# Promises and Perils of ASPA in Public Administration and Public Policy

The American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) is a professional organization for public administrators. It was founded in 1939 and has over 15,000 members. ASPA's mission is to advance the art, science, and practice of public administration.



### Government Contracting: Promises and Perils (ASPA Series in Public Administration and Public Policy)

by William Sims Curry

★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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ASPA has a number of core principles, including:

- Public service is a noble profession.
- Public administrators should be accountable to the public.
- Public administration should be based on evidence and research.
- Public administrators should be innovative and creative.

Public administrators should be ethical and responsible.

#### **Promises of ASPA**

ASPA offers a number of promises to public administrators and public policy makers. These promises include:

- Professional development: ASPA offers a variety of professional development opportunities, including conferences, workshops, and webinars. These opportunities can help public administrators stay upto-date on the latest trends in public administration and public policy.
- Networking: ASPA provides opportunities for public administrators to network with each other. This can help public administrators build relationships and learn from other professionals in the field.
- Advocacy: ASPA advocates for the interests of public administrators and public policy makers. This advocacy can help to improve the working conditions of public administrators and the quality of public services.
- Research: ASPA supports research on public administration and public policy. This research can help to improve the understanding of public administration and public policy and to develop new solutions to public problems.

#### Perils of ASPA

While ASPA offers a number of promises to public administrators and public policy makers, there are also some potential perils associated with ASPA. These perils include:

- Elitism: Some critics argue that ASPA is elitist organization that is dominated by a small number of powerful public administrators. This can make it difficult for rank-and-file public administrators to have their voices heard.
- Bureaucracy: ASPA is a large and bureaucratic organization. This can make it difficult for ASPA to respond quickly to the needs of its members.
- Political bias: Some critics argue that ASPA is biased in favor of the Democratic Party. This can make it difficult for Republican public administrators to feel welcome in ASPA.
- Lack of diversity: ASPA is not as diverse as it could be. This can make it difficult for ASPA to represent the interests of all public administrators.

ASPA is a complex organization with both promises and perils. Public administrators and public policy makers should carefully consider the promises and perils of ASPA before joining the organization. However, if you are looking for a way to advance your career in public administration or public policy, ASPA can be a valuable resource.

#### References

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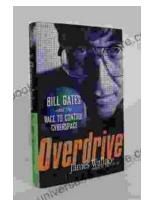
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