AGA GUAM CHAPTER ·

GUĂHAN GASETA

ISSUE 06 | DECEMBER 2022



2023-2024 gook!



POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

PRESIDENT-ELECT SECRETARY TREASURER-ELECT



SEND IN YOUR NOMINATIONS BY JAN 1, 2023!



2023 National Academic Scholarships Ends on June 12, 2023







AGA

GSCPA

Guam Professional Development Conference

Finance 3.0: Beyond Financial Management
February 9, 2023 to February 10, 2023
Westin Resort Guam, Tumon Guam
Earn up to 24 hours of Continuing Professional Education!

GPDC EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION EXTENDED TO

JANUARY 10, 2023!



GUĂHAN GASETA

ISSUE 06 | DECEMBER 2022

Let's celebrate the most wonderful



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season of the year together

MESSAGE

Reflecting where the Time Goes as we conclude the Year 2022



Just a few months ago, we started the "ber" months which signals the holiday season and now it is December. Time flies so fast for those that have so much on their plate and wish that there were more hours in each day. On occasions when we feel lazy working on a mundane task or anxiously waiting for someone or something such as test scores or projects, it feels like time is an eternity.

As we conclude the Year 2022, let us take the time to inventory what has transpired and what we hope to see in the coming new year. Can we say to ourselves that the year 2022 is well spent? Were we productive to say we make the most out of it? They say all of us are given 24 hours each day, it is a common commodity, and no one is rich, and no one is poor and what we do about it is what makes the difference.

The Throwback:

As I attend the AGA Professional Development Training (PDT2022) in Anaheim California last July, I was moved by Pandit Dasa's plenary session on Mindful Leadership: Walking the Talk and Developing Self-Awareness. Pandit Dasa went from a millionaire to a monk. He lived in a monastery for 15 years and became a mindful leadership expert, motivational keynote speaker, and author of the most recent book Closing the Apps (How to be mindful at work and at home). During the PDT event, there were a few minutes in which he incorporated a basic meditation which was very effective for me in slowing down what is

running through my head, and I am sure it goes the same way with others in attendance. Those minutes of disconnect were followed by last month's thanksgiving retreat with my mastermind ladies where I learned simple meditation techniques and a much-needed mental break. Longing for more alone time to find solace, I did a Google search and find the Lotus Lantern International Meditation Center in South Korea. The Temple stay program was open to international visitors and is respectful of different religions and focuses on teaching the practice and power of meditation. The package also includes vegetarian meals which most research attests that the food we

2 | December 2022 Leveraging Perpetual Learning and Diversity to thrive in today's rapidly changing world.

eat generates brain chemicals that play a role in our mood, motivation, and concentration.

Knowing that it will be in the mountains away from the city and looking at the weather forecast, I must adjust my travel packing to just one hand-carry and a backpack. That was a big traveling shift for me and thanks to my good friend Professor Jason Katigbak who happens to be an expert in backpack traveling and gave me some good and useful tips. I landed at Incheon Airport, and it was a feeling of nostalgia to come back after almost 3 years. It was on January 1, 2020, when my whole family went there and spend the new and my husband and children experience their first snowfall. Months after that is when the COVID-19 pandemic hits and shutdown many airports around the world.

Getting out of the airport, I just prayed in my head and uttered what if there will be a snowfall again, but I did not pack my winter gear. I took a taxi and traveled for an hour to the location. The taxi driver asked me if he should take me back to the city as he was so worried about my safety, as I was being dropped out of nowhere. I said I would be ok, and just made sure it was the right place. The office lady at the temple was very welcoming even if I checked in early and she handed me my uniform and my blanket and showed me my assigned room. There is no bed, no cabinet, just a roll-up cot, and a bathroom. I think I failed to do my due diligence and did not account for my sleeping on the hard floor. It was indeed a humble experience, and it was one of the best nights of sleep I ever had, where I found peace and was present in the moment.

The following day we had several programs lined up. The wake-up time was at 4:00 am and the sleep time is at 9:00 pm. There are rules to follow and discipline to be instilled in a temple stay. I wake up at 3:45 am and prepare myself to go to the scheduled program. As I headed out to the venue, I was wondering why the ground was white all over and something was falling. It was a goosebump for me, and the monks out there said that it was the first snowfall in their place, and it was unexpected.

