

GPCI Ambassador Conflict of Interest & Eligibility

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

General Grant-Related Training

Can I serve as a GPCI Ambassador if I provide grant-related training?

Yes. GPCI Ambassadors may provide paid or unpaid general grant-related training, workshops, presentations, and professional development. This includes training that addresses topics or competencies relevant to the GPC credential.

You should disclose applicable training activities and financial or professional interests on GPCI's Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form.

What if my grant training covers topics that are also included in GPCI competencies?

That is permissible. General grant-related education does not become GPC exam preparation simply because the subject matter overlaps with competencies or knowledge relevant to the GPC credential.

The important distinction is whether the program is specifically designed or presented as preparation for the GPC examination.

GPC Exam Preparation

Can a GPCI Ambassador teach a GPC exam preparation course?

Yes, under certain circumstances.

An Ambassador may provide, develop, teach, or facilitate GPC exam preparation if the Ambassador:

- Is not currently serving on the GPCI Board;
- Has not served on the GPCI Board within the past five years;
- Has not participated in GPC exam development, exam certification committees, or similar examination activities within the past five years;
- Has not served on another GPCI Board committee within the past five years, except for GPCI's Marketing Committee; and
- Discloses the activity and any related professional or financial interests as required by GPCI.

The Ambassador must also provide participants with a disclaimer explaining the potential conflict of interest and distinguishing the exam preparation activity from the Ambassador's role with GPCI.

Does it matter whether I charge for the GPC exam preparation?

No. The same requirements apply whether the exam preparation is offered for a fee or free of charge.

Any applicable financial interest should be disclosed through GPCI's Conflict of Interest process.

What disclaimer do I need to provide?

An Ambassador who provides GPC exam preparation or facilitates a GPC study group must clearly tell participants that they also serve as a GPCI Ambassador and that the course or study group is separate from that role and is not endorsed by GPCI.

Suggested language:

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: The facilitator/instructor of this program currently serves as a volunteer GPCI Ambassador. This program is provided independently of that role and is not sponsored, endorsed, or approved by GPCI. Serving as a GPCI Ambassador does not provide the facilitator/instructor with access to current GPC examination questions or other confidential examination content.

The disclaimer should be provided verbally at the beginning of the program or study group and, where applicable, included in written or electronic program materials.

Prep Courses vs. Study Groups

What is the difference between a GPC prep course and a GPC study group?

A GPC prep course is generally a structured instructional program specifically intended to help participants prepare for the GPC examination. It may include a defined curriculum, formal instruction, coaching, practice activities, test-taking strategies, or other organized exam preparation.

A GPC study group is generally collaborative and peer-based. Participants prepare together by reviewing resources, discussing concepts, sharing professional knowledge and experiences, and supporting one another's preparation.

A study group may have a facilitator who organizes meetings, suggests topics, or guides discussion. If that facilitator begins providing structured instruction, a formal curriculum, or exam-specific coaching, however, the activity may function more like a GPC prep course.

Does the distinction between a prep course and study group affect whether I can facilitate one as an Ambassador?

Under this policy, the same basic eligibility safeguards apply to both.

An Ambassador may provide GPC exam preparation or facilitate a GPC study group if they meet the five-year requirements related to GPCI Board, committee, and examination-development service and provide the required conflict-of-interest disclaimer.

This provides a consistent standard even though study groups and prep courses operate differently.

Board and Committee Service

I currently serve on the GPCI Board. Can I teach a GPC prep course or facilitate a GPC study group?

No. Current GPCI Board members may not provide GPC exam preparation or facilitate GPC study groups.

You may still participate in other Ambassador activities consistent with applicable GPCI policies.

I previously served on the GPCI Board. When can I provide GPC exam preparation or facilitate a study group?

Once at least five years have passed since your GPCI Board service, assuming you also meet the other requirements of the policy.

I serve, or previously served, on GPCI's Marketing Committee. Does that prevent me from providing GPC exam preparation?

No. Marketing Committee service is specifically excluded from the five-year Board committee restriction.

If you otherwise meet the eligibility requirements, you may provide exam preparation or facilitate a study group, subject to disclosure and disclaimer requirements.

What if I served on another GPCI Board committee?

You may serve as an Ambassador, but you must wait five years following that committee service before providing GPC exam preparation or facilitating a GPC study group.

Exam Development

Can I serve as an Ambassador if I previously participated in exam development?

Yes. Prior participation in job analysis, item writing, examination certification, or other exam-development activities does not prevent you from serving as an Ambassador.

However, you may not provide GPC exam preparation or facilitate a GPC study group until at least five years have passed since your participation in those activities.

What happens after the five-year period?

Once five years have passed, you may provide exam preparation or facilitate a study group if you meet the other requirements of the policy.

Your obligation to protect confidential examination information does not expire after five years.

Confidential information obtained through exam-development or certification activities may never be shared or used in training or exam preparation.

Employers and Organizations

My employer or organization offers a GPC prep course. Can I still serve as a GPCI Ambassador?

Yes. Your employer's or organization's involvement in exam preparation does not automatically prevent you from serving as an Ambassador.

You should disclose the relationship. If you personally teach, develop, or facilitate the prep course, you must also meet the five-year eligibility requirements and provide the required disclaimer.

What if someone else at my organization teaches the prep course?

That does not, by itself, prevent you from serving as an Ambassador. You should disclose your relationship with the organization, particularly if you or your organization have a financial interest in the program.

My GPA chapter, employer, or another organization I am involved with hosts a GPC study group.

Can I serve as an Ambassador?

Yes.

If you are simply affiliated with the organization and someone else facilitates the group, that affiliation does not prevent you from serving.

If you personally facilitate the study group, you must meet the five-year eligibility requirements and provide the required conflict-of-interest disclaimer.

Maintaining Clear Boundaries

Can I advertise my prep course by identifying myself as a GPCI Ambassador?

You may accurately identify your volunteer role, but you must not imply that GPCI sponsors, endorses, approves, or recommends your course or study group.

If your Ambassador status is mentioned in connection with an exam preparation offering, the required conflict-of-interest disclaimer should accompany that reference.

Can I tell participants that being an Ambassador gives me special knowledge about the GPC exam?

No. An Ambassador may never state or imply that the Ambassador role provides access to exam questions, confidential exam content, or information that gives participants an advantage on the examination.

What is the easiest way to determine whether my activity is permissible?

Ask these questions:

1. Am I currently on the GPCI Board?
2. Have I served on the GPCI Board within the past five years?
3. Have I participated in GPC exam development or exam certification activities within the past five years?
4. Have I served on a GPCI Board committee other than the Marketing Committee within the past five years?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, you may serve as an Ambassador, but you may not currently provide GPC exam preparation or facilitate a GPC study group.

If the answer to all four questions is no, you may provide GPC exam preparation or facilitate a GPC study group, provided you comply with GPCI's disclosure requirements and provide participants with the required conflict-of-interest disclaimer.

What if I am still unsure?

Disclose the activity and ask GPCI before proceeding. The purpose of the Conflict of Interest process is not necessarily to prohibit outside professional activities, but to identify and appropriately manage actual, potential, or perceived conflicts while protecting the integrity of the GPC credential and examination.

Approved September 3, 2026