

# AGA Phoenix Chapter (www.agaphoenix.org)

PY 2018-2019

June 2019



## Message From the President



In May, we again had two great education events. The first was held on May 15<sup>th</sup> on the topic of Fighting Fraud with Analytics. It was an audio conference held at ASU Skysong, worth two (2) CPE. The second event was held on May 29<sup>th</sup> on the topic of Robotic Process Automation, also at ASU Skysong and worth two (2) CPE.

Thank you to our speakers, to those that helped to organize these events and to all of our attendees!

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As we turn to June, just a reminder that this is the last month that we will hold an event, until after the summer break, in September. The event in June will be held on June 12<sup>th</sup> at ASU Skysong and is worth two (2) CPE. We are pleased to have Brittney Williams, CPA, CGFM, from Heinfeld, Meech & Co., speak to us on the topic of Stress Can Be a Good Thing. I hope that you will join us for this event. To register for events, you can head over to the events section of our website: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Phoenix/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>.

Also, don't forget that the Phoenix Chapter provides multiple resources for our members, so that you can effectively sit for, and pass the CGFM exam. We offer study guides for checkout and an opportunity to be reimbursed for the cost of sitting for the exam, upon successful completion.

Additionally, if you have any questions or feedback for us, please e-mail us at, [contact@agaphoenix.org](mailto:contact@agaphoenix.org). It is particularly timely, if you want to share a topic suggestion with us now, since we will be heading into the summer planning season for next program year. Please consider telling us what topics you would like to hear about. Alternatively, if you are interested in participating in the Board, on one of the committees, please reach out to us.

Thank you for your continued support of the Phoenix Chapter, and we hope to see you soon!

Michelle Huckabay, CPA, CGFM  
AGA Phoenix Chapter President

# AGA Phoenix Chapter Executive Board Program Year 2018-2019

**PURPOSE:** Consists of chapter officers, past president, committee chairs, and other members appointed by the chapter president. Responsible for all chapter business and planning.

**OFFICERS:**

President	Michelle Huckabay, CGFM, CPA
President Elect	Cindy Smith, CPA
Past President	Gergana Kovatcheva, CGFM, CPA
Secretary	Paola Matson
Treasurer	Gergana Kovatcheva, CGFM, CPA

**ADDRESS:** AGA Phoenix Chapter, PO Box 64911  
Phoenix, AZ 85082-4911

**EMAIL:** [contact@agaphoenix.org](mailto:contact@agaphoenix.org)

## Our Purpose

### Mission Statement

AGA Phoenix Chapter serves Arizona professionals in the government financial management community by providing quality, low-cost continuing education, promoting professional development and interaction among members, and fostering a commitment to community involvement as well as a sense of responsibility for advancing government accountability.

### Vision

AGA Phoenix Chapter actively creates an avenue for membership to share ideas with each other, to share knowledge and time with the community, and to promote the advancement of government standards and accountability within the profession.

## We'd Love Your Input!

Please remember to send in any articles of interest, including any that you may have written on the subjects of management, accounting, or auditing. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

In addition, please send us any special announcements in relation to promotions, marriages, births, anniversaries, certifications achieved, or any other significant event for any of our chapter members. Any article submitted by the second week of the month will be included in the next month's newsletter.

Please email your news for forthcoming newsletters to:

[contact@agaphoenix.org](mailto:contact@agaphoenix.org)



