

GPCI 2025

ANNUAL REPORT



Fiscal Year

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Grant Professionals Certification Institute (GPCI) continued to administer and oversee the Grant Professional Certified (GPC) credential in accordance with nationally recognized certification standards. As an organization accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), GPCI maintained its focus on credential integrity, examination validity, and consistent application of certification and recertification requirements.

Key activities during the year included implementation of a new GPC examination, ongoing administration of the Certification Maintenance Program (CMP), and continued oversight of approved education and engagement initiatives supporting credential holders and candidates. GPCI also sustained structured outreach and professional development opportunities designed to support awareness of certification and informed participation in the credentialing process.

Throughout the year, GPCI demonstrated responsible financial and organizational management, supporting core certification operations while maintaining appropriate reserves. Scholarships, partnerships, and sponsorships continued to expand access to certification and professional development opportunities in alignment with GPCI's mission.

Collectively, these activities reflect GPCI's continued commitment to administering a valid, reliable, and professionally relevant certification program that supports the grants profession and the public interest.



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fiscal Year 2025 (January 1 - December 31, 2025)

Dear GPCs, Future GPCs, and Partners,



I am honored to share the 2025 Annual Report on behalf of the Grant Professionals Certification Institute (GPCI). This past year was a success for GPCI, and it has been my honor to guide a team of dedicated board members and volunteers this past year as we worked together to ensure our mission to measure and promote competency and ethical practices within the field of grantsmanship.

A major highlight was the launch of the **new GPC Exam**, reaffirming our dedication to maintaining a rigorous and relevant credential that aligns with evolving professional standards and the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). In 2025, we **welcomed 178 new GPCs**, bringing our total to nearly 700 professionals across the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. We are proud to report an 81% retention rate in our Certification Program (CMP), surpassing our 80% benchmark.

Throughout the year, GPCI continued to promote the GPC credential through partnerships with colleagues and organizations across the country. Our Fireside Chats and study webinars attracted over 1,500 registrations. The Accepted Education Program (AEP) expanded to over 30 providers in 2025, a 50% increase from last year. We introduced the new Endorsing Employer Program (EEP) which provides a mechanism for grant professionals to identify and highlight employers who recognize and value the GPC credential. Our Ambassador Program grew to 45 Ambassadors nationwide, demonstrating the impact of peer leadership and volunteerism.

GPCI ended 2025 in a strong financial position, thanks to careful management, diversified income, and generous support from sponsors, donors, and partners. Your contributions through scholarships, sponsorships, and donations ensure access, equity, and sustainability for the GPC credential and the profession.

