Institute for Regional Excellence Timeline

Established in 2001, the Institute for Regional Excellence-Regional Executive Development Program (IRE-REDP) was created to assist local jurisdictions in providing a regional executive development opportunity to mid-level and senior managers. It aims to develop leadership, enhance management skills, increase exposure to innovation in local government, and develop an understanding of regional issues and approaches.

IRE-REDP is fully accredited by the National Certified Public Managers Consortium. In partnership with the George Washington University, COG is the first regional council in the nation to sponsor an accredited program and earns reaccreditation every 5 years. The most recent reaccreditation was approved in 2021. Participation is open to managers from all COG member governments. Upon successful completion of this 12-month rigorous program, graduates receive a certificate from the George Washington University and are designated as Certified Public Managers.

The main objectives of the program are to:

- Provide the theoretical and intellectual foundations of leadership and management in the public sector and expose participants to modern practices in public administration;
- Examine and help participants prepare for the special challenges and responsibilities that come with leading large, complex public organizations;
- Increase understanding of regional issues as well as interdependencies among local area governments and develop a common language and set of concepts, area managers can use when discussing issues; and

Year	Event
2000	Established partnership with the George Washington University. Gained full support of Personnel Officers Technical Committee, Chief Administrative Officers Committee and the COG Board of Directors.
2000	COG Board of Directors authorized creation of the Institute for Regional Excellence in partnership with the George Washington University, Resolution #R32-00.
2001	IRE gained funding support from the Fannie Mae Foundation for a period of three years.
2001	First IRE Cohort started class with 23 participants from 8 member jurisdictions and COG. This cohort graduated in 2002
2003	IRE was fully accredited by the National Certified Public Managers Consortium making COG the first regional council in the nation to receive such accreditation.

SUMMARY OF PARTICIPANTS (Cohort 1– 19)*

Jurisdiction/COG	Cohort 1 2001-2002	Cohort 2 2002-2003	Cohort 3 2003-2004	Cohort 4 2004-2005	Cohort 5 2005-2006	Cohort 6 2007	Cohort 7 2008-2009	Cohort 8 2009-2010	Cohort 9 2010-2011	Cohort 10 2011-2012	Cohort 11 2012-2013	Cohort 12 2013-2014	Cohort 13 2014-2015	Cohort 14 2015-2016	Cohort 15 2016-2017	Cohort 16 2017-2018	Cohort 17 2019-2020	Cohort 18 2021-2022	Cohort 19 2022-2023	Total
District of Columbia	1		2	2		2	2	3	1	1		1			2	1	3	1	1	19
DC Water		1										1						1		2
Bowie																		1		1
Bladensburg													1							1
College Park																				0
Frederick County																				0
Gaithersburg							1						1	1	1			1	1	5
Greenbelt																				0
Laurel																	1	1	1	3
Montgomery County	2	4	5	3	2	2	2		3	5	3	4	7	4	2	5	3	4	3	62
Prince George's County	1	3	3	1		1	2	1	2	3	3	5	1	2	4	1		3		33
Rockville																				0
Takoma Park	2	1	1		1	1	1		1				1							9
Alexandria						3	2	2	3	3	1	4	2	3	3	3	3	4	2	34
Arlington County	4	1	4	6	6	3	2	2	2	1	3	2	4	2	4	2	2	3	1	51
Fairfax City	2					1	1	1			1			7						13
Fairfax County	8	8	7	6	5	6	7	4	4	5	9	4	4		5	7	5	4	3	97
Falls Church	1		2		1		2	2			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24
Loudoun County							3		1		2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	19
Manassas City		1		1												1				3
Manassas Park																				0
Prince William County		2	2	3	2	1		1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4		6		37
FEMA																1				1
MWCOG	2	2	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	2	2	2	3	1	1	37
MNCPP													1					1		1
WMATA						1	3	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1		1	16
US Park Police										1	1									2
ICMA										1										1
Northern Virginia EMS Council																		1		1
Total	23	20	30	23	22	24	28	19	21	25	30	30	31	29	31	31	28	28		473

*Demographic information on cohorts 1-19: 53% female, 47% male; 55% White, 33% African American, 8% Asian, 4% Hispanic