

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Baton Rouge
Chapter

AUGUST 2024



Welcome to the AGA Baton Rouge Newsletter, your premier source for staying connected and informed in the dynamic realm of government financial management!

AGA is the association that connects and empowers professionals who support government, from financial management to IT, human resources, cybersecurity and more, to advance good government initiatives, grow their expertise and accelerate their careers!

Student Membership Opportunities: Join AGA for *FREE* as a Full-Time Student! (PG. 10)



**UPCOMING WEBINARS
& EVENTS!
(PG. 12)**

01/22



A Message from The Chapter President

Dear AGA Members and Friends,

I hope this message finds you well and as energized as I am after our recent AGA conference in Denver! It was an incredible experience filled with networking opportunities, engaging sessions, and memorable social events. **One of the most significant moments was witnessing the passing presidential torch to Frank Petersen, who I am confident will lead us to even greater heights. Frank brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to this role, and I am excited to see the positive impact he will make in our community.**

As we look ahead, I want to highlight an exciting upcoming event: **the Professional Development Training (PDT) hosted with our New Orleans chapter on November 14th, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.** This will be an excellent opportunity for continued learning and networking. The event promises to be an enriching experience, with sessions designed to enhance your skills and knowledge in the ever-evolving field of government finance. Please keep an eye out for more information on how to register in the coming days. You'll find the event flyer attached to this newsletter for more details.

On a lighter note, as we gear up for football season, we've included a sports schedule in this issue to help you keep track of all the exciting games ahead. Whether you're cheering for your favorite college team or your hometown heroes in the NFL, I hope you enjoy the season's action.

Thank you for your continued support of AGA. Let's keep the momentum going as we enter this next chapter of growth and learning together.

**Warm regards,
Miranda Maten
President, Baton Rouge AGA**

02/22

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AGA Baton Rouge Chapter: 2024 Board Members



Tiffani Dorsa, CPA

Immediate Past Chapter President

Tiffani Dorsa, CPA, is the Immediate Past Chapter President for AGA Baton Rouge, bringing over 18 years of experience to her role. She specializes in working with not-for-profit and governmental industries, particularly entities receiving federal and state assistance. Tiffani is highly familiar with governmental auditing standards, OMB Circular A-133 (Single Audit requirements), and state regulations pertaining to quasi-public entities.



Jordan Sandwisch

Treasurer

Jordan Sandwisch is a seasoned professional in the world of finance and auditing, currently serving as the Manager of Audit Assurance at EisnerAmper. With a strong background in accounting and a sharp eye for detail, Jordan brings extensive expertise to his role. Holding a CPA credential, he demonstrates a commitment to excellence in his field. Jordan is known for his meticulous approach to financial analysis and his ability to provide valuable insights to clients. His dedication to ensuring accuracy and compliance makes him a trusted advisor in the realm of audit assurance. Outside of his professional endeavors, Jordan enjoys staying active in his community and pursuing personal interests.

03/22

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AGA Baton Rouge Chapter: 2024 Board Members



Barbara Aguilar **Secretary**

Serving as the Budget Director for the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) for the past eight years, Barbara has garnered extensive experience in navigating the intricate landscape of governmental budgets. At the heart of Barbara's professional philosophy is a commitment to innovation and continuous improvement. She is driven by a desire to create easier, more effective ways of accomplishing tasks and overcoming challenges. By fostering a culture of innovation and embracing technology, she strives to empower her team and enhance organizational effectiveness. Currently serving as the Interim Deputy Undersecretary, Barbara remains steadfast in her dedication to driving positive change and optimizing performance within the department.



Ramona Harris **Director of Education**

State Employee for 22 years where she has worked in finance the majority of the time for various State Agencies. She is currently employed at the Louisiana Department of Health-Office of Public Health Laboratory serving as the Manager over Business Operations. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Management from *Upper Iowa University* and a MBA from *Louisiana State University-Shreveport*. In addition to her degrees, she also is a Certified Lean Six Sigma Green Belt, Graduate of the *Leadership Development Institute*, Graduate of the *Visionary Leadership Academy*, and served the past 2 years as a Mentor for the *OPH Mentorship Academy*. Outside of work she serves on the Financial Council for Junior League of Baton Rouge, for which she has been a member since 2018.

04/22

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AGA Baton Rouge Chapter: 2024 Board Members



Sarah Wade

Awards & Scholarship Chair

Sarah Wade is a dynamic and driven budget analyst with 5 years of state government experience in accounting and budgeting. Her expertise is in budget analysis from departments such as education and transportation. Sarah received her accounting degree from *Southern University* in 2018 and her MBA from *Grand Canyon University* in 2021. Outside of her professional endeavors, Sarah enjoys volunteering. She volunteers with Advance. Grow. Accelerate (AGA) and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). She started volunteering with AGA in 2016 and Vita in 2020. Helping people achieve their goals and grow is what she loves to do.



