who are navigating
the current environment. Learn more

Government Success Database

To build support for protecting the nonpartisan civil service, people need to hear stories about important
things that career federal employees accomplish every day. Share stories from our Government Success Database with your networks and audiences to help the public better understand and appreciate the role these
individuals play in our democracy, in serving the public and in protecting our national security. Learn more

Fed Figures: Beyond the Capital: The Federal Workforce Outside the D.C. Area

To support the federal workforce, we first need to understand it. In our <u>Fed Figures series</u>, we analyze federal employment data to highlight characteristics and trends within one of our nation's greatest assets—the federal civil service. Fed Figures analyses enable us to better comprehend the strengths of our government and the challenges it may encounter. <u>Learn more</u>

2024 Best Places to Work in the Federal Government® rankings

 The latest Best Places to Work in the Federal Government® rankings, produced by the Partnership for Public Service, shows that two-thirds of our nation's career civil servants were engaged and satisfied with their work and jobs during the spring and summer of 2024, setting a benchmark for the Trump administration as it jettisons large numbers of employees and disrupts agency operations. Learn more

Agency Performance Dashboards

Clear, accessible and reliable data is central to building a more effective government. These dashboards offer
a snapshot of critical data points that illustrate the organizational health of specific agencies and the executive branch, helping agency leaders, congressional offices, the media and other stakeholders identify areas
for further focus. Learn more

SHARE YOUR RESOURCES WITH US

Submit your events here and share resources with us at events@ourpublicservice.org to be featured on our webpage.

CONSIDER SUPPORTING OUR WORK

The Partnership for Public Service is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that works to build a better government and a stronger democracy. Over 20% of our annual budget comes from individual support. Learn more about how your gift helps the Partnership here.

GET EVERYONE INVOLVED

Use Public Service Recognition Week to reach a wide range of audiences and build new partnerships with other associations, community organizations, private corporations and public employees. We can change the narrative about our government and safeguard the civil service when we work in cooperation to build coalitions that champion public servants and the work they do.

The Partnership for Public Service is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that believes good government starts with good people. We help government serve the needs of all Americans by strengthening the civil service and the systems that support it. With our focus on innovation in public service, our leadership trainings and seminars are uniquely designed for federal employees.





