2019 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and **Government Entities**

Report Run Date: 07/12/2025 05:25:16 AM

1. Department or Agency 2. Fiscal Year

Department of the Treasury 2019

3b. GSA

3. Committee or Subcommittee Committee No.

Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and

5266 Government Entities

4. Is this New During 5. Current 6. Expected 7. Expected Fiscal Year? Charter Renewal Date **Term Date** No 04/20/2017 04/20/2019 12/31/2018

8a. Was Terminated During Termination 8b. Specific 8c. Actual FiscalYear? Term Date Authority

Yes 12/31/2018

9. Agency 10b.

10a. Legislation **Recommendation for Next** Legislation Reg to Terminate? **FiscalYear** Pending?

Terminate No Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Agency Authority

12. Specific 13. 14. 14c.

Establishment Effective Commitee Presidential?

Authority Date Type

IRS Memorandum, dated

12/22/1998 Continuing No 11/17/1998

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory

Board

16a. Total

No Reports for Number of this FiscalYear Reports

17a. 0 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 0 Open

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$21,237.00	0\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	0\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)		0\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$21,237.00	0\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)		0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and Government Entities (ACT) accomplishes its purposes by providing an organized, ongoing forum for the exchange of ideas between TE/GE personnel and highly qualified representatives of the varied and diverse stakeholders/customers of the Exempt Organizations, Employee Plans and

Government Entities communities. The ACT facilitates the open discussion of current policy concerns and contributes to the development of innovative and cooperative problem solving strategies. The interaction between TE/GE officials and our customers in the early stages of policy and program development (1) enhances the development of more innovative and appropriately targeted customer education and outreach programs, (2) facilitates the development of more effective voluntary compliance and rulings programs, and (3) streamlines the policy and program implementation process.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

TE/GE received, and the EO, EP and GE functions screened, numerous candidate nominations representing the diverse communities of Exempt Organizations, Employee Plans, and Government Entities (which includes the Tax Exempt Bond, Federal, State and Local Governments, and Indian Tribal Government customer segments). The ACT consists of 10 members, including 2 members from the Employee Plans community, 3 from the Exempt Organization community, and 5 from the Government Entities community. To identify highly qualified candidates, we developed preliminary screening and evaluation templates that emphasized the importance of diversity and balance in the areas of subject matter expertise, experience and background. The screening officials also strived to achieve geographical diversity and our EEO goals as expressed in our charter. We then conducted interviews. The interview process addressed various diversity concerns as an expression of our commitment to achieve balance in the make-up of the the

committee.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The ACT will conduct at least four working meetings and one public meeting per year, in addition to an orientation meeting for new members. In addition, subgroups were formed to address specific Exempt Organizations, Employee Plans and Government Entities concerns and these functional area subgroups will meet in connection with the four working meetings. Each component of the ACT takes part in regular conference calls, generally monthly, with TE/GE leadership and staff.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

Before the ACT, no organization or structure existed for the expression of the diverse interests and concerns of those persons, plans and entities impacted by the work of the Tax Exempt and Government Entities function of the Service. Existing private organizations in the EP/EO/GE area generally reflect the interests and concerns only of discrete segments of the EP/EO/GE population, and the interests and concerns of some segments of the EP/EO/GE population are not currently expressed.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Not applicable.

21. Remarks

N/A

Designated Federal Officer

Mark F. O'Donnell DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Engle, Michael	06/14/2017	12/31/2018	BKD, LLP	Representative Member
Goff, April	11/01/2018	12/31/2018	J. C. Penney	Representative Member
Lew, Carol	11/01/2018	12/31/2018	Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth	Representative Member
Lipkin, Andrew	06/14/2017	12/31/2018	New York City Law Department	Representative Member
Swift, Jean	06/14/2017	12/31/2018	The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation	Representative Member
Welytok, Daniel	11/01/2018	12/31/2018	Von Briesen & Roper, S.C.	Representative Member
Yovino, Charles	11/01/2018	12/31/2018	benefit consulting company	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 7

Narrative Description

The ACT consists of private-sector experts in the fields of employee retirement plans, tax-exempt organizations, tax-exempt bonds, and federal, state, local and Indian tribal governments. The ACT identifies tax administration issues in those areas, which are the responsibility of TE/GE to administer, and provides advice on how TE/GE should address them. The starting point for all their projects are the Service's balanced measures and the IRS strategic plan, with an emphasis on enhanced enforcement efforts.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

	Checked if	
	Applies	
Improvements to health or safety		
Trust in government		
Major policy changes		
Advance in scientific research		
Effective grant making		
Improved service delivery		✓
Increased customer satisfaction		✓
Implementation of laws or regulatory		✓
requirements		Y

Other	✓
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Outcome Comments

The ACT focuses on technical, regulatory issues in the TE/GE arena, as well as giving advice on improved communication, outreach and guidance to the regulated community, with a goal of improving compliance with the law.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
None	
Unable to Determine	✓
Under \$100,000	
\$100,000 - \$500,000	
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	
Over \$10,000,000	
Cost Savings Other	

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate <u>Number</u> of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

388

Number of Recommendations Comments

Each year it has been in existence, the ACT has made at least 4 or 5 formal recommendations to the Commissioner of TE/GE. Typically, formal recommendations will break down into numerous sub-recommendations. The reports of the recommendations are available to the public on the IRS public web site, IRS.gov.

What is the approximate <u>Percentage</u> of these recommendations that have been or will be <u>Fully</u> implemented by the agency?

52%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The ACT typically chooses topics for recommendation that are practical -- that can be

effected by the IRS -- as opposed to making legislative suggestions, over which the IRS has no control. Most of the recommendations have multiple components and have been identified as completed, partially completed, pending, not applicable or not accepted.

What is the approximate <u>Percentage</u> of these recommendations that have been or will be <u>Partially</u> implemented by the agency? 24%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

See comment above.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

Feedback on the status of implementing the ACT's recommendations is a regular agenda item during the working sessions. In addition, feedback is provided in regular monthly conference calls between TE/GE leadership and staff and ACT subcommittees.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

	Checked if Applies
Reorganized Priorities	
Reallocated resources	√
Issued new regulation	
Proposed legislation	
Approved grants or other payments	
Other	

Action Comments

We have reallocated resources in the sense that certain recommendations have caused us to take on projects -- educational as well as compliance-related -- that were not part of our formal annual divisional work plans.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

Grant Review Comments

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

	Checked if Applies
Contact DFO	✓
Online Agency Web Site	✓
Online Committee Web Site	
Online GSA FACA Web Site	
Publications	
Other	✓

Access Comments

Press releases and TE/GE newsletters are issued announcing the public meeting, the release of the ACT Reports, and ACT member vacancy solicitations. The Federal Register is also used for announcements.