



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SGMP to Hold 2019 National Education Conference & Expo in Detroit**

ALEXANDRIA, VA—June 13, 2018—The Society of Government Meeting Professionals (SGMP) announced today that its 37<sup>th</sup> National Education Conference (NEC) will take place in Detroit, Michigan. The event will be held June 25-27, 2019, at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.

“The SGMP National Board is thrilled to bring the NEC to Detroit for the first time. Detroit is the home of one of our largest chapters of government meeting professionals and my current hometown,” said SGMP President Michelle Milligan, CGMP. “We are pleased to be working with Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau to help us arrange our annual meeting and to invite our members to visit and enjoy our bustling, vibrant city. SGMP meeting planning members reported more than \$1.2 billion in buying power for planning and holding government meetings in 2018.”

All SGMP educational content at the conference will address topics within nine core competencies which are integral to the government meeting professional. These core competencies are: education/programming, facilities & services, logistics, financial & contract management, technology, leadership, ethics, protocol, and federal, state & local travel. Attendees will earn at least eight education contact hours that include multiple blocks of specific training toward their Certified Government Meeting Professional (CGMP) designation.

The Certified Government Meeting Professional (CGMP) three-day course will be offered as a special pre-conference program. The CGMP course, which concludes with a written examination, teaches recognized industry practices and includes specific and thorough instruction in ethics, federal budget and appropriations, acquisition and contracting, federal travel rules and regulations, RFPs, risk management and protocol. Once earned, the CGMP is the highest designation available that is specifically for government meeting professionals, and it is a designation frequently required by government agencies.

The 2019 NEC will bring together members from all over the country for industry-leading educational sessions and networking. Those who plan or provide services for local, state or federal government meetings are invited to attend the conference. Visit [SGMP.org](http://SGMP.org) to learn more.

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*The Society of Government Meeting Professionals (SGMP) was founded in 1981 and is the only national organization in the United States dedicated exclusively to individuals who plan and execute government meetings. We deliver our membership value of education, resources and networking to 2,000 plus members in more than 20 chapters across the country. Our mission is to enhance and promote the expertise of government meeting professionals. For more information, please visit [www.sgmp.org](http://www.sgmp.org).*