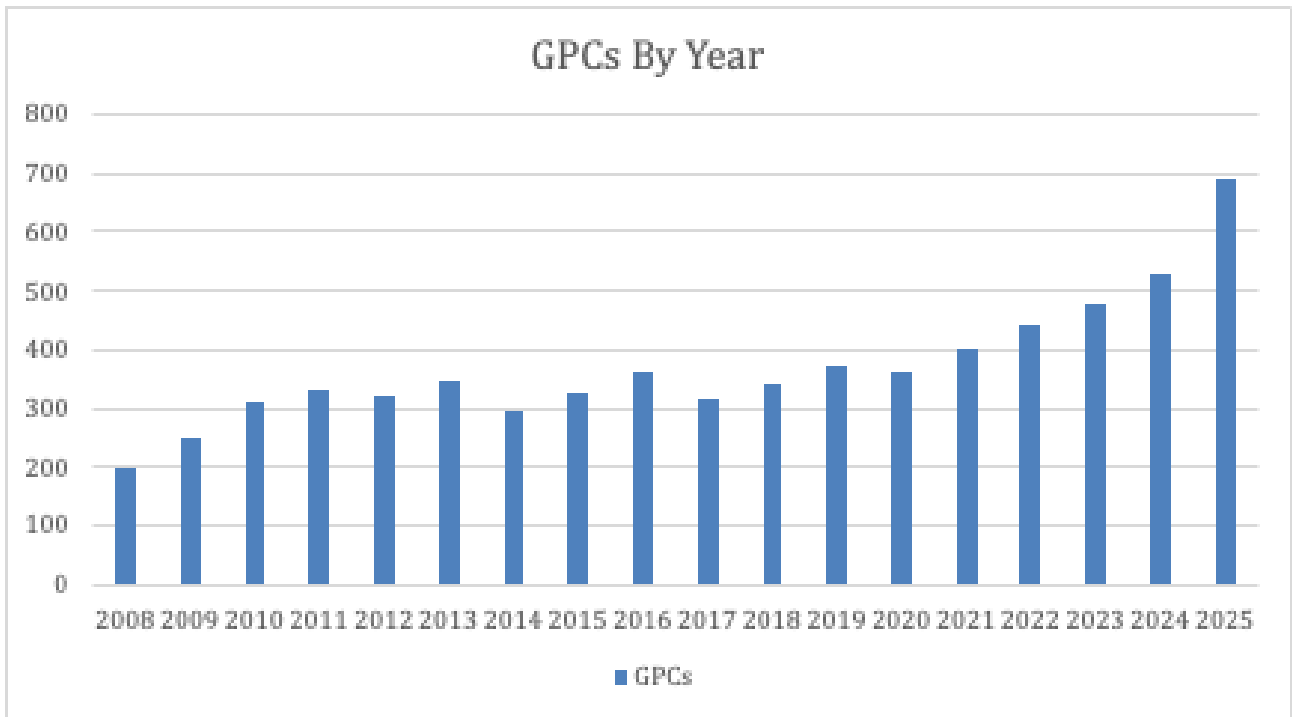
Finally, I extend heartfelt thanks to the GPCI Board of Directors, committee members, volunteers, Ambassadors, and staff. Your dedication, expertise, and leadership elevate the standards of our profession. Looking forward, GPCI will continue to strengthen the GPC credential, support grant professionals at every stage, and advance ethical and effective grantsmanship.

If you have not yet obtained your GPC, I encourage you to consider pursuing certification in the coming year. Please visit our website at grantcredential.org or contact us at info@grantcredential.org to learn more.

Thank you for being part of this vibrant community.

With gratitude,
Dr. Jillain Veil-Ehnert, Ed.D., GPC

2025 GPCI HIGHLIGHTS



GPC Summary:

- In 2025, GPCI introduced the new GPC Exam
- 178 new GPCs were welcomed between January 2025 and December 2025
- As of December 31, 2025, there were 693 GPCs in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico
- In 2025, 172 individuals sat for the exam for the first time, and 8 former GPCs sat to gain recertification.
- Of the individuals who sat for the exam in 2025, 95.7% passed (including those retaking the exam)
- In 2025, GPCI aimed to attract an average of ten (10) new GPC registrants each month. This target was surpassed, with an average of 12 new registrants per month.
- 110 GPC Exam Eligibility Packets were submitted, of which 107 met the eligibility requirements. Of those 107 packets, 7 were submitted under Pathway 1 (associate's degree or High School Diploma), and 100 were submitted under Pathway 2 (Bachelor's degree or higher)
- 153 CMP applications were up for renewal; 124 applications were received, and 124 applications were approved.
- We retained 81% of GPCs who were up for renewal in 2025, exceeding our key performance measure of 80% retention.

2025 GPCI HIGHLIGHTS

GPCI Firesides:

GPC Fireside Chats — a virtual gathering designed to provide an informal opportunity to learn more about the Grant Professional Certified (GPC) credential from current GPCs and others considering certification — continued to be a strong and effective engagement tool throughout 2025. During the year, GPCI hosted multiple GPC Fireside Chats with a total of 1,589 registrations. In addition, GPCI held one Accepted Education Provider (AEP) Fireside with 24 registrants and one CMP Fireside with 83 total registrants. To further support credential candidates, GPCI also offered Study Webinars, which attracted 356 total registrations in 2025.



