CIGIE’s Role in Recommending Candidates for IG Positions

The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended (IG Act), requires that the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) submit recommendations of individuals for consideration as Inspectors General (IGs) to the appropriate appointing authority.¹ In accordance with this statutory mandate, CIGIE has established the Inspector General Candidate Recommendation Panel (the Panel), which comprises the CIGIE Chairperson and several IGs, including both Presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed IGs (referred to in the IG Act as “Establishment IGs”), as well as agency appointed IGs (known as “Designated Federal Entity” or DFE IGs).

The Panel’s objective is to provide impartial recommendations regarding the professional qualifications of candidates to assist the White House, or agency head, in assessing whether such individuals should be nominated for or appointed to an IG position. The Panel’s performance of its role in the evaluation process helps ensure that the most qualified persons serve as IGs. Experience in the IG community is not a mandatory qualification to be considered for an IG position.

The processes for Establishment (i.e., Presidentially appointed) IG positions and DFE (i.e., agency-appointed) positions are very different, as reflected below.

- **Presidentially Appointed IG Positions:** For Establishment IG vacancies, the Panel receives submissions from individuals who are interested in being considered for Panel recommendation for a Presidentially appointed IG position. When the Panel receives an application package, the Panel evaluates it to determine whether the individual has the leadership experience and technical expertise necessary to serve as an IG. If so, the Panel will schedule an interview with the candidate. The Panel will then evaluate the professional competence, integrity, and overall temperament of each candidate based upon the application package and accompanying interview. The Panel will then make a recommendation to the White House.

  - If you are interested in being considered for an Establishment IG position, you may submit your resume and a cover letter addressing your qualifications to serve as an Inspector IG to: IGCandidatePanel@cigie.gov. Again, it is important to note that experience in the IG community is not a mandatory qualification to be considered for an Establishment IG position.

- **DFE IG Positions:** Unlike Establishment IG positions, which are filled by Presidential appointment, DFE agencies generally conduct a competitive process to fill a vacant IG position. The Panel provides support to DFE agencies in their processes to fill their vacant IG position, but it does not accept resumes or applications for DFE positions. Individuals interested in applying for a vacant DFE Inspector General position should contact the agency directly. (Please note that DFE IG vacancies are usually posted by the agency on USAJOBS.gov. The instructions for how to apply for those positions are included in the vacancy announcement.)

Additional questions about the Panel or this process should be directed to cigie.information@cigie.gov.