I just smiled and said to myself, I am just joking God since I am not prepared for winter. I chuckled and said to myself be careful about what I wish for. The experience of immersing with other people from around the world and learning to live a simple life like monks makes me want to go back. I feel reconnected with myself and magnify that self-love to take care of my physical and mental health first so I can better extend to others. It is just like what the flight attendants usually say on flights in the event of an emergency to put your oxygen mask on first before helping others.



With Pandit Dasa during his book signing after the AGA PDT 2022 plenary session.

In the Now:

Special thanks to our last-minute guest speaker last month, Director Dafne Mansapit-Shimizu, Director of Revenue & Taxation. Her presentation was loaded with information. What made her presentation significant for over 70+ virtual attendees of which the majority are from finance and accounting backgrounds is her statement of her appreciation and recognition for the work that the attendees do as background crew and the backbone of an organization which is often less recognized. As she takes pride to be an AGA Guam Chapter member advancing good government initiatives, and growing expertise, she thrilled the audience when she shares applications of data efficiency measures as she applies her technical expertise in the profession with a background in the same field and as a licensed CPA. As she candidly shared her lessons learned during the pandemic her care for the health and safety of her people was paramount and as she continues to lead the agency, her desire is to pivot the system to allow telework and lay the foundation to continue to serve community and succeed in any kind of emergency and shutdowns. This is through modernization, automation, upskilling, and retooling her team through various IRS training.

The Christmas spirit is felt everywhere with all the decorations and colorful lights everywhere you go. Thanks to our Christmas Party committee led by our Young Professional Chair – Rachel Cubacub with Mariah Castro and Katrina Mae Tahimik from UOG whom both have put together exciting games, prizes, and surprises for the guest. This was the first in-person Christmas party after two years of

celebration virtually in front of the computer screen. We sincerely thank them for successfully organizing and hosting the event and how our AGA members feel more of a level of normalcy. Please check our Christmas party photo on the following page of our newsletter.

Recently, I also attended and watched online Christmas Around the World concerts at several schools. It was just overwhelming to see the excitement of after two years of standstill, the students were able to come out, dress up and perform on stage.

Incorporating accounting into this topic "in the now", is my talk with my daughter about gift wrapping at the mall as part of their fundraising initiatives for their graduating class. Co-relating it with how we spend our time, it will be indeed cheaper to get our gifts wrapped there rather than doing it ourselves to save time for other adding value tasks and at the same time and help the fundraising, but we will miss the fun of having to do it ourselves. It probably all depends on whatever works for each one of us.

While everyone is busy preparing for the Christmas and New Year in a few days, our Guam Professional Development Committee (GPDC) Conference chaired by Dr. Ricky Hernandez and Professor Jason Katigbak is currently finalizing the details of the GPDC on February 8,9 and 10, 2023. We hope to see you register for this event early and take advantage of networking opportunities and training events to stay current on a professional level. Heads up we will be graced by the presence of the AGA National President – Melinda Miguel.

Take Aways

The year 2022 brought recovery and reformation and while everyone welcomes the new norms it changes many of us and shifted our lifestyles. Have we achieved our to-do list and if we are to specify three highlights of our year what will that be? Taking a deeper dive into what transpired this year will give us a better appreciation of what we accomplished. For some of us, we may have gone through some life upheavals which remind us that we are human, and as the saying goes "A smooth sea never made a skillful sailor." The only constant is change and time is like an accounting cycle. We



wake up the following morning, take up a to-do list and rest in the evening and repeat the cycle.

For each of us, life is like a gift in a box. It comes in different sizes, forms, and values. Knowing the clarity of our purpose, finding inner peace, and acknowledging the privilege to be of service to others while using the gifts and talents we are given helps us decipher the meaning and purpose of life.

As there is so much to do with such little time, let us find this holiday season to reflect, make some shifts in our routines and pursue some bucket lists. In the book that I recently re-read after 10 years, Believe You Can -The Power of Positive Attitude by John Mason, Time flies so fast, so grab it. He said, "Life is made up of constant calls to action." He quoted William Ward in his book which goes "Study while others are sleeping; work while others are loafing; prepare while others are playing, and dream while others are wishing."