Accepted Education Program:

The GPCI Accepted Education Program establishes a mechanism to assist grant professionals in identifying high-quality educational and training opportunities that align with the grant competencies required to achieve and maintain the Grant Professional Certified (GPC) credential. Providers participating in this program complete an application process with GPCI to ensure their education and training offerings meet these competency standards. In 2025, the program experienced significant growth, expanding to more than 30 participating providers—a 50% increase from 2024. To support this growth and improve efficiency, GPCI streamlined the training review process by implementing an online submission form that allows providers to submit trainings and automatically notify reviewers of new submissions. As a result, review turnaround times have improved substantially, with new trainings often approved and added to the GPCI website within two business days.



Endorsing Employer Program:

The GPCI Endorsing Employer Program (EEP) provides a mechanism for grant professionals to identify and highlight employers who recognize and value the Grant Professional Certified (GPC) credential. Employers who prefer hiring GPC-certified candidates recognize the importance of professionals who have undergone rigorous training aligned with the grant competencies necessary for excellence in the field. This designation recognizes organizations that actively invest in their grant professionals' growth by providing financial support for GPC certification. Through tangible support—whether funding initial certification, renewal fees, or both—Endorsing Employers champion professional excellence and advance standards across the grants field.

GPCI AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

GPCI's Ambassador Program is an outreach initiative to regional grant networking groups and chapters. In 2025, GPCI volunteers serving as Ambassadors actively encouraged more grant professionals to seek and retain their GPC credentials since the program began in 2018. GPCI Ambassadors championed, engaged, and promoted credentialing and our profession by providing information about the GPC credential at meetings, holding dedicated GPC information sessions, celebrating professionals earning their GPC, and much more.

As of December 2025, 45 individuals ensured Ambassador Program services nationwide, a 25% increase in ambassador volunteers (over 2024). They provided services in 37 Grant Professionals Association (GPA) Chapters (65% of GPA Chapters) and two (2) other community-based grant professional groups.

GPCI conducted the 2025 GPCI Ambassador Survey from June 11 to July 29, 2025, with 27 responses reporting their GPCI Ambassador activities. Key points from respondents included:

- A 37% increase in planned activities to promote the GPC
- 23 new GPCs in reporting areas, with Florida and Texas leading the way
- 170 GPCs from reporting areas, with the Heart of America GPA Chapter leading the way with 39% of their members holding a GPC

GPCI highlighted the Ambassadors' outstanding efforts through 12 GPA Chapter Leader Bulletin articles. Additionally, GPCI sponsored eight (8) GPA Chapter local or regional conferences to help spread the word about the value of obtaining and retaining GPC credentialing, including:

- April 2025 – Chicago GPA Chapter Grants Conference
- April 2025 – Kentucky GPA Regional Grants Conference
- June 2025 – Central Iowa GPA Chapter Conference
- July 2025 – Heart of America GPA Regional Grants Conference
- August 2025 – South Florida GPA Chapter Regional Grants Conference
- September 2025 – North Carolina GPA Chapter Grants Conference
- October 2025 – Central Ohio GPA Chapter Regional Conference
- November 2025 – Austin-Central Texas GPA Chapter Funders Forum

GPCI AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

GPCI sponsorships reached approximately 643 individuals with 115 GPCI newsletter enrollments. 50% of these chapters provided financial support for their members to pursue GPC credentialing. One out of three (3) new GPCs in 2025 were in states where GPCI sponsored an event.

GPCI played an active role in supporting grant networking groups and GPA Chapters in 2025 by providing GPCI and GPC-dedicated presentations, resources, and support. We met in person, via Zoom, and corresponded by email with individual Ambassadors throughout the year. The program regularly sent resources and GPCI Fireside invitations to GPCI Ambassadors and Chapter Leaders. The GPCI Ambassador Program Orientation and a GPC Study Group Train the Trainer Kit by Katherine Heart, GPC, was available on GPCI's website. Additionally, we held ambassador-related presentations: May 9, 2025, for GPC Ambassadors, and June 19, 2025, for a Maximizing GPCI Study Resources and Tools webinar presented by Karen Lampert, GPC. Both sessions are available for the public on GPCI's website.



