

**§ 105-54.203**

(b) When the Secretariat notifies the Officer that establishing the committee conforms with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Officer obtains the Administrator's approval of the charter and the FEDERAL REGISTER notice. The Officer publishes the notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least 15 calendar days before the filing of the charter under §105-54.203 with the standing committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives having legislative jurisdiction over GSA. The date of filing constitutes the date of establishment.

**§ 105-54.203 Advisory committee charters.**

No advisory committee may operate, meet, or take any action until the Administrator approves its charter and the Committee Management Officer sends a copy of it to the standing committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives having legislative jurisdiction over GSA.

**§ 105-54.203-1 Preparation of charters.**

Each committee charter contains the following information:

- (a) The committee's official designation;
- (b) The committee's objectives and the scope of its activities;
- (c) The period of time necessary for the committee to carry out its purpose (if the committee is intended to function as a standing advisory committee, this should be made clear);
- (d) The official to whom the committee reports, including the official's name, title, and organization;
- (e) The agency and office responsible for providing the necessary support for the committee;
- (f) A description of the duties for which the committee is responsible (if the duties are not solely advisory, the statutory or Presidential authority for additional duties shall be specified);
- (g) The estimated annual operating costs in dollars and person-years for the committee;
- (h) The estimated number and frequency of committee meetings;
- (i) The committee's termination date, if it is less than 2 years from the date of its establishment; and

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(j) The date the charter is filed. This date is inserted by the GSA Committee Management Officer after the Administrator approves the charter.

**§ 105-54.203-2 Active charters file.**

The GSA Committee Management Officer retains each original signed charter in a file of active charters.

**§ 105-54.203-3 Submission to Library of Congress.**

The GSA Committee Management Officer furnishes a copy of each charter to the Library of Congress when or shortly after copies are filed with the requisite committees of the Congress. Copies for the Library are addressed: Library of Congress, Exchange and Gift Division, Federal Documents Section, Federal Advisory Committee Desk, Washington, DC 20540.

**§ 105-54.204 Advisory committee membership.**

(a) Advisory committees that GSA establishes represent the points of view of the profession, industry, or other group to which it relates, taking into account the size, function, geographical location, affiliation, and other considerations affecting the character of a committee. To ensure balance, the agency considers for membership a cross-section of interested persons and groups with professional or personal qualifications or experience to contribute to the functions and tasks to be performed. This should be construed neither to limit the participation nor to compel the selection of any particular individual or group to obtain different points of view relevant to committee business. The Administrator designates members, alternates, and observers, as appropriate, of advisory committees. He/she designates a Federal officer or employee to chair or attend each meeting of each advisory committee. The Administrator also designates GSA employees to serve on advisory committees sponsored by other Government agencies. The HSSO or Regional Administrator submits nominations and letters of designation for the Administrator's signature to

the GSA Committee Management Officer and to the Special Counsel for Ethics and Civil Rights for review and forwarding to the Administrator.

(b) Discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, religion, sex, or mental and physical handicap in selecting advisory committee members.

(c) Nominees for membership must submit a Statement of Employment and Financial Interests (provided to the nominee by the HSSO or Regional Administrator) and may not be appointed until cleared by the Designated Agency Ethics Official.

**Subpart 105-54.3—Advisory Committee Procedures**

**§ 105-54.300 Scope of subpart.**

This subpart sets forth the procedures that will be followed in the operation of advisory committees within GSA.

**§ 105-54.301 Meetings.**

(a) Each GSA advisory committee meeting is open to the public unless the Administrator decides otherwise;

(b) Each meeting is held at a reasonable time and in a place reasonably accessible to the public;

(c) The meeting room size is sufficient to accommodate committee members, committee or GSA staff, and interested members of the public;

(d) Any private citizen is permitted to file a written statement with the advisory committee;

(e) Any private citizen is permitted to speak at the advisory committee meeting, at the chairperson's discretion;

(f) All persons attending committee meetings at which classified information will be considered are required to have an adequate security clearance;

(g) The Designated Federal Officer (who may be either full time or permanent part-time) for each advisory committee and its subcommittees does the following:

(1) Approves or calls the meetings of the advisory committee;

(2) Approves the meeting agenda, which lists the matters to be considered at the meeting and indicates whether any part of the meeting will

be closed to the public under the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)). Ordinarily, copies of the agenda are distributed to committee members before the date of the meeting;

(3) Attends all meetings (no part of a meeting may proceed in the Designated Federal Officer's absence);

(4) Adjourns the meeting when he or she determines that adjournment is in the public interest; and

(5) Chairs the meeting when asked to do so.

(h) The Committee Chairperson makes sure that detailed minutes of each meeting are kept and certifies to their accuracy. The minutes include:

(1) Time, date, and place;

(2) A list of the following persons who were present;

(i) Advisory committee members and staff;

(ii) Agency employees; and

(iii) Private citizens who presented oral or written statements;

(3) The estimated number of private citizens present;

(4) An accurate description of each matter discussed and the resolution of the matter, if any; and

(5) Copies of each report or other document the committee received, issued, or approved.

(i) The responsible HSSO or the Regional Administrator publishes at least 15 calendar days before the meeting a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER that includes:

(1) The name of the advisory committee as chartered;

(2) The time, date, place, and purpose of the meeting;

(3) A summary of the agenda; and

(4) A statement whether all or part of the meeting is open to the public or closed; and if closed, the reasons why, and citing the specific exemptions of the Government is the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b) as the basis for closure;

(j) In exceptional circumstances and when approved by the General Counsel or designee, less than 15 calendar days notice may be given, provided the reasons for doing so are included in the committee meeting notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER;

(k) Notices to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER are submitted to the Federal Register Liaison Officer