Remember, as Michael Altshuler said "The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot." Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Si Yu'os Ma'åse',

gwenillam

Josephine "Josie" Guico-Villanueva MBA, CPA, CGMA, CGFM, CSAF, SHRM-CP, PMP AGA Guam Chapter President



See also the President Welcome message on the AGA Guam <u>website</u> for more information.



General Membership Meetings

General Membership Meetings are typically held every fourth Wednesday of the month. For this program year, as restrictions ease, we hope to have more in-person events to give us an opportunity to network and meet one another. See below for our projected schedule of speakers. Kindly note dates/topics may be subject to change.

Date	Topic	Delivery Method
July 27, 2022	Energy Leadership with an EDGE; Explore,	Virtual
11:30am-1:00pm	Dream, Grow & Excite (1 CPE)	
	Pam Sherman	
August 24, 2022	A.B.C.'s of Behavioral Forensics: Applying	Virtual
11:30am-1:00pm	Psychology to Financial Fraud Prevention	
	and Detection (1 CPE)	
	Dr. Kelly Richmond Pope	
September 28, 2022	Guam First Time Electoral Candidate	Virtual
11:30am-1:00pm	Forum - in Career Planning & Leadership	
October 26, 2022	Tips & Tricks in MS Excel when dealing with	In-Person/Virtual
7:30am-10:30am	numbers - Working Smart Not hard (1 CPE)	(RIHGA Royal
	Chris Duenas	Laguna Guam
	Knowing Your Niche & Maximizing Your	Resort – Breakfast
	Earning Potential	Metting/Training)
	Jane Kwok	
November 23, 2022	Revenue & Taxation: Major Developments	Virtual
11:30am-1:00pm	& Its Role in Guam's Economy (1 CPE)	
	Dafne Mansapit-Shimizu, CPA	
December 14, 2022	Christmas Party <i>(Hosted by the Young</i>	In-Person
	Professional Committee)	VIP Restaurant
January 25, 2023	Balance Your Body, Mind, and Money This	Virtual
	New Year!	
February 8-10, 2023	*Guam Professional Development	In-Person
	Conference (GPDC)*	
March 22, 2023	Ethics Training, Govt. Accounting, Personal	Hybrid
8:00am-12:00pm	Help (4 CPEs)	
	TBA	
April 26, 2023	Self-Help; Work Life Balance (1 CPE)	Virtual
11:30am-1:00pm	Panel - TBA	
May 24, 2023	Procurement Best Practices and Common	Virtual
11:30am-1:00pm	Pitfalls (1 CPE)	
	TBA/GSA	
June 28, 2023	Project Management (2 CPEs)	Hybrid
8:00am-10:30am	Jojo Guevara	

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

General Membership Meetings, continued



(Refer to the Membership Highlights section for pictures from the Christmas Party.)

Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) Meetings

CEC Meetings are held every second Wednesday of the month at 12:00pm. Click here to view approved CEC Meeting minutes.

Calling All Leaders! The call for nominations for next year's officers will close on January 1, 2023.

Please be sure to email your nominations to agaguamchapter@gmail.com before the end date.



REGIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



GUÅHAN GASETA

GUAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The AGA Guam Chapter, in association with the Guam Society of Certified Public Accountants, are pleased to host the 12th Biennial Guam Professional Development Conference (GPDC) from February 8 - 10, 2023 at the Westin Resort Guam.

You can earn up to 24 CPEs during this training event. Conference fees are as follows:

Early Registration	
(by 01/10/2023*)	<u>Regular Rate</u>
\$500	\$600

AGA/GSCPA Members \$500 \$600 Non-Member* \$650 \$750

This year's theme is **"Finance 3.0: Beyond Financial Management"**, a wordplay on Web 3.0 as GPDC 2023 aims to provide forward-looking sessions in financial management and other topics of interest. Speakers and agenda to be announced soon!

Registration forms have been emailed. Please email Registration Forms and/or Government Purchase Orders to <u>AGAGPDC2023@agmail.com</u>.

Questions? Please contact Artemio "Ricky" Hernandez at <u>artemiorh@gmail.com</u>, Jason Katigbak at <u>jasonkatigbak@gmail.com</u>, or <u>AGAGPDC2023@gmail.com</u>.

^{*}Non-member fee includes a free one-year membership to the AGA Guam Chapter in which they can avail of free CPEs and discounted conferences/workshops.

