

*Not just politicians!*



Jobs in Federal  
Government

# Perks of government service

- ★ Have the opportunity to make a difference
- ★ Be able to influence the future of our country
- ★ Excellent benefits



# Benefits of government service

- ★ Student loan repayment assistance
  - Some agencies may repay up to \$10,000 of your student loans per year
- ★ Flexible schedules and generous vacation time
- ★ Training and professional development
- ★ Excellent health and retirement benefits
- ★ Advancement opportunities



# Benefits of government service

- ★ Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHB). Health insurance for you, your spouse, and your children under the age of 26.
- ★ Federal Employee Dental/Vision Insurance Plan (FEDVIP). FEDVIP is a separate insurance plan from Cover yourself, your spouse, and your children up to the age of 22.
- ★ Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance program (FEGLI).
- ★ Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP).
- ★ 10 paid holidays, 13 sick days, and 13 – 26 vacation days per year
- ★ Employees can carry over any sick leave accumulation to the next year. (Typical worker has 2100 hours of sick leave, just over one year, accumulated when they retire.)
- ★ Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) – equivalent to 401(k)



# Federal government pay and advancement

- ★ General Schedule (GS) is the pay scale for many Federal jobs from 1-15.
- ★ Varies by geographic location
- ★ Each GRADE has 10 steps, allowing for a range of salaries
- ★ Within a few years, you can progress through several grades



# General Schedule (GS) grade criteria

Grade	Qualifying education
GS-5	4 academic years above high school leading to a bachelor's degree OR a bachelor's degree
GS-7	Bachelor's degree with one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Class standing (upper third of class)</li><li>• 3.0 or higher GPA; 3.5 or higher GPA in major</li><li>• Honor society membership</li></ul>
GS-9	Master's degree (or equivalent)
GS-11	Doctorate degree

Source: [opm.gov/qualifications/SEC-II/s2-e5.asp](http://opm.gov/qualifications/SEC-II/s2-e5.asp)



**GS-5 and GS-7 are considered “entry level”**





# General Schedule (GS) grade criteria

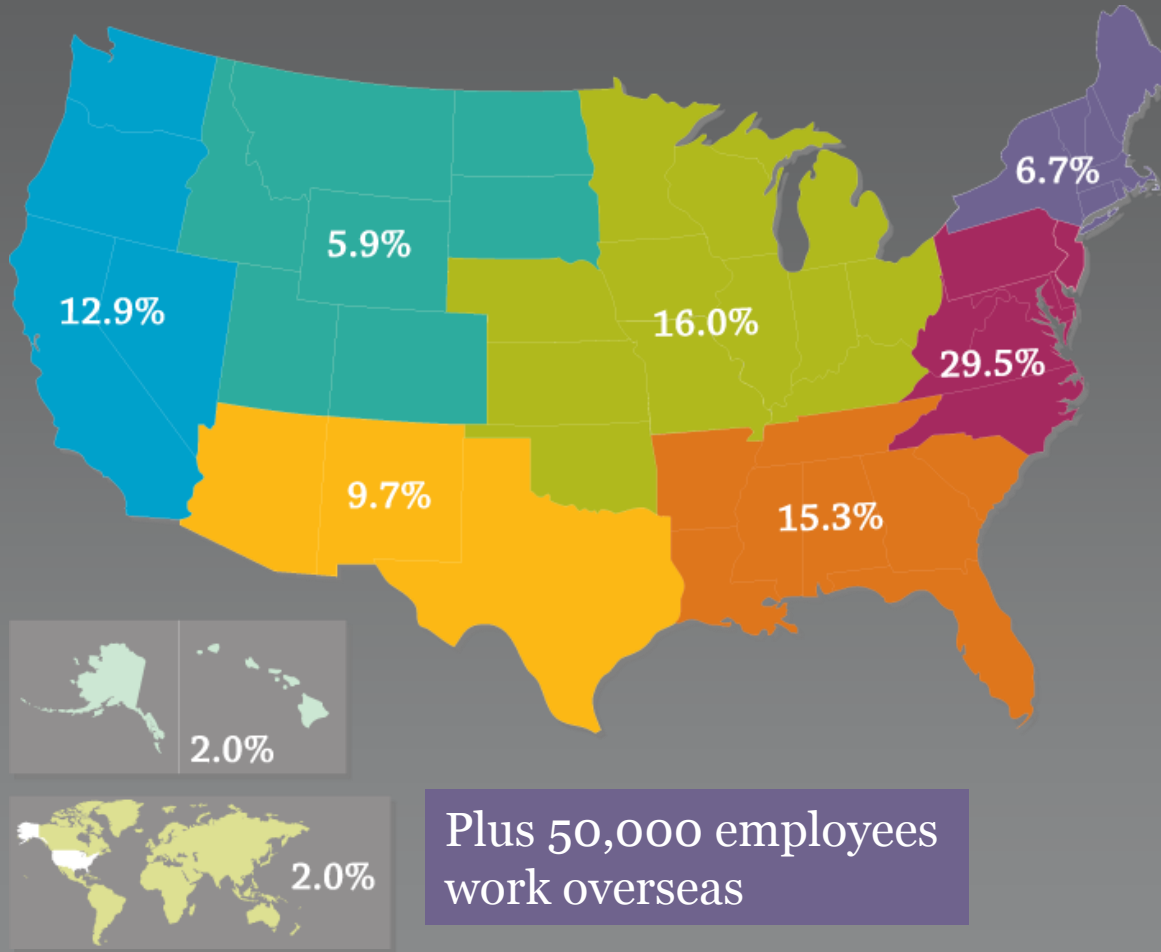
**SALARY TABLE 2014-GS  
INCORPORATING THE 1% GENERAL SCHEDULE INCREASE  
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2014**

