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## SESSION 5: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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**Part A.** Influencing local, state and federal policy is what DC AP is all about. We need to know how our “state” and national government offices work, who’s who, and how to participate in decision-making.

1. **Read the resource** at the link below: *Introduction to the Legislative and Regulatory Process*. It will give you background information for this assignment. [www.aacn.org/wd/practice/content/publicpolicy/intro.pcms?menu=practice](http://www.aacn.org/wd/practice/content/publicpolicy/intro.pcms?menu=practice)

**Answer the questions** under Part A of the Answer Sheet about this resource

2. **Sign up** for the Capitol Insider, a resource from the Arc of the U.S., to be informed of action alerts related to people with I/DD. <http://cqcengage.com/thearc/app/register;jsessionid=iLnla8gthA3hou1rq5GhuaCR.undefined?0&m=10985>

**Part B. Pick two resources** listed under Federal government and **pick two** listed under DC government. **Answer the questions** under Part B of the Answer Sheet

### Federal Government

1. Learn about the role of the **Executive Branch** of the government <http://www.whitehouse.gov/our-government/executive-branch>
2. Learn about the role of the **Legislative Branch** of government. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/our-government/legislative-branch>
3. Learn about **Congressional Committees** which are panels of Members of the House and/or Senate tasked with conducting hearings, examining and developing legislation, conducting oversight, and/or helping to manage chamber business and activities. **Look at this list** of committees and click on any you would like to learn more about. <http://beta.congress.gov/committees>
4. The U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP Committee) is composed of three subcommittees, which have a broad jurisdiction

over our country's health care, education, employment and retirement policies. **Visit the website** to learn what this committee does and current issues. <http://www.help.senate.gov/>

To see the calendar of hearings and archived webcasts of hearings, visit <http://www.help.senate.gov/hearings/>

5. Congressional Committee Hearings Calendar: Committees conduct their business during hearings, mark-up sessions, and other business meetings. You can view the full calendar here <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/committees/calendar>

You can sign up to get an alert whenever a hearing or mark-up session is scheduled here [https://www.govtrack.us/events/track something?feed=misc%3Aallcommittee](https://www.govtrack.us/events/track/something?feed=misc%3Aallcommittee)

## DC Government

1. **The DC government** is unique. In some ways it is similar to state governments and it also has marked differences. **Read** about how DC government is organized here <http://oca.dc.gov/page/dc-government-organization>
2. **TrackDC** This is your resource as a DC resident to track how District Government is working for you. You can use these pages to track the performance of individual agencies, learn more about agencies Key Performance Indicators, Budget, Spending and News, access agency Data and Connect to the agency. **Review this website.** <http://track.dc.gov/>
3. For a listing of agencies in the DC Government with phone numbers check this website. These are offices you may want to contact in line with your advocacy work. <http://directory.dc.gov/>

## Part C.

### **Attend a hearing or meeting, or watch them online.**

We have included information on hearings, meetings, and other events in DC in May in this month's resource section handed out in class. Some of these events are at the federal level and others are at the local level. **Pick one that you will attend in person or watch online** and answer the question under section C on the answer sheet.



## Community Involvement Answer Sheet

**This answer sheet must be turned in on June 13 at our next Partners meeting.**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

### Part A.

1. Did you read *Introduction to the Legislative and Regulatory Process*?

Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_

List the steps in Federal Legislative process (how a bill becomes a law):

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2. Did you sign up for the Capitol Insider?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If you said "no" explain why not? \_\_\_\_\_

### Part B.

Which two resources under **Federal government** did you learn about? \_\_\_\_\_

Name one you learned about the first resource that was interesting

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Name one you learned about the second resource that was interesting

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How do you think you might use this information in future advocacy work?

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Which two resources under **DC government** did you learn about? \_\_\_\_\_

Name one you learned about the first resource that was interesting

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Name one you learned about the second resource that was interesting

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How do you think you might use this information in future advocacy work?

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**Part C.**

Which meeting/hearing/event did you attend or watch online? \_\_\_\_\_

What was this about?

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What was decided (if a hearing) \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn from this hearing/meeting/event?

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How might you use this information in your future advocacy work?

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