

President's Message



Michael A. Jones
2018 NASPO President

Warmest holiday greetings fellow NASPO members,

As the 2018 calendar fades into 2019 and my Presidential tenure draws to a close, this is truly a time of reflection on all that has transpired over the past year. To say it has been a historic year in the life of NASPO does not adequately capture all that has occurred over the last 12 months.

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Happy Holidays from your NASPO Board of Directors



Welcome 2019 NASPO Board Members

The newly elected officers and board members of the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) assume their new leadership roles with NASPO on January 1, 2019. Officers and board members were elected during NASPO's 2018 Annual

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Procurement U Prep Courses

Registration is now open for Procurement U's **CPPB** and **CPPO Spring 2019 Exam Prep Courses!**

These courses are designed to assist any public procurement professional preparing to take the UPPCC CPPB or CPPO certification exams.

Registration will remain open through February 1 for the Spring 2019 courses.

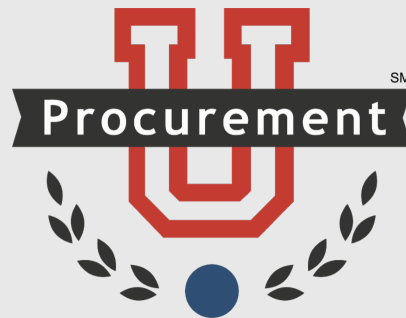
Below is the detailed information about what you can expect from these courses, including the various resources provided to help you prepare for the exams.

Duration: February 18 – April 21, 2019.

Delivery Method: Web-based, Instructor-led.

Contact Hours: 12 (hours are considered non-accredited under UPPCC guidelines).

Prices: \$300 discounted price (available to NASPO members and all other state government employees, including employees of public, nonprofit universities.)
\$480 standard price (applies to all other learners, including federal, county, and city government employees.)



[Register for the CPPB course here!](#)

[Register for the CPPO Course here!](#)

2019 Regional Conference Dates and Locations Selected

Beginning with the Midwestern Regional in May 2019, NASPO members in each region will once again join together for regional conferences. Click the link below to check out the date and location for your regional conference.

[Dates and Locations](#)

**ARE YOU READY to talk to your Governor
about the value of state central procurement?**

white papers and resources to help you make the case for central procurement.

Download your copies at: www.NASPO.org

Remember to also check out NASPO's Leadership Transition Toolkit – a complete guide, with tips, resources and customizable templates, designed to help officials like you prepare for the transition period and the early days of a new administration.



[Read More](#)

Give Yourself or Your Staff the Gift of Education!

New Course Available:

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION STRATEGIES



Procurement U's New Contract Administration Course

This latest Procurement U course is designed to explore key concepts and strategies related to **post-award** contract administration in the public sector. Topics include the value and importance of contract administration after award of the contract, as well as quality assurance strategies, essential elements of subcontract management, managing contract changes and closing out the contract.

[Learn More](#)



NASPO and NASPO ValuePoint alignment

After a lengthy and thoughtful discussion, the NVP Management Board and the NASPO Board of Directors have determined it is mutually beneficial to embark on a new model of alignment and shared services between the organizations. This joint decision is timely with the approaching retirement of longtime NVP CEO Doug Richins at the close of 2018.

As a limited liability corporation (LLC), with NASPO as its sole member, NVP is a wholly-owned subsidiary with NASPO as the parent organization. Currently, these organizations function as two separate, but related entities. Under the new alignment, NASPO and NVP will merge into a single entity under the leadership of NASPO's CEO, with each Board maintaining the same authority over its respective areas.

The purpose of this realignment is to bring even better cooperative contracts and services to our members. By sharing common services, communicating more closely, and more strongly supporting each other's missions, we are confident that NASPO and NVP can achieve even greater success.

Expanding Your REACH



It's been over four months since nearly 300 members joined together at the inaugural Regional Education and Connection Hub (REACH) for the largest gathering of state procurement professionals in NASPO's history. With over 92

percent of participants indicating they gleaned practical strategies to improve their procurement work, it should be no surprise that many states are already seeing a positive impact from the resources, information and tactics shared at the conference.

The benefits stretch from east to west, with positive examples shared nearly from coast to coast.

From North Dakota's State Procurement Office, Jamie Bostyan, Procurement Officer writes: "Our state procurement program went through a change recently in which we raised our procurement thresholds in coordination with our higher education institutions... NASPO events are one of several resources we have used as a part of this project." Notable due to its size and complexity, this project is one where getting as much input and perspective from other states as possible was incredibly helpful and important.

Another example impacting the statewide approach emerged from Idaho. Valerie Bollinger, State Purchasing Manager, was particularly energized by the market research templates and information shared at REACH by Roz Ingram and the State of Florida, "I had one of those conference moments where I got really excited about an idea, but this time I really decided to do something with it." Upon returning from the conference, Valerie adapted the template to her de-centralized state needs, with one for statewide contracting and one for agency-delegated contracts, which come through the State Procurement Office. Valerie and her team are currently running pilots with agencies to support them in conducting better market research at the start of the solicitation process, working to reduce re-solicitations and other issues on the back-end that limit the effectiveness of contracts.

On a more personal level, Michael Baczewski, Contract Analyst with the State of Connecticut shared his personal mission statement drafted as a result of the Procurement U Ethics training offered at REACH. For Michael, carrying home with him the reminder that he can "provide strategic leadership and excellence in public service" drives his daily work in a more meaningful way.

So...how is the nationwide impact of REACH being felt in your state?

New NASPO faces

NASPO is pleased to welcome several new members to our team:

Kelly Kamp joined NASPO on November 12 as a graphic design and communications specialist. Kelly has an AAS in graphic design from the Art Institute of Cincinnati-Ohio, a MA in Publishing and Writing from Emerson College in Boston, and a BA in English from Western Kentucky University. She previously worked as freelance designer and as a communications manager for a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit.

Ronda Glover joined NASPO on November 26 as a conferences and events coordinator. A recent graduate of NASPO Academic Partner Arizona State University's Tourism Program, Ronda graduated with a certificate in convention sales and meeting planning. She has

relocated to Kentucky and will be working out of the NASPO headquarters in Lexington.

Samuel Tolliver has been named NASPO's new member engagement and database coordinator. His first day on the job was November 26. Samuel holds a MS in Library Science from the University of Kentucky and most recently worked as a Technical Services Librarian for a Central Kentucky public library.

Lauren Bonkowski joined NASPO as a financial coordinator on December 3. Prior to working at NASPO, she was employed as an executive assistant in Cincinnati, Ohio. Lauren earned a BA from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond and currently resides in Berea, Kentucky.



2019 • Learn • Network • Partner

Registration opens December 17 for the 2019 NASPO Exchange!

