



## **Restoring Accountability for Career Senior Executives**

### **Administration Policy:**

President Trump issued an Executive Order (EO) titled [Restoring Accountability to Policy-Influencing Positions within the Federal Workforce](#), in order to better hold bureaucrats responsible to the American people. Specifically, this EO reinstates [Schedule F](#), with the new title “Schedule Policy/Career,” which exempts federal employees in positions which are of “confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character” from the competitive service (career civil servants).

Employees’ decisions and actions in these “policy-influencing positions” have a direct impact on the President’s agenda and this EO seeks to ensure they are held accountable to “faithfully implement administration policies to the best of their abilities.” It also clarifies that employees in this category are “not required to personally or politically support the current President.”

This EO will allow the President to hold accountable underperforming bureaucrats who have a negative impact on the implementation of the Administration’s policies. A President should be able to hold federal employees accountable when their job impacts their policy directives. Without accountability, unelected bureaucrats can undermine the mandate entrusted to the duly elected President.

The statutory authority of this policy is rooted in [section 3302\(1\) of Title 5, United States Code](#), which states that, “(t)he President may prescribe rules governing the competitive service,” including, “necessary exemptions of positions from competitive service;” as well as, [Article II of the United States Constitution](#) which vests sole power over the executive branch to the President of the United States.

### **Background:**

- In 2020, President Trump issued the [Executive Order on Creating Schedule F in the Excepted Service](#) creating the Schedule F employment category which was defined as, “Positions of a confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character not normally subject to change as a result of a Presidential Transition.”
- In 2021, Biden repealed Schedule F through [EO 14003](#), no federal employees were terminated due to this policy prior to it being repealed.
- Out of roughly [2.2 million federal employees](#), only 4 thousand are political appointees who are directly accountable to the Presidential administration they serve under.