

AGA Phoenix Chapter (www.agaphoenix.org)

PY 2018-2019

January 2019



Message From the President



At Phoenix AGA, we finished the year off strong, with our last meeting of the calendar year on December 19th, which was also our annual holiday event. At this event, we heard from our AGA National Treasurer, Dennis Green, CPA, CGFM, on the topic of Managing Resources through the Budget. In December, the Chapter also gained one new chapter member, Sara with the Maricopa County

Sheriff's Office. Welcome to the Chapter, Sara!

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In January, we will hold two events. The first meeting is Wednesday, January 9th on Grants Management, at ASU Skysong, for two CPE. The second event is Friday, January 18th, for our Ethics Update for Arizona CPAs. This event will be worth four CPEs, and will be held at the MCCC Governing Board. To register for these events, visit our website, at: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Phoenix/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>.

Right after our January 9th meeting, we will again hold a board meeting, from 2 PM to 3 PM. Please consider attending this meeting. It is a great way to learn more about what is going on in your Chapter, or to get involved in one of the Committees. If you have any questions, or would like to share any feedback with the board, please e-mail us at, contact@agaphoenix.org.

As part of your membership with the AGA, there are also opportunities to attend free educational events, like the upcoming Financial Systems Summit on January 10th, which is worth six CPEs. To register, or find out more about this event, visit the AGA website, here: https://www.agacgfm.org/FSS/FSS-Home.aspx?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=AGA%20Communications.

One other event to be aware of is the community service event we will hold with Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) on February 12th from 6 PM to 8 PM, at their Mesa campus. To get more information, or to RSVP for this event, please e-mail us at, contact@agaphoenix.org.

Thank you for your continued support of the Phoenix Chapter! Happy New Year!

Michelle Huckabay, CPA, CGFM
President
AGA Phoenix Chapter

Annual CFO Survey

Please take a moment to complete this survey. We need everyone!

<https://www.surveymz.com/s3/4424750/2018-AGA-CFO-Survey>

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

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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



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			
Budget Category	'18 Budget	'18 Spent	'19 Budget
Education	\$21,250	\$18,534.98	\$21,000
Membership	\$1,000	\$410	1,000
Travel	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500
Board Expenses	\$1,000	\$223.42	\$500
Scholarship	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
CGFM	\$16,350	\$15,390.08	\$1,550
Community Service	\$750	\$100	\$750
Website	\$150	\$0	\$0
Early Career	\$100	\$100	\$100
Audit	\$100	\$100	\$100
Misc.	\$100	\$12	\$200
Total	\$45,800	\$35,679.75	\$30,200

PY 2018-2019 Committee Members:

Membership – Mary Adelman

Education – Keith Orr, Jerry Snyder, John Schutter, Anthony St. George

Programs – Getzamany Aragon & Michelle Huckabay

Accountability—Kim Prendergast

CGFM – Gergana Kovatcheva

Young Professionals / Early Career – Getzamany Aragon

Scholarship – Kelly Alkhoury

Community Service – John Schutter

Communications Committee – Anthony St. George

Sponsorship—Anthony St. George

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.

Attaining your CGFM certification is a great goal for the New Year. Why not invest in yourself. 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 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

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	Lealan Miller	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 Con- ference 11:00am- 12:50pm	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	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 Presi- dent 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 Develop- ment	2		
		TBD	1		
		Total	8		
5/15/19	Chapter Meeting- Lunch 10:30am- 11:00am, Audio Con- ference 11:00am- 12:50pm	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 Au- tomation	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	Topic— TBD	2	6/7/19	ASU Skysong Global Room 301 1475 N Scottsdale Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
			40		

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

No Postings Currently—Check Back Soon

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

Please email AGA Phoenix Webmaster, 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

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.

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.****