

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Philadelphia Chapter

**JUNE 2024**

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## Thriving Together: Your Vibrant Gateway to Government Financial Management Excellence with AGA Philadelphia!

Welcome esteemed AGA members! As leaders in shaping financial strategies and upholding fiscal integrity in government agencies, you are the cornerstone of AGA Philadelphia. Thank you for being essential to our community, where excellence in government financial management begins and thrives!

## Student Membership Opportunities: Join AGA for *FREE* as a Full-Time Student! (PG. 7)



**UPCOMING WEBINARS & EVENTS!  
DON'T MISS OUT!  
(PG. 9)**

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**01/15**

# AGA PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

**LAYNA HOLMES-BUTLER**  
**CGFM, CPA**

Layna Holmes-Butler is an accomplished accounting and audit professional with a strong focus on delivering comprehensive solutions to individuals and businesses. Her expertise encompasses a wide range of services, including agreed-upon procedures, financial statement preparation following GAAP standards, general ledger management, accounts receivable and payable, and fixed asset accounting. Layna also specializes in conducting compliance audits in alignment with Government Auditing Standards (the Yellow Book) and relevant laws and regulations.

Throughout her career, Layna has worked with major clients such as The Mercadien Group, J. Miller & Associates, and the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Her dedication to excellence and adherence to industry standards make her a valuable asset to the accounting and auditing community.



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# AGA Philadelphia Chapter: 2024 Chapter Leadership

**Chapter President:** Layna Holmes-Butler

**Chapter Treasurer:** Layna Holmes-Butler

**National Council of Chapters Representative:** Kyle Smith

**ACE Reporting:** Teri Lewis

**Membership:** Clarence Johnson

**Social Media:** Kyle Smith

**Webmaster:** Kyle Smith



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**JOIN US**

# JOIN THE PHILADELPHIA AGA CHAPTER LEADERSHIP BOARD!

**Are you an AGA Member eager to make a difference in your community?** Here's your chance! The Philadelphia Chapter is seeking dedicated individuals to join our Leadership Board. Whether you're a seasoned professional or a college student seeking valuable internship experience, we welcome you to be part of our dynamic team.



## Why Join Us?

- **Community Involvement:** Make a meaningful impact in Baton Rouge and beyond.
- **Professional Development:** Enhance your skills and network with industry professionals.
- **Retired Members:** Stay active, share your expertise, and continue making a difference.



[www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY, EMAIL US AT [AGAPHILADELPHIA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AGAPHILADELPHIA@GMAIL.COM)**

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# CGFM®

# Certification



## What is a CGFM?

The CGFM (Certified Government Financial Manager) credential, awarded by AGA, showcases expertise in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls, and budgeting across different government levels. It's a respected certification that highlights specialized knowledge and experience essential for effective government financial management. CGFM opens doors to new career prospects and sets you apart as a distinguished professional in the field.

## CGFM Certification Benefits:

1. Enhanced marketability across government sectors.
2. Networking opportunities with fellow government financial managers.
3. Boosted confidence in your role.
4. Potential for employer incentives like raises, promotions, and bonuses.
5. Increased value as an employee, both in reality and perception.
6. Support for ongoing education to stay updated with the latest developments and technologies.

Use this link to learn more about CGFM memberships!

[www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)

## How Do I Become a CGFM?

1. Fill out an online application and agree to AGA's Code of Ethics.
2. Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. college or university.
3. Pass three CGFM examinations.
4. Gain at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management.



For any additional questions, please contact the Office of Professional Certification: 800.AGA.7211 (703.684.6931) or [cgfm@agacgfm.org](mailto:cgfm@agacgfm.org)

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# Don't Forget: Join or Renew Your AGA Membership!