2025 AWARDS

2025 GPCI President's Award



The GPCI President's Award recognizes the significant contributions of an individual or group who has provided exceptional support and service to GPCI, its president, and its Board of Directors.

At the 2025 presentation, GPCI was proud to honor Tammy Tilzey as the President's Award recipient. A friend to all and someone who consistently goes above and beyond, Tammy has supported GPCI and its leadership in countless ways over the years. She served as the public member of the Board, held officer positions under prior presidents, and remained a trusted board colleague until stepping down in 2024.

This award reflects Tammy's unwavering commitment to the mission of GPCI and recognizes her selfless service, thoughtful leadership, and willingness to always act in the best interest of the organization. GPCI has been fortunate to benefit from her talents, dedication, and steady support across multiple boards and presidencies.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Tammy Tilzey for her many years of exemplary service and lasting impact on GPCI.

2025 AWARDS

2025 Pauline G. Annarino Award Recipients



The Grant Professionals Certification Institute (GPCI) has named The Grantsmanship Center and Norton Julian Kiritz (posthumously) as the recipients of the 2025 Pauline G. Annarino Award.

This prestigious award recognizes individuals and organizations whose work has elevated the grants profession by advancing ethical practice, strengthening professional standards, and supporting credentialing and the GPC examination.

Widely regarded as the father of grantsmanship in the United States, Norton Kiritz's influence on the field is profound. Since 1972, his training guides and materials have been used worldwide and remain the industry standard. The grant proposal framework he developed has been adopted by countless foundations and adapted across federal grant programs.

Through The Grantsmanship Center, Kiritz's philosophy—rooted in ethics, skill, and clarity—has reached more than 140,000 grant professionals. His work helped lay the foundation for today's grants profession and continues to shape how grant professionals are trained and supported.

2025 AWARDS

2025 Ambassador of the Year



Kathy Hatfield, GPC, GPCI Ambassador Liaison, Karen Lampert, GPC, Middle Tennessee GPA Chapter Ambassador (recipient), and Dr. Jillain Veil-Ehnert, GPC, GPCI President.

Karen Lampert, GPC

The Grant Professionals Certification Institute's (GPCI) Ambassador Program engages volunteers who advocate for the Grant Professional Certified (GPC) credential, raise awareness, and assist professionals in preparing for and obtaining GPC credentialing. This year, GPCI honored Karen Lampert, GPC, with the Ambassador of the Year Award for her exceptional leadership and impact.

Over three years, Karen has shared Middle Tennessee Ambassador duties with co-Ambassador Stephanie Chance, GPC. She has made the credential more accessible, facilitating study groups that welcome chapter members and grant peers nationwide. In 2025 alone, she hosted three cohorts, contributing to the now more than 650 GPCs. Karen also developed a step-by-step roadmap to strengthen GPC readiness, which she shares openly, including at this year's GrantSummit.

Karen's impact is best expressed through participant voices: "Karen makes herself available to everyone and supports us along the way," and "I am now a GPC as well as many others due to her initiative."

Are you ready to join the growing number of GPCs, or to serve as an Ambassador? Connect with us at GPC-ambassadors@grantcredential.org!

2025 AWARDS

2025 Volunteer of the Year



In recognition of her exceptional and longstanding service on the Exam Administration Committee. Since 2016, Nancy Ellis, GPC has volunteered countless hours to uphold the standards of our certification process. Nancy consistently demonstrates unwavering dedication, professionalism, and a deep commitment to excellence in her volunteer role. Her contributions are instrumental in ensuring the integrity and smooth operation of the exam process, and she is a reliable and thoughtful resource for committee members. Her impact is not only reflected in the quality of our exam administration but also in the collaborative spirit she fosters within the committee.