## Goals for 2018-2019 and Beyond

- Membership & Education:
  - Provide 42 education credits throughout the program year. Audio conferences and live speakers.
  - ✓ • Reach out to new members within first month of membership.
  - ✓ • Reach out to all non-renewing members in May/June.
  - Provide social/recruiting event.
  - ✓ • Establish sponsorship program.
- Accountability:
  - ✓ • Prepare chapter’s Citizen Centric Report (CCR) by September 30, 2018 and post to website.
  - ✓ • Submit chapter’s CCR to AGA’s Certificate of Excellence Review Program.
- CGFM Goals:
  - Continue reimbursements for chapter members who pass all three sessions of the CGFM tests. Reimbursement includes the cost of the three exams and application fee.
  - ✓ • Communicate and promote CGFM designation to Chapter members .
  - ✓ • Provide CGFM study guides to members on a first come first serve basis. Purchase two new sets this year.
  - ✓ • Seek State proclamation for March as CGFM month and provide recognition to CGFM members.
- Young Professionals:
  - ✓ • Reach out to college accounting clubs to present about jobs in governmental accounting and discuss what AGA is and how it can impact students’ careers.
  - ✓ • Annually award up to two scholarships for students enrolled in an Accounting, Finance or Public Administration curriculum.

2018 & 2019 Budget and Spend through 1/19			
Budget Category	'18 Spent	'19 Budget	'19 Spent
Education	\$18,534.98	\$21,000	\$8,168.53
Membership	\$410	\$1,000	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$3,500	\$1,707.56
Board Expenses	\$223.42	\$500	\$100
Scholarship	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
CGFM	\$15,390.08	\$1,550	\$0
Community Service	\$100	\$750	\$150
Website	\$0	\$0	\$0
Early Career	\$100	\$100	\$0
Audit	\$100	\$100	\$150
Misc.	\$12	\$200	\$130
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$35,679.75</b>	<b>\$30,200</b>	<b>\$10,406.09</b>

### PY 2018-2019 Committee Members:

- Membership – Mary Adelman, CGFM, CPA
- Education – Keith Orr, CGFM, Jerry Snyder, CGFM, , Anthony St. George, CPA and Robert Harwood, CPA
- Programs – Getzamany Aragon & Michelle Huckabay, CGFM, CPA
- Accountability—Kim Prendergast, CGFM, CPA
- CGFM – Gergana Kovatcheva, CGFM, CPA
- Young Professionals / Early Career – Getzamany Aragon and Marvin Mendieta, CGFM
- Scholarship – Kelly Alkhoury, CGFM
- Community Service – Cindy Ensign
- Communications Committee – Anthony St. George, CPA
- Sponsorship—Anthony St. George, CPA
- NCC Representative—Mary Adelman, CGFM, CPA

## **Tips for Preparing for CGFM Exams:**

Begin by **reviewing the CGFM examinations content outlines**, which list the main and subtopics covered in each examination. This should be the focal point of your preparation. It is the core document used as the basis for each examination and a guideline for writing examination questions.

Once you are ready to begin studying for the exam, there are a variety of ways to approach it. You can utilize all, or part of these resources. **The AGA offers instructor led courses**. You can attend an instructor led course in the Washington, D.C. area, or participate in an intensive review course at the annual AGA PDT.

Even if you take the instructor led courses, you will want to perform some self-study following this, in order to prepare yourself for the exams. **CGFM study guides** are available for purchase through AGA National, in hard copy, or as a soft copy. Spend time reviewing these materials and answering the questions from each section of the study guides. Also, the Phoenix Chapter, has CGFM study guides available for check out.

AGA also now offers three online **CGFM practice examinations**, which will help you prepare to take the real exam. These practice examinations, are a must.

**Study groups** can also be helpful. If you know others that are preparing to take the same exam, you can meet regularly to test each others knowledge, and support each other in the journey. Consider joining the AGA Phoenix Chapter study group. To find out more, e-mail [contact@agaphoenix.org](mailto:contact@agaphoenix.org).

Consider these tips, when starting your journey to obtaining your CGFM certification. Good luck and let the Phoenix Chapter of AGA know if we can answer any questions for you, or provide you with any of the Chapter resources.

Link to AGA National study information: <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/Candidates/Preparing-for-Exams.aspx>



### **CGFM Study Resources Available:**

For AGA members interested in taking the CGFM please contact our CGFM chair at [cgfm@agaphoenix.org](mailto:cgfm@agaphoenix.org) for more information. Currently there is 3 complete set of materials available for check out.

