

American Government: Stories of a Nation for the AP® Course

Guided Reading

Section 7.2: The Structure of the Modern Federal Bureaucracy

Name _____

Date _____ Class _____

 **Before you read**

Before reading this section, take a moment to read the Learning Target and vocabulary terms you will encounter.

Learning Target: Explain how the federal bureaucracy uses its authority to create and implement regulations.

AP® Key Concepts

iron triangle

issue network

 **While you read**

Use the following table to take notes as you read the section.

Levels of federal bureaucracy	Relationship to other levels	Methods of implementing regulations

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 **After you read**

Once you've finished reading the section, answer the following questions.

1. Which example of presidential authority as it relates to the federal bureaucracy is correct?
 - A. He or she advises agencies regarding how laws should be put into effect.
 - B. He or she is responsible for confirming cabinet secretaries after their nomination.
 - C. He or she is responsible for appointing members of the Senior Executive Service.
 - D. He or she cannot remove top-level bureaucrats once they have been appointed.

2. Which statement regarding the role of Congress as it relates to the federal bureaucracy is TRUE?
 - A. It is responsible for funding cabinet-level departments.
 - B. It has primary responsibility for overseeing the faithful execution of the nation's laws.
 - C. It is responsible for nominating candidates to lead bureaucratic departments.
 - D. It can create but cannot terminate bureaucratic departments.

3. A defining characteristic of executive political appointees is that they:
 - A. do not typically remain in office after the president who appointed them leaves office.
 - B. form the majority of the Senior Executive Service.
 - C. receive promotions based upon the merit system.
 - D. are typically treated more like business presidents than political figures.

4. Which statement is correct regarding members of the Senior Executive Service?
 - A. They occupy the bottom level of the bureaucratic power structure.
 - B. Their term of employment typically ends when a new president assumes office.
 - C. They can be removed from office by the president.
 - D. Most are drawn from the lower ranks of the federal bureaucracy.

5. Evelin is employed within the federal bureaucracy. Her position places her near the bottom of the bureaucratic power structure. She enjoys strong job security and will likely maintain her position far longer than any single president. Evelin is a(an):
 - A. executive political appointee
 - B. member of the Senior Executive Service
 - C. deputy cabinet secretary
 - D. career civil servant

6. Which statement regarding an iron triangle is NOT accurate?
 - A. An iron triangle consists of the bureaucracy, Congress, and interest groups.

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- B. Each component of an iron triangle receives benefits from its relationship to the others.
 - C. Iron triangles are designed to address a specific policy problem.
 - D. The goals of an iron triangle may sometimes run counter to the general interests of society.
7. Which statement BEST describes the role of interest groups within an iron triangle?
- A. They advocate for legislation that is favorable to the bureaucracy.
 - B. They work with the bureaucracy to create regulations that are favorable to themselves.
 - C. They provide electoral support to members of Congress.
 - D. They advise the bureaucracy on the implementation of new policies.
8. What is the role of Congress in an iron triangle?
- A. determining funding levels for bureaucratic agencies
 - B. lobbying to secure bureaucratic policy goals
 - C. creating regulations favorable to bureaucratic agencies
 - D. implementing new bureaucratic policies
9. What is the role of bureaucratic agencies in an iron triangle?
- A. They provide electoral support to members of Congress.
 - B. They implement laws as desired by Congress.
 - C. They advise Congress regarding bureaucratic funding.
 - D. They lobby on behalf of interest groups.
10. Which statement BEST defines an issue network?
- A. coordinated activities of the bureaucracy, Congress, and interest groups
 - B. the process through which rules are created in order to execute congressional laws
 - C. the process of determining which individuals or groups are covered under a specific program
 - D. webs of influence between interest groups, policymakers, and policy advocates