

# The Global Community Liaison Office

## Advocacy, Programs, and Services

The Global Community Liaison Office (GCLO) serves the Foreign Service community, which includes employees and their families from over 50 U.S. Federal Government agencies under Chief of Mission authority serving overseas and returning to the United States. GCLO's mission is to improve the quality of life of the diverse community we serve through advocacy, programs, and services online, in Washington, DC, and at more than 200 posts worldwide.

### Education and Youth

[GCLOAskEducation@state.gov](mailto:GCLOAskEducation@state.gov)

The Education and Youth Team provides support and resources related to the educational and emotional development of internationally mobile children to enable parents to make informed decisions about their welfare. The team provides guidance on Washington, DC area public and private schools, as well as education options and allowances at posts overseas, boarding schools, special needs education, homeschooling, online education, the college admissions process, and summer programs.

### Community Liaison Office (CLO)

[GCLOAskCLO@state.gov](mailto:GCLOAskCLO@state.gov)

GCLO manages the CLO program at more than 200 missions worldwide and offers training, resources, guidance, and support to CLOs as they work to improve the quality of life for employees and family members overseas. The CLO is among the first points of contact for newly assigned or arriving employees and family members, and provides pre-arrival information, orientation, and assistance with settling in at post.



## Family Member Employment

[GCLOAskEmployment@state.gov](mailto:GCLOAskEmployment@state.gov)

GCLO manages programs in support of family member employment, including the Expanded Professional Associates Program (EPAP) which offers 400+ positions with expanded responsibilities for employment inside an embassy or consulate; family members who earn non-competitive eligibility may be appointed to civil service positions without competing with the general public; Professional Development Fellowships support spouses and partners in their efforts to develop, maintain, and/or refresh their professional skills while overseas; GCLO's Global Employment Initiative provides 20 regional Global Employment Advisors, who support family members worldwide with résumé development, interviewing skills, networking, and more.

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## Support Services

[GCLOAskSupportServices@state.gov](mailto:GCLOAskSupportServices@state.gov)

The Support Services Team assists families through issues such as eldercare, placing newly acquired family members on travel orders, and divorce. This team also helps to support the mental health needs of employees and their family members before they arrive at post, while they are at post, and as they transition to a new post abroad or back to the United States by connecting them with information and resources to address important life events and personal crises.

## Evacuations and Unaccompanied Tours

[GCLOAskEvacuations@state.gov](mailto:GCLOAskEvacuations@state.gov)

[GCLOAskUT@state.gov](mailto:GCLOAskUT@state.gov)

The Evacuations and Unaccompanied Tours (UT) Team provides support during post evacuations, providing information on allowances, regulations, housing, education, and employment. Additionally, they provide confidential outreach, support, and administrative guidance to employees, their family, and friends before, during, and after an unaccompanied assignment. GCLO also provides children's medals upon request from parents employed by the five Foreign Affairs agencies at officially designated UT posts.

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## Expeditious Naturalization

[GCLOAskNaturalization@state.gov](mailto:GCLOAskNaturalization@state.gov)

GCLO assists foreign-born spouses of direct-hire U.S. Department of State employees with the expeditious naturalization process by providing instructions and source materials to prepare the naturalization packet, acting as a liaison with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services during the adjudication process, and helping applicants prepare for the naturalization interview and exams.