2025 Pillars of Support

The GPCI Pillars of Support Award honors individuals and organizations whose sustained commitment, partnership, and service meaningfully advance the mission and long-term success of the Grant Professionals Certification Institute. Introduced to recognize champions who strengthen GPCI through leadership, advocacy, sponsorship, volunteerism, and strategic support, this award highlights those whose contributions help ensure the integrity, growth, and visibility of the Grant Professional Certified (GPC) credential and the broader grants profession.



Mark Dunlap, GPC



Bethany Planton, GPC



Tiffany Nobles, GPC

2025 SCHOLARSHIPS

2025 GPC and CMP Scholarship Winners!

- Amy Alesch – Grant Professionals Certification Institute-funded Scholarship
- Vanessa Burns – Grant Professionals Foundation-funded Scholarship
- Patricia Cade – Grant Professionals Foundation-funded Scholarship
- Rhonda Cook – South East Texas Chapter Scholarship
- Ashley Craft – JoDell Veil Memorial Scholarship
- Donna Gower – Heart of America GPA Chapter Scholarship
- Nicholas Gulick – Johna Rodgers, GPC Scholarship
- John Kanyi – Matilda and Emmanuel Onuoha Scholarship
- Richard Knott – Grant Professionals Foundation-funded Scholarship
- Clara Macllravie Canas – Kim Joyce and Associates Scholarship
- Melissa Parsinen – GPCI-funded CMP Scholarship
- Courtney Ralbovsky – Arizona GPA Chapter Scholarship
- Marquitta Rucker – Georgia GPA Chapter Scholarship
- Stephanie Schweitzer Dixon – Assel Grant Services Scholarship
- Madison Shampine – Arizona GPA Chapter Scholarship
- Tiffany Thibodeau – South Florida Study Guide Authors Scholarship

2025 SPONSORSHIPS

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Grant Writing Consultancy Firm

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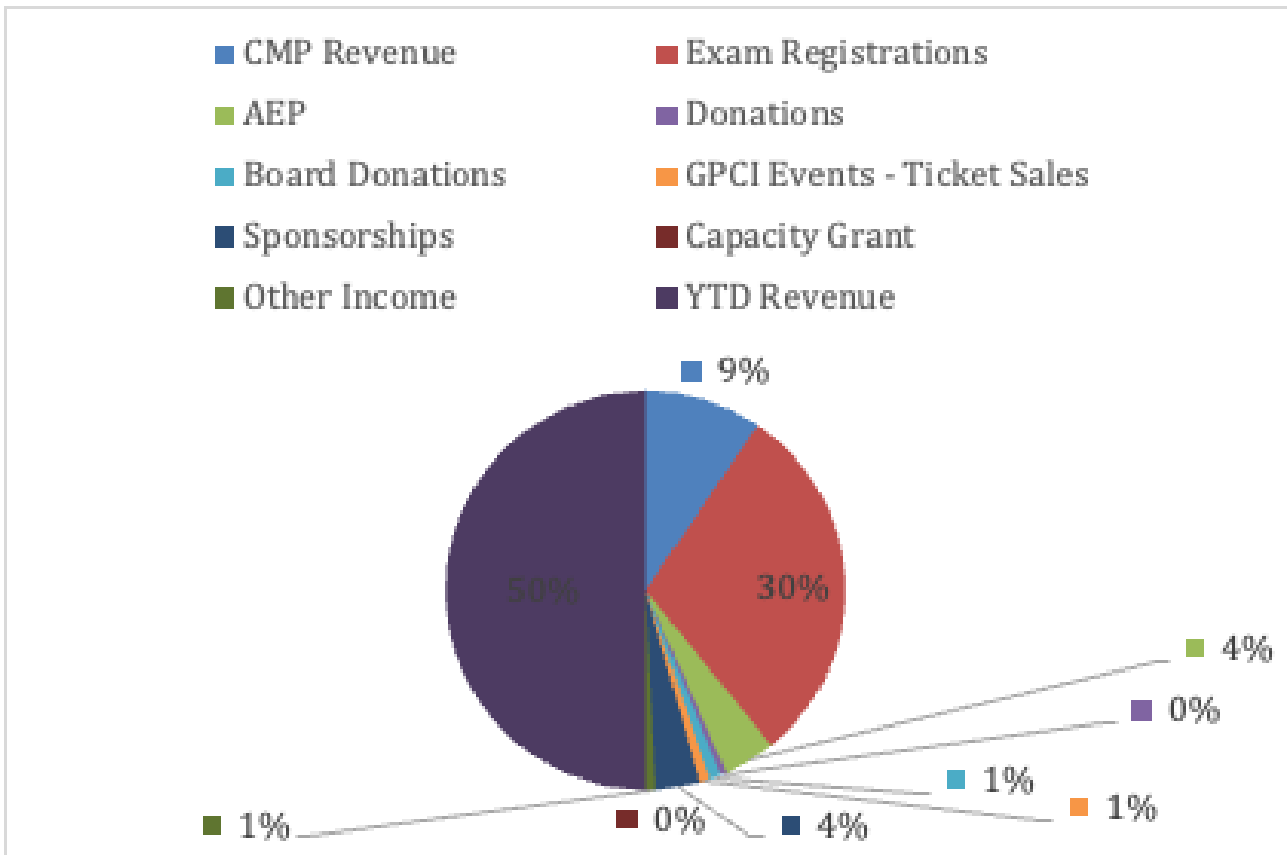