05/22

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WELCOMING OUR NEWEST AGA MEMBERS!

Haiyan Qi



06/22

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Baton Rouge
Chapter

WISHING A HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO OUR AGA MEMBERS!

- **Don C. Johnson**
- **Courtney McKnight**
- **Frank L. Roberts**



07/22

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JOIN THE BATON ROUGE AGA CHAPTER LEADERSHIP BOARD!

Are you an AGA Member eager to make a difference in your community? Here's your chance! The Baton Rouge 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.

Several positions available (with more not listed):

- **ACE Reporting:** Ensure accurate financial reporting and transparency.
- **Membership Committee:** Engage with our members, build connections, and enhance our community.
- **President-Elect:** Take a leading role in shaping the future of our chapter.
- **Event Coordinator:** Plan and execute exciting events that bring our community together.

Why Join Us?

- **Community Involvement:** Make a meaningful impact in Baton Rouge and beyond.
- **Professional Development:** Enhance your skills and network with industry professionals.
- **Internship Opportunities:** College students, gain practical experience and boost your resume.
- **Retired Members:** Stay active, share your expertise, and continue making a difference.

www.agacgfm.org



JOIN US



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY, EMAIL US AT BATONROUGEAGA@GMAIL.COM

08/22

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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

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

09/22

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Baton Rouge
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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



Visit Our Website to Learn More!

www.agacgfm.org



10/22

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ACCOUNTABILITY TALKS

PODCAST
Show

AGA
Accountability
Talks



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.

11/22

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AGA PDT



Denver



RECAP



Can't visit Denver without a Red Rocks stop with the Premier Group Team!



Spotted Chewbacca at AGA PDT! Guess he's crunching numbers now!



AGA Baton Rouge Chapter President, Miranda Maten, connecting with fellow Chapter Members at the AGA PDT!



Miranda with Premier Group's Growth Strategist, Brent Simpson, and Area 4 Director, Nicole Boswell.



Miranda alongside former Presidents Virginia Robinson and Evelyn Brown.

12/22

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Upcoming Webinars & Events

You Do Not Want to Miss Out!

SAVE THE DATE



Discover a pathway to professional excellence with AGA's exclusive professional development sessions, designed to elevate your skills and knowledge. Don't miss this opportunity to unlock your full potential and propel your career forward – join us for these enriching sessions!

13/22

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MEMBERS & NONMEMBERS WELCOME!

FALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

Theme:

Financial Gumbo:
A Recipe for
Professional Growth

Date: November 14, 2024
Time: 8:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.
Place: Southern University
of New Orleans



Pricing:

Members: \$99
Non-Members: \$129

EARN CPE
CREDITS!

14/22

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National Events



Internal Fraud Prevention Training

- **Date:** September 19-20, 2024
- **Time:** 8:30 AM. – 3:45 PM ET
- **Place:** Washington D.C. or Virtual
 - [Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center](#)
- **CPEs Earned:** 14

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

Internal Fraud Prevention Training



[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)

15/22

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National Events

JOIN
US



Free For Members!

Technology Transformation Summit

- **Date:** Wednesday, November 6, 2024
- **Time:**
- **Place:** 1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW,
Washington DC, 20004
- **CPEs Earned:** 5

TTS 2024 will bring together more than 1,000 government leaders and industry experts to discuss the transformation of mission delivery through IT innovation, personnel, security and cloud technology. Digital transformation is now, more than ever, a critical aspect of efficient, effective mission performance in government.

Registration & Fees

In Person

Government Member	Free!
Government Non-member	\$140

Virtual

Government Member	Free!
Private Member	Free!
Government Non-member	\$140
Private Non-member	\$270

[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)

16/22

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National Events



Webinar: Communications

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS:

COMS

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None
required

Field of Study: Communications
and Marketing (COMS)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



FREE Members Only Webinar

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

2:00–3:15 PM ET | 1.5 CPEs | FOS: PD

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None
required

Field of Study: Personal
Development (PD)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



Webinar: Uniform Guidance & GA

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS: AUDG

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Auditing – Governmental (AUDG)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)

National Events



Webinar: Ethics

Friday, November 13, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS: BETH

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Behavioral Ethics (BETH)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



Webinar: Internal Control

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS: AUDG

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Auditing – Governmental (AUDG)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



FREE Members Only Webinar

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

2:00–3:15 PM ET | 1.5 CPEs | FOS: PD

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Personal Development (PD)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)

Future Professional Development Trainings (PDT)

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



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

Who's Ready For Football Season?

