

Federal Executive Association of Western Massachusetts



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Presidential Directive

John F. Kennedy

November 14, 1961

"Although each executive agency and its field organization have a special mission, there are many matters on which the work of the departments converge. Among them are management and budgetary procedures, personnel policies, recruitment efforts, office information duties, and similar matters. There are opportunities to pool experience and resources, and to accomplish savings. In substantive programs there are also opportunities for a more closely coordinated approach in many activities."

President John F. Kennedy
1961



Federal Executive Associations

In western Massachusetts approximately 25 federal agencies have joined together to form the **Federal Executive Association of Western Massachusetts (FEAWM)**. This organization underscores the federal government's commitment to serving the people of western Massachusetts—benefiting their constituents as well as their employees.

The FEAWM includes leaders from the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Homeland Security, Interior, Justice, Labor, Treasury and Veterans Affairs. In addition, the US Postal Service, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, General Services Administration, Small Business Administration, and the Social Security Administration are members.

The Federal Executive Boards (FEB's) were established in 1961 by a Presidential Directive to improve coordination among Federal activities and programs outside Washington.

In cities where FEB's do not exist, another organization of local principal Federal agency officials exists. These organizations are generally entitled **Federal Executive Associations** or Councils, and have purposes and objectives similar to FEB's. They do not however, function within the same formal set of parameters (e.g. officially established by Presidential Memorandum, policy direction and guidance from the Office of Personnel Management, etc.) as do the FEB's.

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Goals of the FEAWM

1. *Reduction of Costs and Improved Efficiency:* To draw together agencies with common goals so that their efforts are complementary.
2. *Facilitation of Service Delivery:* To draw together agencies with common clients so that government services are convenient for customers.
3. *Communication:* To inform the local communities of national priorities and policies. To celebrate success stories. To offer an effective two-way communication network for reaching federal employees throughout Western Massachusetts.
4. *Partnership with Community Groups:* To partner with community groups to solve problems.
5. *Coordination of Emergency Services:* To stand ready to marshal resources to the entire community, whether to aid a member community during a crisis or to assist the citizenry in a public emergency.

Notable Accomplishments of the FEAWM are:

- Advocated for and obtained approval changing Locality Pay Area Boundaries in 2005 by creating the Northampton/Springfield/Hartford corridor as one for pay purposes.
- Annual recognition of contributions made by Federal Employees.
- Annual training/educational programs for federal employees so they keep current.