Also, successful CGFM candidates can apply for reimbursement of the application and examination costs.

Contact our CGFM chair for step by step instructions on the CGFM process:

[contact@agaphoenix.org](mailto:contact@agaphoenix.org)

Association of Government Accountants					
Phoenix Chapter					
Education and Meeting Plan					
2018-2019 Program Year					
Date	Event	Topic	CPE Credit	Registration Deadline	Location
9/12/18	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 10:30am-11:00am, Audio Conference 11:00am-12:50pm	Communications	2	9/7/18	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
10/10/18	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 10:30am-11:00am, Audio Conference 11:00am-12:50pm	Leveraging IT to Detect Fraud, Waste and Abuse	2	10/5/18	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
11/14/18	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 11:30am-12:00pm, Seminar 12:00pm-1:50pm	Blockchain	2	11/9/18	AZ Department of Education Room 312 1535 W Jefferson St. Scottsdale, AZ 85007
12/19/18	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 11:30am-12:00pm, Seminar 12:00pm-1:50pm	Managing Resources Through the Budget	2	12/14/18	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
1/9/18	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 11:30am-12:00pm, Audio Conference 12:00pm-1:50pm	Grants Management	2	1/4/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
1/18/19*	8:00am-8:30am Continental Breakfast 8:30am-12:00pm-Class	Ethics—ASCPA	4	1/11/19	MCCCD Governing Bd Rm 2411 W. 14th Street, 2nd Floor Tempe, AZ 85281
2/6/19	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 11:30am-12:00pm, Seminar 12:00pm-1:50pm	Top Issues Facing State and Local Governments—Lealan Miller, CPA, CGFM	2	2/1/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 201 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
3/1/19*	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 11:30am-12:00pm, Seminar 12:00p-12:50pm	ASRS	1	2/25/19	ASU Skysong Bldg. 3, Synergy I #130 1475 N. Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
	1:00pm-1:50pm	Deferred Comp	1		
	1:50pm-2:40pm	Federal Tax Update	1		
	2:40pm-3:30pm	State Tax Update	1		
	Total		4		
3/6/19	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 11:30am-12:00pm, Audio Conference 12:00pm-1:50pm	Finance	2	3/1/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257

Association of Government Accountants					
Phoenix Chapter					
Education and Meeting Plan					
2018-2019 Program Year					
Date	Event	Topic	CPE Credit	Registration Deadline	Location
3/27/18	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 10:30am-11:00am, Audio Conference 11:00am-	Cybersecurity	2	3/22/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
4/10/19	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 10:30am-11:00am, Seminar 11:00am-12:50pm	FBI: White Collar Crime and Following the Money	2	4/5/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
4/26/19*	8:00am-4:00pm PDT	AGA National President John Lynskey	1	4/21/19	Rio Salado College 2323 W. 14th St. Tempe, AZ 85281
		Yellow Book—Auditor General	1		
		GASB Update	1		
		Municipal Bonds	1		
		Treasurer	1		
		Panel Discussion on Economic Development	2		
		Audit Updates, Including Cybersecurity in Financial Statement Audits	1		
Total	8				
5/15/19	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 10:30am-11:00am, Audio Conference 11:00am-	Fraud Data Analytics	2	5/10/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
5/29/19	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 10:30am-11:00am, Seminar 11:00am-12:50pm	Robotics Process Automation	2	5/24/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
6/12/19	Chapter Meeting-Lunch 10:30am-11:00am, Seminar 11:00am-12:50pm	Stress Can Be a Good Thing	2	6/7/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
			<b>40</b>		

Prospective members are welcome to learn more about us by attending a monthly chapter meeting. Registration per monthly chapter meeting date, which includes lunch, is as follows:

**Members:**

\$25 each monthly chapter meeting, or package deal—\$220 for all sessions\*

**Non-Members**

\$40 each monthly chapter meeting

\*excludes special events (Ethics and Professional Development Training—PDT)

To RSVP, please go to our online registration site: <http://agaphoenix.eventbrite.com> . Thank you for your interest!