Stay caught up on this year's schedule!



NEW ORLEANS SAINTS 2024 SCHEDULE

PRESENTED BY:
**SEAT
GEEK**

PRESEASON

WEEK	DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME (CT)	TV
P1	SATURDAY	AUG. 10	AT ARIZONA CARDINALS	7:00 PM	FOX 8 GRAY TV
P2	SUNDAY	AUG. 18	AT SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS	7:00 PM	FOX 8
P3	SUNDAY	AUG. 25	TENNESSEE TITANS	1:00 PM	FOX 8 GRAY TV

REGULAR SEASON

WEEK	DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME (CT)	TV
1	SUNDAY	SEPT. 8	CAROLINA PANTHERS	NOON	FOX
2	SUNDAY	SEPT. 15	AT DALLAS COWBOYS	NOON	FOX
3	SUNDAY	SEPT. 22	PHILADELPHIA EAGLES	NOON	FOX
4	SUNDAY	SEPT. 29	AT ATLANTA FALCONS	NOON	FOX
5	MONDAY	OCT. 7	AT KANSAS CITY CHIEFS	7:15 PM	ESPN
6	SUNDAY	OCT. 13	TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS	NOON	FOX
7	THURSDAY	OCT. 17	DENVER BRONCOS	7:15 PM	PRIME VIDEO
8	SUNDAY	OCT. 27	AT LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	3:05 PM	FOX
9	SUNDAY	NOV. 3	AT CAROLINA PANTHERS	NOON	CBS
10	SUNDAY	NOV. 10	ATLANTA FALCONS	NOON	FOX
11	SUNDAY	NOV. 17	CLEVELAND BROWNS	NOON	FOX
12	BYE				
13	SUNDAY	DEC. 1	LOS ANGELES RAMS	3:05 PM	FOX
14	SUNDAY	DEC. 8	AT NEW YORK GIANTS	NOON	FOX
15	SUNDAY	DEC. 15	WASHINGTON COMMANDERS	NOON	FOX
16	MONDAY	DEC. 23	AT GREEN BAY PACKERS	7:15 PM	ESPN*
17	SUNDAY	DEC. 29	LAS VEGAS RAIDERS	NOON	FOX
18	TBD	TBD	AT TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS	TBD	TBD

SAINTS HOME GAMES IN BOLD | *SELECT GAMES TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE



20/22

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DATE	OPP	TIME	TV	VENUE
Aug 31, 2024	@ McNeese St.	8:00 pm	ESP+	Cowboy Stadium
Sep 7, 2024	vs Savannah St.	7:00 pm	—	A.W. Mumford Stadium
Sep 14, 2024	@ Jackson St.	7:00 pm	ESP+	Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium
Sep 21, 2024	@ Prairie View	7:00 pm	ESP+	Panther Stadium at Blackshear Field
Oct 5, 2024	vs Nicholls St.	7:00 pm	—	A.W. Mumford Stadium
Oct 12, 2024	@ Texas Southern	7:00 pm	—	Shell Energy Stadium
Oct 19, 2024	vs Alcorn St.	7:00 pm	—	A.W. Mumford Stadium
Oct 26, 2024	@ Florida A&M	7:00 pm	—	Bragg Memorial Stadium
Nov 2, 2024	@ Alabama A&M	3:00 pm	—	Louis Crews Stadium
Nov 9, 2024	vs Bethune-Cook.	3:00 pm	—	A.W. Mumford Stadium
Nov 16, 2024	vs Ark.-Pine Bluff	3:00 pm	—	A.W. Mumford Stadium
Nov 30, 2024	vs Grambling	2:00 pm	NBC	Caesars Superdome













21/22

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OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME / RESULT	TV
 USC *	Las Vegas, Nev. (Allegiant	6:30pm (CT)	ABC
 Nicholls State	Baton Rouge, LA	6:30pm (CT)	ESPN+
 @ South Carolina	Columbia, S.C. (Williams-	11:00am (CT)	ABC
 UCLA	Baton Rouge, LA	TBA	TBA
 South Alabama	TBA	TBA	TBA
 Ole Miss	Baton Rouge, LA	TBA	TBA
 @ Arkansas	Fayetteville, Ark. (Reynolds	TBA	TBA
 @ Texas A&M	Bryan-College Station, Texas	TBA	TBA
 Alabama	Baton Rouge, LA	TBA	TBA
 @ Florida	Gainesville, Fla. (Ben Hill	TBA	TBA
 Vanderbilt	Baton Rouge, LA	TBA	TBA
 Oklahoma	Baton Rouge, LA	TBA	TBA



22/22

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