*Annual Rates by Grade and Step*

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10	WITHIN GRADE AMOUNTS
1	\$ 17,981	\$ 18,582	\$ 19,180	\$ 19,775	\$ 20,373	\$ 20,724	\$ 21,315	\$ 21,911	\$ 21,934	\$ 22,494	VARIES
2	20,217	20,698	21,367	21,934	22,179	22,831	23,483	24,135	24,787	25,439	VARIES
3	22,058	22,793	23,528	24,263	24,998	25,733	26,468	27,203	27,938	28,673	735
4	24,763	25,588	26,413	27,238	28,063	28,888	29,713	30,538	31,363	32,188	825
5	27,705	28,629	29,553	30,477	31,401	32,325	33,249	34,173	35,097	36,021	924
6	30,883	31,912	32,941	33,970	34,999	36,028	37,057	38,086	39,115	40,144	1,029
7	34,319	35,463	36,607	37,751	38,895	40,039	41,183	42,327	43,471	44,615	1,144
8	38,007	39,274	40,541	41,808	43,075	44,342	45,609	46,876	48,143	49,410	1,267
9	41,979	43,378	44,777	46,176	47,575	48,974	50,373	51,772	53,171	54,570	1,399
10	46,229	47,770	49,311	50,852	52,393	53,934	55,475	57,016	58,557	60,098	1,541
11	50,790	52,483	54,176	55,869	57,562	59,255	60,948	62,641	64,334	66,027	1,693
12	60,877	62,906	64,935	66,964	68,993	71,022	73,051	75,080	77,109	79,138	2,029
13	72,391	74,804	77,217	79,630	82,043	84,456	86,869	89,282	91,695	94,108	2,413
14	85,544	88,395	91,246	94,097	96,948	99,799	102,650	105,501	108,352	111,203	2,851
15	100,624	103,978	107,332	110,686	114,040	117,394	120,748	124,102	127,456	130,810	3,354



# Where the Jobs Are: By location



In 2007, agencies spent \$11.6 million to relocate employees

Plus 50,000 employees work overseas





# Where the Jobs Are: By occupation

In FY 2007, roughly 46,264 people were hired in the federal government at the entry level (GS-5, GS-6, GS-7) into the following occupations:

Occupation	# Employees
Medical and Public Health	7,560
Accounting and Budget	4,672
Business and Industry	2,012
Social Science, Psychology, and Welfare	1,828
Engineering and Architecture	1,148
Education	612
Information Technology	376

Source: [fedscope.opm.gov](http://fedscope.opm.gov)



# Where to look for positions

- ★ Your career development center
- ★ Popular job search engines
- ★ [makingthedifference.org](http://makingthedifference.org)
- ★ [USAjobs.gov](http://USAjobs.gov)  
The Government's main job website
- ★ [studentjobs.gov](http://studentjobs.gov)  
The Government's main internship website
- ★ Agency websites  
Visit the websites of agencies whose missions interest you



# Anatomy of a vacancy announcement

8/14/2007	<p><u><a href="#">Supervisory Geographer, GS-0150-12, CENSUS-D-LC</a></u>            Duty Location: Oak Brook, IL Organization: Chicago Regional Office Promotion Potential: GS-12 Relocation expenses will not be paid. This is a bargaining unit position. Applications under this vac ...<a href="#">[more]</a></p> <p><b>Vacancy Ann.#:</b> CHICAGO RO-2007-0034  <b>Who May Apply:</b> Public  <b>Pay Plan:</b> GS-0150-12/12  <b>Appointment Term:</b> Term  <b>Job Status:</b> Full-Time</p>	Commerce, Bureau of the Census	US-IL- Chicago Metro Area, IL	68,569.00+
9/30/2007	<p><u><a href="#">ECONOMIST</a></u>            The BLS is an independent national statistical agency that collects, processes, analyzes, and disseminates essential statistical data to the American public, the U.S. ...<a href="#">[more]</a></p> <p><b>Vacancy Ann.#:</b> WA139762  <b>Who May Apply:</b> Public  <b>Pay Plan:</b> GS-0110-05/07  <b>Appointment Term:</b> Permanent  <b>Job Status:</b> Full-Time  <b>Opening Date:</b> 6/4/2007  <b>Salary:</b> From 30,386.00 to 48,933.00 USD per year</p>	Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics	US-IL- Chicago Metro area, IL	30,386.00+
	<p><b>Opening Date:</b> 8/3/2007  <b>Salary:</b> From 81,540.00 to 106,005.00 USD per year</p>			
9/30/2007	<p><u><a href="#">ECONOMIST</a></u>            The BLS is an independent national statistical agency that collects, processes, analyzes, and disseminates essential</p>	Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics	US-IL- Chicago Metro area,	30,386.00+



# Overview of the online process

After selecting the job to which you'd like to apply, there are usually several steps in the online application process:

1. Create your federal resume
2. Answer the questions posed online
3. Submit the complete application package by the stated deadline
4. Follow up with the appropriate agency contact to inquire about progress in hiring for the position



# Summary: tips for applying

## ★ **Plan ahead**

Allow plenty of time to thoroughly complete your application

## ★ **Select carefully**

Always use a tailored application for each vacancy you apply

## ★ **Prepare for a wait**

Don't assume you have been rejected if you do not hear back within weeks of submitting your application

## ★ **Follow-up with an agency**

Contact the identified representative to learn the status of an application or find out more about a job

