



Institute for Regional Excellence Timeline

Established in 2001, the Institute for Regional Excellence-Regional Executive Development Program (IRE-REDP) was created to assist local jurisdictions in providing a regional executive development opportunity to mid-level and senior managers. It aims to develop leadership, enhance management skills, increase exposure to innovation in local government, and develop an understanding of regional issues and approaches.

IRE-REDP is fully accredited by the National Certified Public Managers Consortium. In partnership with the George Washington University, COG is the first regional council in the nation to sponsor an accredited program and earns reaccreditation every 5 years. The most recent reaccreditation was approved in 2021. Participation is open to managers from all COG member governments. Upon successful completion of this 12-month rigorous program, graduates receive a certificate from the George Washington University and are designated as Certified Public Managers.

The main objectives of the program are to:

- Provide the theoretical and intellectual foundations of leadership and management in the public sector and expose participants to modern practices in public administration;
- Examine and help participants prepare for the special challenges and responsibilities that come with leading large, complex public organizations;
- Increase understanding of metropolitan wide issues as well as interdependencies among local area governments and develop a common language and set of concepts, area managers can use when discussing issues; and
- Provide an opportunity to share problems, develop joint solutions, and establish networks among area jurisdiction managers.

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| 2000 | Established partnership with the George Washington University. Gained full support of Personnel Officers Technical Committee, Chief Administrative Officers Committee and the COG Board of Directors. |
| 2000 | COG Board of Directors authorized creation of the Institute for Regional Excellence in partnership with the George Washington University, Resolution #R32-00. |
| 2001 | IRE gained funding support from the Fannie Mae Foundation for a period of three years. |
| 2001 | First IRE Cohort started class with 23 participants from 8 member jurisdictions and COG. This cohort graduated in 2002 |
| 2003 | IRE was fully accredited by the National Certified Public Managers Consortium making COG the first regional council in the nation to receive such accreditation. |