# Announcements - Job Postings

**Accounting Manager—Finance Department, Bisbee. Salary \$55,500—\$85,000.** (Illustrative Only) Manages and supervises a major component of the financial system in the county Finance Department. Applies principles of accounting to analyze financial information and prepares financial reports by performing the following duties: Compiles and analyzes financial information to prepare and review journal entries for all general ledger accounts, documenting transactions; analyzes financial information detailing assets, liabilities, and capital, and prepares balance sheet and other reports to summarize current and projected financial position; may audit contracts, orders, and vouchers, and prepares reports to substantiate individual transactions; establishes, modifies, documents, and coordinates the implementation of accounting and accounting control procedures; recommends changes for the financial system and assists with the implementation of such changes, ensuring that the financial system provides efficient and effective financial information for decision making; assists in departmental budget process; may assist with County budget process. Prepares County wide annual financial statements, both fund and GASB. Prepares financial statement schedules and footnotes. Manages the annual audit and prepares entire set of documents required by auditors.

**Minimum Qualifications:** A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Economics, Business Administration, Public Administration, or a closely related field; five (5) years of experience as an accountant, three (3) years of which must have been in fund accounting, preferably in government fund accounting; prefer two years (2) in supervision of an accounting function; OR, an equivalent combination of the previously stated education and general accounting experience which training provides the desired knowledge, skills, and abilities of this classification; must possess and maintain a valid Arizona driver's license if position duties require.

**Apply online at:** <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cochise>

Would you like to post your organization's job postings on our website?

Please email AGA Phoenix Webmaster, [contact@agaphoenix.org](mailto:contact@agaphoenix.org)



## Check out AGA's Free Toolkits & Guides:

- Sub-recipient vs. Contractor Checklist
- Blended and Braided Funding
- Leveraging Government Resources in Challenging Financial Times
- Risk Assessment Monitoring Toolkit
- Cooperative Audit Resolution and Oversight Initiative
- Fraud Prevention Toolkit
- Candidate Assessment Toolkit for Grant Managers
- How Federal, State and Non-Profit Collaboration Improved Efficiencies in Delinquent Debt Collection
- Citizen Centric Report: How To

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Intergov/Home.aspx>

## Membership Referral Program

Did you know that you can gain \$50 if you get two individuals who are not currently members to join our chapter? All you have to do is have them put your name down on the sponsor section of the membership form.

It is always nice to have new faces become members to our growing organization!

## Board Members Wanted

If you are interested in volunteering for a committee and to be on the Board, please contact AGA at the following e-mail: [contact@agaphoenix.org](mailto:contact@agaphoenix.org)

# We Are Always Looking For People Interested In Joining Our Organization

*NOTE: Excerpts and links below are from AGA's national website at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org).*

### What is AGA?

Briefly, AGA has been serving the government financial management profession for over 50 years. As a not-for-profit educational organization, AGA serves the professional interests of financial managers from the local, state and the federal governments, as well as public accounting firms, responsible for effectively using billions of dollars and other monetary resources everyday. Members are accountants, auditors, contract, financial and performance, budget analysts, chief financial officers, information systems managers, finance directors, inspectors

general, professors, students. Membership in AGA is like tapping into a reservoir of actual real-world knowledge and experience of government financial management experts.

### Benefits of Joining

If you asked a member which of the benefits they value the most, they probably would say education and networking, which often occur at the same time and place. Here are some of our members' favorites:

- Continuing Professional Education and Networking Opportunities
- Keep Up-to-Date on Current Issues
- Keep Abreast of the Latest Technologies and Financial Systems
- Professional Guidance and Certification

### How Can You Join?

Click the links below to access the Membership Application and to find out membership types and dues.



Click <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Learn-About-AGA/Join-or-Renew.aspx>

**to complete the online AGA Membership Application.**

**\*\*Did an AGA member inspire you to join? Don't forget to enter your AGA Sponsor's Name and Member ID on the application.\*\***