^{*}Original deadline was December 25, 2022. <u>Early-Bird Registration rates will be extended to January 10, 2023!</u>







Guam Professional Development Conference

Finance 3.0: Beyond Financial Management
February 8, 2023 to February 10, 2023
Westin Resort Guam, Tumon Guam

Earn up to 24 hours of Continuing Professional Education!

Registration Form

Name:	Registration Cost*: Check box that applies: * Includes lunches and snacks. All conference materials and
Organization:	presentations will be posted at the AGA GPDC 2023 Website at aga.guam.net/gpdc2023. We will also be emailing you with additional information as the conference date nears. EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
Phone: Fax:	Early-Bird Registration EXTENDED TO
riiolierax	(On or before December JANUARY 10, 2023!
	AGA/GSPCA Members \$500
Email:	Non-members \$650*
Please Email Completed Registration Form to:	Regular Registration
AGAGPDC2023@gmail.com	(After December 25, 2022)
Contact Us:	AGA/GSPCA Members \$600
	Non-members \$750*
If you have any questions regarding this conference, please contact Artemio "Ricky" Hernandez at artemiorh@gmail.com or Jason Katigbak at jasonkatigbak@gmail.com or send an email to	*Non-member fee includes a free one-year membership to the AGA Guam Chapter in which they can avail of free CPEs and discounted conferences/workshops.

<u>Important Notices – Please Read</u>

Registration and Payments

- 1. Please email Registration Forms and/or Government Purchase Orders to <u>AGAGPDC2023@gmail.com</u> no later than **Friday**, **February 3, 2023**.
- 2. Payments or Validated Government Purchase Orders must be received by Friday, February 3, 2023. Please make checks payable to "AGA-Guam Chapter" and mail to P.O. Box 1124 Hagåtña, Guam 96932.

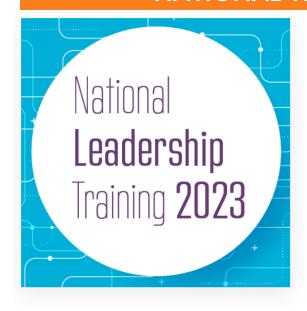
Cancellation, Substitution, and Refund Policy

- 1. Cancellation requests must be submitted in writing to <u>AGAGPDC2023@gmail.com</u> no later than Friday, February 3, 2023, at 5:00PM. Any cancellation request after the deadline will be penalized with a \$50 administrative cost.
- 2. Absolutely NO refunds will be given for cancellations received after that date and time. No shows will be billed for the full conference fee.
- 3. Substitution of registered participants is permissible with an official prior written authorization by the AGA Guam Chapter. Requests for such substitution should be sent to AGAGPDC2023@gmail.com no later than Friday, February 3, 2023, at 5:00PM.
- 4. There is no daily rate for the conference.

AGAGPDC2023@gmail.com.

Form Version 1.0 Updated 12/01/22

NATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



National Leadership Training (NLT) February 22–23, 2023 | Washington, D.C.

National Leadership Training (NLT) is the essential event for developing and training government financial professionals to excel as leaders in today's competitive market. Don't miss this opportunity to share best practices, find new solutions to challenges, network with peers and learn from the top financial management leaders and industry experts. Learn More



developing and training		
government financial		
leaders		
February 22–23 Washington, DC 14 CPEs		
Registration and Fees		
Early bird deadline – Jan. 27, 2023		
	Online	All Other
AGA Members		
Early Bird	\$525	\$550
Standard	\$625	\$650
Non-members		
Early Bird	\$700	\$725
Standard	\$800	\$825





Professional Development Training (PDT)