SUPPORTER SPONSORS

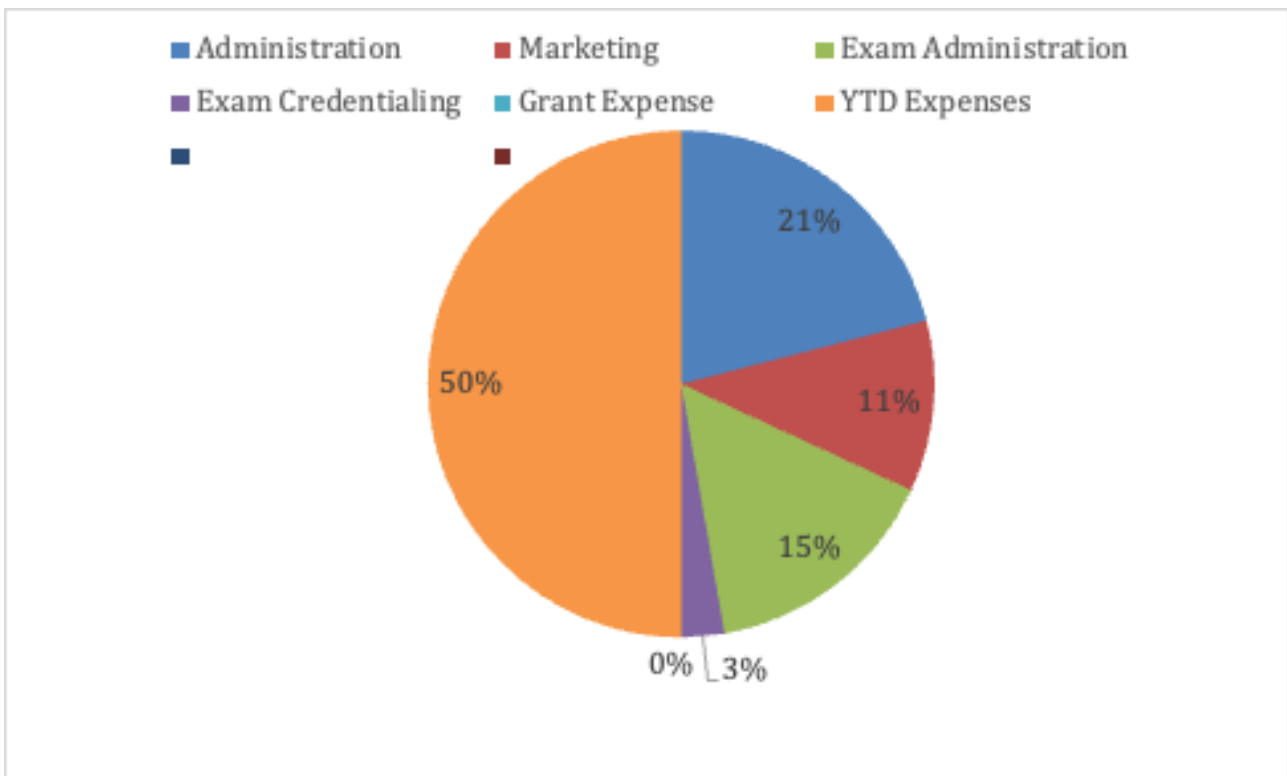


2025 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

2025 YTD Income = \$146,795.43



2025 YTD Expenses = \$112,275.86



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	12/31/2025	12/31/2024
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Enterprise Checking	151,731.31	120,086.68
Enterprise CD		
Enterprise CD 2024-02	49,652.63	48,691.34
Enterprise CD 2024-01	31,572.49	30,319.81
Enterprise CD 25753	10,605.62	10,566.28
Total Enterprise CD	91,830.74	89,577.43
Total Checking/Savings	243,562.05	209,664.11
Other Current Assets		
Receivable from GPA	7,327.90	7,897.06
Receivable from GPF	1,450.00	-
Total Other Current Assets	8,777.90	7,897.06
Total Current Assets	252,339.95	217,561.17
TOTAL ASSETS	252,339.95	217,561.17
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Credit Cards		
Enterprise Visa	551.73	292.52
Total Credit Cards	551.73	292.52
Other Current Liabilities		
Deferred Revenue - Ed2Go	17,280.00	17,280.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	17,280.00	17,280.00
Total Current Liabilities	17,831.73	17,572.52
Total Liabilities	17,831.73	17,572.52
Equity		
Board Designated Reserves	13,275.00	13,275.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	186,713.65	141,262.07
Net Income	34,519.57	45,451.58
Total Equity	234,508.22	199,988.65
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	252,339.95	217,561.17

GPCI BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2025)



