

Governmental Accounting Standards Board

Chair Position Specification

January 2026

The Financial Accounting Foundation ([FAF](#)) is seeking a distinguished leader to serve as Chair of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ([GASB](#)), with a term starting July 1, 2027, and ending June 30, 2034.

The GASB Chair leads a team dedicated to developing high-quality accounting and financial reporting standards for U.S. state and local governments and works in close partnership with the FAF and a broad array of stakeholders. This is a senior and highly visible appointment requiring a strong working knowledge of current GASB standards, distinguished technical governmental accounting expertise, leadership ability, strong communication skills, and experience collaborating with diverse stakeholders. This role is a full-time, senior leadership role based in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Key Relationships

Reports to:	FAF Board of Trustees
Key relationships:	<p>Financial Accounting Foundation (FAF) Trustees</p> <p>Financial Accounting Standards Board Chair</p> <p>Financial Accounting Foundation Executive Director</p> <p>Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Members</p> <p>Governmental Accounting Standards Advisory Council (GASAC)</p> <p>Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and investment professionals' associations</p> <p>Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)</p> <p>National Association of State Auditors and Comptrollers (NASACT)</p>

Candidate Selection Criteria

- Experience with the national scope of state and local government financial accounting and reporting issues at a senior level (for example, CFO/finance director of a local government or comptroller or auditor of state government); public accountant at the senior partner level with substantive experience in audits of state/local government

financial reports; senior investment leader with knowledge of and experience in municipal securities markets and related financial reporting; or a senior executive (such as a president or CEO) or board chair or senior member of a nationally recognized state/local government organization or a municipal markets regulatory body.

- Strong and current technical understanding of U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for state and local governments, with a CPA viewed as highly desirable.
- Experience or strong interest in standard setting or financial regulatory matters, with proven success in building strong relationships with regulatory bodies.
- Demonstrated thought leadership and intellectual capacity, curiosity, rigor, and engagement.
- Proven success interacting and influencing at the board level and collaborating and demonstrating neutrality, when needed, with senior-level professionals.
- Experience in building and maintaining relationships with stakeholders, constituencies and other interested parties, with the ability to have differences of opinion while retaining mutual respect.
- Experience presenting to large audiences of various constituencies.
- Proven success in attracting and retaining top talent and leading a talented and dedicated professional staff, providing appropriate direction to ensure the goals of the GASB and the FAF are achieved deliberately and in a timely manner.
- Experience leading and managing organizational change in a thoughtful, effective manner.
- Experience operating in a continuous improvement environment, assessing administrative structures and duties, with the ability to recommend and implement change where appropriate.

The FAF actively seeks nominations of candidates who will provide diverse personal and professional backgrounds and perspectives to the GASB.

Critical Competencies for Success

- **Commitment to the GASB's Mission** – Passion for the Board's mission, appreciation for the importance of independent standard setting for state and local governmental accounting and reporting, recognition that high quality accounting standards are in the public interest, understanding of the varying interests and perspectives of investors and other users of state and local government financial information (such as citizens, legislative and oversight bodies, taxpayers, and underwriters and analysts), as well as preparers and auditors of financial reports.
- **Technical Skills and Strategic Acumen** – Strong knowledge and technical competency in state and local governmental accounting and reporting and an individual who can provide value-added analytical insight and perspectives by:
 - Bringing a strong background of achievement and recognized stature in governmental finance or accounting.

- Being a highly intelligent, insightful, and rigorous thinker who can understand a broad range of accounting issues and think about both immediate and longer-term implications of standard setting, including post-implementation analysis.
- Being fact-based and data-driven, demonstrating the ability to analyze issues and offer sound practical judgment.
- Being capable of assessing the current environment, having a strategic, longer-term vision for government financial reporting, and anticipating issues that should require the GASB's focus.
- Understanding how to improve accounting by minimizing complexity.
- **Collaborative Leadership Skills** – Being an inspiring and pragmatic leader who will command respect and help lead organizational change in a majority-driven organization by:
 - Considering varied viewpoints, weighing the evidence presented in an impartial fashion, and reaching well-reasoned and supportable decisions in a timely fashion.
 - Effectively leading Board deliberations on technical accounting issues and shaping a majority to make progress on GASB's technical goals.
 - Being hands-on and engaged, proactively working with the FAF Executive Director, the FASB Chair, and other colleagues, by influencing and shaping agendas, to achieve successful outcomes.
 - Understanding how to work effectively, lead and delegate, and develop a majority Board view when appropriate in an organization with diffused and complex lines of authority.
 - Possessing strong interpersonal skills that will help build positive working relationships, demonstrating professional respect and a calm demeanor.
 - Understanding how to identify and develop leadership qualities in others, as part of the Board and key staff succession strategy.
 - Understanding situations that require a consensus building style vs. a command-and-control style.
 - Being able to operate as a focal point or the “Face of the GASB,” with appropriate ambassadorial skills, for a high-profile organization, demonstrating natural authority.
- **Communication Skills** – An articulate communicator who will command respect and instill confidence by:
 - Having an open, engaged, and inclusive style, possessing a point of view along with the appropriate level of diplomacy and discretion in private and public meetings, and in written materials.
 - Being an active listener who improves mutual understanding and possesses an intuitive style to influence others.
 - Interacting effectively and proactively with a senior and talented team and a range of interested third parties, such as state and local government organizations and groups, audit partners and others in accounting firms, regulators, legislative bodies and other standard-setting organizations.

- Appropriately advocate for and succinctly explain the need for certain standards that are being implemented or changed.

Major Responsibilities

- **Leadership/External Focus** – Act as the principal public spokesperson for the GASB across its full range of constituencies and ensure that stakeholders' concerns and issues are heard and considered, which requires extensive travel.
- **Forward Planning** – Lead the overall strategic direction and activities of the GASB and provide the leadership to inspire teamwork where colleagues and staff excel in the achievement of the GASB's mission.
- **Technology** – Maintain a strong awareness of new and emerging technologies and trends and thoughtfully assess their potential impact on or enhancement of the work conducted by the GASB.
- **Strategic Partnership** – Serve, along with the FAF Executive Director and FASB Chair, as a member of a leadership and stewardship team for the combined GASB, FASB and FAF organization, fostering a tone at the top of collaboration, communication, and commitment to excellence in the achievement of the organization's mission. Build, maintain, and strengthen constructive relationships with all of the GASB's extensive and varied stakeholders.
- **Process Stewardship** – Critically evaluate the processes by which the GASB conducts its work and oversee changes as necessary. Serve as one of seven active participants in the GASB process. Steer a diverse group of strong-minded individuals toward a majority Board decision. Manage in an orderly and constructive manner the process by which the Board develops and states its position on financial accounting and reporting issues. Address and balance a wide range of state and local governmental sensitivities.

Other Personal Characteristics

- Strong values, integrity, and character.
- Being resilient and resourceful with a high energy level.
- Willing to commit to serve in the role for an appropriate period.
- Hardworking and willing to commit the time and effort for the organization to succeed.

Compensation

There is a standard, attractive salary for this full-time position. Expenses are reimbursed for travel and other out-of-pocket costs directly associated with GASB membership, in accordance with FAF policies. Candidates will also be expected to comply with the FAF's "Policies in Respect of Investments and Other Personal Activities of Board Members and Board Staff Directors".

How to Apply

To apply for consideration, interested individuals should submit a resume and cover letter and/or CV to the attention of Charlene Stevens, MGT Vice President, and/or Maureen Barry, MGT Senior Consultant, at GovHRjobs.com by May 15, 2026.