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NCCA Standard: 8 Awarding of Certification

### **GPCI Certification Marks and Logos**

The Grant Professional Certification Institute (GPCI) owns certain service marks, trademarks, names and logos, including GPCI and the certification marks Grant Professional Certified and GPC (the “Marks”). Only those individuals who have met the GPCI eligibility requirements, passed the GPC examination and maintained the GPC certification may use the marks. GPC will only allow the use of the marks as indicated in accordance with this policy and its terms and conditions as well as the **GPCI Graphic Standards and Use Guide** found here: <https://www.grantcredential.org/about/gpc-graphics-guide/>.

#### **Policy**

GPCI prohibits individuals who have not been granted certification as a GPC and/or certificants who have not appropriately maintained their certification from using the GPC mark, logos or other service mark used to recognize achievement of the GPC credential.

GPCI prohibits individuals from using their marks, logos or any other service mark in a misleading or fraudulent manner.

#### **1. Use of the marks**

The marks are the exclusive property of GPCI and are protected by applicable service marks and/or trademark laws. All uses of the Marks are subject to review and approval by GPCI.

GPCI will take all appropriate steps including legal or any other action, such as requiring discontinuation of use of the Marks or suspension or revocation of the certification, to protect its rights in the Marks from unauthorized, improper, or impermissible use.

#### **2. Eligibility**

Use of the Marks is restricted to individuals who at the time they use the Marks have obtained and maintained certification through compliance with all relevant GPCI requirements.

#### **3. Manner and Restrictions of Use**

Proper usage of these Marks is a crucial part of an individual’s communicating to the public, employers, organizations, or potential clients. The Marks represent professional standards for the grant profession and the individual’s commitment to upholding these standards and maintaining excellence in grantsmanship.

A. **Authorized Uses of Marks:** Please refer to the **GPCI Graphic Standards and Use Guide**

***B. Unauthorized uses of the mark:***

- The Marks may be resized but should not otherwise be modified, altered, rearranged, redesigned or changed in any way.
- Marks may not be drawn, typeset, reproduced or electronically scanned in such poor quality as to distort or alter its appearance.
- The Marks are personal to the certified user and may not be transferred to or used by a third party.
- The Marks shall not be combined with or modified by other design elements.
- The GPC mark and its derivatives may not be used to imply GPCI sponsorship or endorsement of a company or firm.
- The Marks and its derivatives may not to be used to imply GPCI sponsorship or endorsement of a particular product or service, nor may the Mark and/or its derivatives be used as, or in, the name or title of products or services not provided directly by GPCI (including but not limited to educational programs, software tools, consulting services, etc.).
- The Mark and its derivatives may not be used on promotional items except by GPCI, which retains the sole right to produce, sell or provide such items to other organizations for resale.

It is not appropriate for an individual to represent him or herself as a candidate for certification or as a “GPC eligible”, because this implies that the individual will receive certification. GPCI can provide verification or application for certification to a prospective employer so long as the candidate provides a written request to GPCI permitting it to do so.

Individuals who have previously held certification as a GPC but **whose certification has since lapsed**, may not imply in any form that the candidate is currently certified as GPC. The GPC certificate designating the individual as certified should no longer be displayed by the individual. The individual shall not wear a GPC lapel pin or ribbon whose use is reserved **ONLY** for currently certified individuals.

Individuals who have previously held certification may list this accomplishment on a resume or a biographical statement as long as the statement **CLEARLY** indicates the years during which the candidate held certification and does not imply in any way that a candidate is currently certified i.e. John Doe (GPC 2010-2016).

**4. Term, Termination of use, and changes to terms and conditions of use**

The Marks may be used only so long as the terms and conditions of this policy and all applicable GPCI policies and procedures are adhered to. If, however, the terms and conditions of any such policies and procedures are violated, permission to use the Marks may be terminated. In the event of any such termination of this permission, use of the Marks must immediately cease.

Notwithstanding any of the foregoing, GPCI reserves the right to terminate the right to use the Marks by anyone at any time and reserves the right to change this policy at any time, without any prior notice of any kind, at its sole discretion. Misuse of the Marks also shall be grounds for

disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of certification, by GPCI under the code of professional conduct and applicable disciplinary procedures.

**5. Limitation of Liability**

GPCI assumes no responsibility and expressly disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy, reliability, professional practice or performance of any individual using the Marks. Under no circumstances shall GPCI be liable to any party for lost profits, business interruption, lost savings or direct or indirect damages of any type related to or arising from the use of the Marks.

**6. Indemnification**

Those using the Marks agree to release, defend, indemnify and hold harmless GPCI, its directors, officers, members, agents and employees from and against all claims, liabilities, costs and expenses, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, arising out of acts, omissions, or breach of this policy.