## Benefits:

- **Connect, Collaborate, & Network:**
  - Expand your network, participate in our online mentoring program!
  - Volunteer to serve on AGA committees and boards,
  - Find a position or look for qualified candidates on AGA's Job Board
  - Join the conversation on LinkedIn, Twitter & Facebook.
- **Continuous Learning:**
  - Participate in educational events — learn from and meet the experts.
  - Save money with registration discounts on national and chapter training events.
  - Sign up for four (4) complimentary members-only webinars.
  - Attend the Transformation & Technology Summit for FREE!
  - Attend the Women's Forum for FREE!
  - Leverage discounts on CGFM renewal and application fees.
- **Stay Informed & Find Solutions:**
  - Access online tools, developed by government experts to prevent fraud, reduce improper payments, improve outcomes, mitigate risk, and enhance collaboration.
  - Stay up to date through the quarterly Journal of Government Financial Management.
  - Learn about and share best practices described in AGA research and executive reports.
  - Get the latest innovations in government by tuning into AGA's Accountability Talks podcasts.

**JOIN  
NOW**

**Don't Hesitate!**  
**Register Now!**

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Philadelphia Chapter

# Student Membership Opportunities



## Why AGA?

Considering a career in government financial management? Want to meet government professionals in the federal, state, or local government levels?

**Join AGA for FREE!** Student membership in AGA provides you access to resources to develop your skills and expand your knowledge. Become a part of AGA to build professional connections and discover your future career while positively impacting your community and country.

**APPLY NOW**



### Scholarships

Academic scholarships, National Collegiate Leadership Scholarship, Government Finance Case Challenge, Datathon



### Career Coaching & Professional Community

Mentoring Programs & Local Chapters



### Tools & Resources

'Accountability Talks' Podcast & Guest Speakers



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# ACCOUNTABILITY TALKS



PODCAST  
Show



Discover '**Accountability Talks**,' a podcast delving into the government accountability community. Hear from thought leaders, gain career insights, and join our vibrant community!  
**[Click here to listen!](#)**

## About the Host



Meet **Paul Marshall, CPA, CGFM, CIA, CICA, PMP, VP at MIL Corporation and dedicated AGA member with 20+ years in government accountability.** He champions best practices in audits, financial reporting, and more, serving on AGA boards at local and national levels.

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# Upcoming Webinars & Events

*You Do Not Want to Miss Out!*

SAVE THE DATE



WEBINAR



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**Embark on a journey of professional growth and excellence with AGA's upcoming events and webinars.** Dive into our exclusive professional development sessions designed to elevate your skills and knowledge in government financial management.

Explore insightful strategies and gain practical insights that will enhance your capabilities and help you succeed in the dynamic realm of government financial management. Whether you're looking to sharpen your skills, stay updated with industry trends, or connect with fellow professionals, our events offer a pathway to professional excellence.

**In addition to our professional development sessions, we have a lineup of both Chapter and National events that provide valuable networking opportunities and insights into industry best practices.** Don't miss this chance to unlock your full potential and propel your career forward. Join us for these enriching sessions and discover the keys to success in the public sector.

# National Events

## Discovering Possibilities: Professional Development Training (PDT) 2024



**DON'T  
MISS OUT**

### Denver Professional Development Training (PDT)

**Sunday through Wednesday, July 14-17, 2024**

Join AGA's 2024 Professional Development Training on July 14-17 in Denver for three and a half days of insights from top government financial management professionals and industry experts. With over 3,000 attendees, this event offers educational sessions to enhance leadership, improve performance in cost-constrained environments, and address shared challenges. Don't miss this opportunity to advance your career and network with peers!

#### Three Reasons You Should Attend:

- **Earn up to 24 NASBA-approved continuing professional education (CPE) credits.** Increase your overall body of knowledge and improve your job effectiveness through new skills and techniques.
- **Stay on the cutting edge.** Top-notch speakers from federal, state, and local government, academia, and the private sector will keep you on top of your game with key information and educational experiences.
- **Network and connect.** Engage with industry experts and government financial management colleagues who face similar issues. Exchange ideas to bring back to your organization and build the profession.

