

# NARA Competency Model

LE - Education And Public Programs Division

Volunteer Staff Assistant (OA) GS-05

*Note: Competencies noted as "Not for selection" were rated as important to the job, but not required on entry and thus not to be used for screening candidates.*

## Core Competencies

### **Problem Solving (Thinks Analytically)**

Seeks, examines, and interprets information from different sources to determine a problem's cause and develop a course of action for problem resolution. Analyzes information, develops and evaluates multiple solutions to a question or problem, and selects the most appropriate solution for the situation. Recommends innovative approaches to improve processes and results.

### **Interpersonal Skills (Collaborates Across Boundaries)**

Works cooperatively with others across functions and geographic locations to achieve team and organizational goals. Builds and maintains strong relationships with others both internal and external to the organization. Seeks out and integrates diverse views and perspectives to enhance work quality and results.

### **Execution and Results (Takes Accountability for Results)**

Takes ownership and accountability to ensure that work is completed accurately, efficiently, and in a timely manner, even when faced with multiple priorities. Identifies and uses the resources, tools, and information needed to achieve goals and objectives. Demonstrates flexibility, persistence, commitment, and initiative to resolve obstacles and respond to changing priorities.

### **Customer Service (Provides Customer Service)**

Actively looks for ways to help internal and/or external customers locate information or resolve problems and issues. Gives full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and following up to ensure customer satisfaction. Provides information and resources to fulfill customer obligations and resolve customer complaints.

### **Communication (Communicates Openly)**

Communicates opinions, facts, and thoughts with clarity, transparency, and honesty. Seeks diverse perspectives and listens openly to others' points of views. Demonstrates the courage to speak up on issues and risks as well as present good news. Researches information for and prepares documents and presentations that effectively convey relevant information.

### **Organizational Awareness (Demonstrates Organizational Awareness)**

Demonstrates behaviors and actions that are aligned with the agency's mission and function, applying programs, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations to work activities. Places a high priority and focus on supporting NARA's mission and achieving agency goals. Considers the potential impact of external factors (for example, changes in legislation) on the needs and objectives of one's department and the agency as a whole.

### **General Competencies**

#### **Utilizes Computer Technology**

Utilizes computer technology and software applications (e.g., word processing, spreadsheets, databases, web-based tools) to perform work activities. Applies technologies and/or tools to improve work, productivity, or customer service.

### **Technical Competencies**

#### **Procurement**

Application of policies and procedures related to travel, procurement of equipment, material, labor, or similar resources. Researches options related to procurement to recommend and/or present them to decision-makers as appropriate. Surveys needs, analyzes procurement requests, evaluates compliance with relevant regulations, determines proper method of purchase, and prepares justifications.

#### **Conducts Clerical Activities**

Performing basic office clerical tasks such as typing, answering phones and directing calls, office filing/refiling, receiving and distributing mail, photocopying/printing, composing and proofreading correspondences, data entry, and preparing office labels, folders, or boxes for use.

### **Links to Assessments (For Staffing Specialist Use Only):**

[Job Analysis Worksheet](#)

[Competency Usage Plan](#)

[Occupational Questionnaire](#)

[Structured Interview Guide](#)