- **Jillain Veil-Ehnert** Board President, Executive Committee Chair, Education Chair, Scholarship Chair, (Governance Committee)
- **LaKeesha Morris-Moreau** Board Vice President, Certification Committee Chair, Exam Administration Chair (Certification Subcommittee, Accreditation Task Force)
- **Kathy Hatfield** Board Secretary, Governance Committee, Marketing & Stakeholder Education Subcommittee
- **Megan Covey**, Board Treasurer, Marketing & Stakeholder Education Committee Chair, Fundraising
- **Egondu M. Onuoha** Board Immediate Past President, Governance Committee Chair, Quality Assurance Committee Chair, Exam Review Chair, Accreditation Task Force Chair, Exam Development Chair
- **Valerie Grant** Board Member, (Marketing & Stakeholder Education Subcommittee)
- **Steve Harrington** Board Member, (Exam Development Committee)
- **Amanda Neese** Board Member, (Marketing & Stakeholder Education Subcommittee)
- **Kimberly Rogers** Board Member, Certificate Maintenance Program Chair (Certification Subcommittee)
- **Isabel Rosa** Board Member, Grievance & Disciplinary Committee Chair
- **Katy Shoemaker** Board Member, Eligibility Guide Chair (Certification Subcommittee)
- **Laurie Marshall** Public Board Member (Governance Committee, Grievance & Disciplinary Committee, Accreditation Task Force)

CONTACT INFORMATION



Grant Professionals Certification Institute

10540 Marty Street, Suite 115,

Overland Park, Kansas 66212

Email: info@grantcredential.org

Website: www.grantcredential.org