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### REGISTRATION

**AGA's Premier  
Training & Networking Event**  
July 14-17, 2024 | Denver  
24 CPEs

**Registration & Fees:**  
**Early Bird Deadline -  
June 14, 2024**

	Online	All Other
<b>AGA Members</b>		
Early Bird	\$925	\$950
Standard	\$1,025	\$1,050
<b>Non-members</b>		
Early Bird	\$1,125	\$1,150
Standard	\$1,225	\$1,250

***Click Here to Register Now!***

***Join AGA Now to Save  
\$200!***

# National Events



**Internal Fraud Prevention Training**  
**Thursday–Friday, September 19–20, 2024**  
**8:30 AM. – 3:45 PM ET**  
**Washington D.C. or Virtual**  
**Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center**  
**14 CPES**

The Internal Control & Fraud Prevention Training focuses on management's responsibility for ensuring good systems of internal control, and the role of accountability professionals to minimize the risk of fraud, waste and abuse. Leaders in government and private industry discuss the latest discovery techniques, lessons learned and how governments are cooperating to improve services to citizens.

## Registration & Fees

**Early bird deadline – Aug. 23, 2024**

Online	All Other
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### AGA Members

Early Bird	\$550	\$575
Standard	\$650	\$675

### Non-members

Early Bird	\$725	\$750
Standard	\$825	\$850

**[Click Here to Register Now!](#)**

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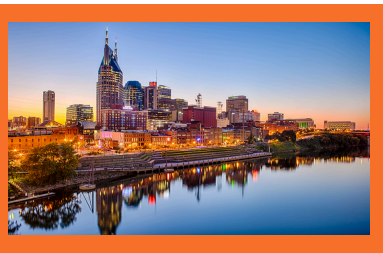
# Future Professional Development Trainings (PDT)

Save the Date for AGA's future Professional Development Training (PDT) events!



## Denver, Colorado

July 14-17, 2024  
 Sheraton Denver  
 Downtown Hotel



## Nashville, Tennessee

July 27-30, 2025  
 Gaylord Opryland Hotel



## Dallas, Texas

July 26-29, 2026  
 Gaylord Texan Hotel



## Chicago, Illinois

July 18-21, 2027  
 Hyatt Regency Chicago

### AGA's Premier Training & Networking Event

July 14-17, 2024 | Denver  
 24 CPEs

Registration & Fees:  
 Early Bird Deadline -  
 June 14, 2024

	Online	All Other
<b>AGA Members</b>		
Early Bird	\$925	\$950
Standard	\$1,025	\$1,050
<b>Non-members</b>		
Early Bird	\$1,125	\$1,150
Standard	\$1,225	\$1,250

**Register Now!**

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**Happy Independence Day from all of us at AGA Philadelphia! May your celebrations be filled with joy, pride, and a renewed commitment to the ideals that make our nation strong. Let's continue to work together to create a brighter future for all.**

Whether you're watching a spectacular fireworks display, enjoying a barbecue, or participating in local parades and events, we encourage you to take a moment to appreciate the freedoms we enjoy and the efforts of those who work tirelessly to uphold them.

As members of AGA Philadelphia, we are part of a vibrant network dedicated to advancing government accountability and improving financial management. Your contributions and dedication are essential to our mission, and we are proud to celebrate this day with you.

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**Premier Group is a Proud Sponsor of the AGA Philadelphia Chapter!**

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**Premier Group is a full-service CPA firm founded by Joye Sistrunk in 2005, embodying a passion for numbers, community purpose, integrity, and a mission of trust.**

**At Premier Group, we are dedicated to serving a diverse range of clients, including government agencies, federal contractors, nonprofits, and mid-sized businesses.** Our commitment to excellence, teamwork, and collaboration ensures that every client receives personalized attention and the highest quality of service. Partner with us to experience the difference that passion, purpose, and integrity can make in achieving your financial goals.

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## **Our Services Include:**

**Audit and Assurance Services:** Thorough examination and verification of financial records, assuring stakeholders.

**Financial Budgeting and Forecasting:** Expert analysis and planning to help clients make informed financial decisions for the future.

**Risk Management:** Identification, assessment, and mitigation of risks to safeguard financial assets and operations.

**Litigation Support:** Professional assistance in legal matters involving financial disputes, providing expert testimony and analysis.

**Tax Advice and Preparation:** Strategic tax planning, compliance, and preparation services to minimize tax burdens and optimize financial outcomes.