

# Region VIII Government Affairs Chair

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

### 1. PURPOSE

Communicate legislative and regulatory issues to Council members. Mentor and assist State GAC chairs within the region to communicate legislative and regulatory issues to their members. May serve as a member of the national GAC committee, and as a communication link between the state GAC chairs and the national GAC committee. If not a member of the national GAC, communicates regional legislative issues with member on national GAC assigned to Region VIII.

### 2. TERM OF OFFICE

3 years, appointed by the Council Chair in consultation with Council members. May be reappointed to a second term.

### 3. QUALIFICATIONS

ASCLS Professional, Ascending Professional, or Emeritus membership and reside in Region VIII  
Recommended experience that would be helpful to someone holding this office:  
Previous state GAC chair experience is very helpful.

### 4. DUTIES

Mentor state GACs in all states in the region to carry out their position. Provide resources developed by the national GAC or Executive Office to assist the state GACs in legislative affairs. Provide feedback to the national GAC about state and regional GAC activities and issues.

Establish contact network and respond promptly to legislative alerts.

Reports: Fall, Winter, Final reports to Regional VIII Council Chair

Reports to: Region VIII Director, National GAC Chair or GAC representative assigned to Region VIII

Other duties performed: Attendance at National Legislative Symposium. Give updates at state and regional meetings if requested. Participate in Council activities

### 5. EXPECTATIONS

Meeting attendance & Travel requirements: Attend at least two (out of three) Region VIII Council meetings per year – fall conference call, winter conference call, and national meeting site (summer)

Deadlines: as assigned by Region VIII Council Chair

Average time commitment: Approximately 4-6 hours per month

Financial considerations: Travel expenses and registration costs to national meeting are not covered by Region VIII. Legislative Symposium costs are not covered by Region VIII. These are the responsibility of the Chair.

### 6. RESOURCES

Mentors: National GAC committee members and other regional or national leaders

Materials: Region VIII Guidelines, GAC committee materials, GAC Manual

Helpful Hints & suggestions: Computer, e-mail very helpful.

### 7. BENEFITS:

Contributions to the profession: Increase awareness of legislative issues in the Society and increase awareness of the Society among lawmakers

Skills developed/enhanced: Mentoring, communication, marketing, understanding of legislative process, leadership

Contacts / networking opportunities: Meet and develop relationships with colleagues throughout Region VIII and at the national level

Travel opportunities: Washington D.C., and site of national meeting.