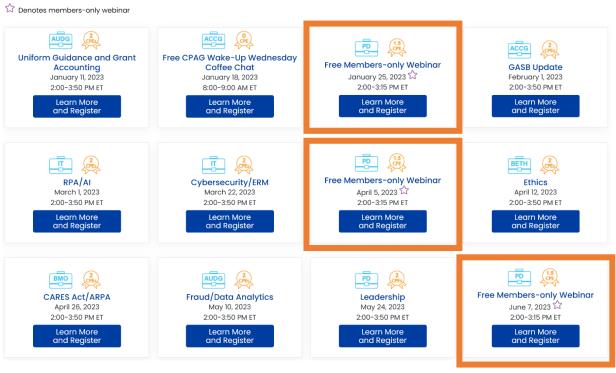
July 23-26, 2023 | Orlando

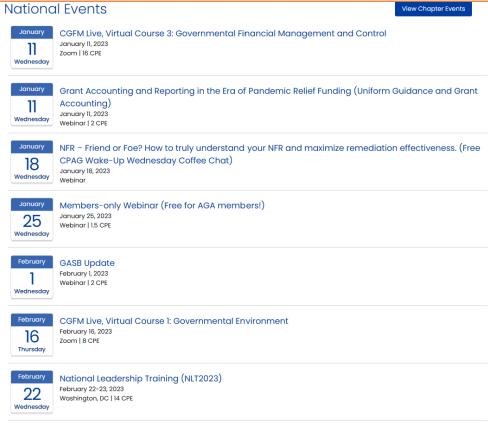
AGA's Professional Development Training (PDT) brings together a broad audience of federal, state and local government financial professionals. PDT offers educational sessions over three days of training. Learn More

AGA National also offers four complimentary "members-only" webinars. See below for the remaining courses available for this program year.

2022-2023 Webinars







Click on the images to take you to National's website.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

AGA members from the Port Finance team coordinated a Christmas donation drive for Harvest House. Employees from other Port divisions also made donations for this cause. Biba AGA Guam Chapter.





Community Service Director Vanessa Valencia brought collected donations for the Christmas Celebration Toy Drive to the Harvest House on December 16, 2022. Assisting with the drop off are scholarship recipients, Dona Marie Silang and Solmars Torcelino.





"Thank you for helping make our event special for Guam's foster community."

Message from Joanna Javellana of Harvest House





Happy Anniversary! CELEBRATING YOU, OUR MEMBERS AGA Guarn Chapter

Carmine Skey Otei 32 YEARS Mizpah C. Wiegand, CPA Ernst & Young LLP 24 YEARS Jose B. Guevara, III, CGFM, MBA, PMP, MPE 14 YEARS Frances Danieli, CGFM Rhonda D. Wong Deloitte and Touche LLP 13 YEARS Josephine Guico Villanueva, Guam Visitors Bureau MBA, CGFM, CPA, CGMA Tera Lynn S. Camacho Kenneth C. Borja Rosalia C. Abonales Mary Grace V. Edrosa, CGFM Michael Cabral Blanca Eata Calvos Insurance Underwriters 6 YEARS Jeremy Austin M. Zamora (Young Professional Member) New Juresa Grace Obra Santos (Young Professional Member)	34 YEARS	
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Christine Joy Macaalay Guam Dept of Administration NEW	Jeremy Austin M. Zamora	(Student Member)
NEW .	1 YEAR	
	Christine Joy Macaalay	Guam Dept of Administration
Juresa Grace Obra Santos (Young Professional Member)	NEW	
	Juresa Grace Obra Santos	(Young Professional Member)



AGA MEMBERS SPOTTED AT THE HONOLULU MARATHON

Congratulations to the Guam Team for their run at the Honolulu Marathon! Marathon Photos of our Guam representatives and taking pride in our two AGA Members - Ms. Yuka Hechanova - CFO of Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, and Dafne Shimizu-Mansapit, Director of Guam Revenue and Taxation.









DECEMBER 14 AGA CHRISTMAS PARTY AT VIP

On Wednesday, December 14, 2022, the AGA Guam Chapter held the annual Christmas Party at VIP Restaurant in Tumon, Guam. As tradition goes, the Young Professionals Committee took the lead in coordinating the party – including games and prizes. Thank you to all those that attended!



















DECEMBER 17 SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Thank you to our volunteers that joined us for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing on Saturday, December 17, 2022, at the GPO Ross Entrance side.





MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Some picture submissions of Christmas celebrations. Hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday!



Merry Christmas from OPA!





Merry Christmas from the GWA family to yours 🕞 .



Merry Christmas from the PAG! 🎄 🎁



20 | December 2022 Leveraging Perpetual Learning and Diversity to thrive in today's rapidly changing world.

Merry Christmas 🎁 🎄 from GPA Finance Team!!!!





CHAPTER SUPPORT

If you are interested in the CGFM scholarships offered by the Chapter or would like to borrow one of the study guides, visit our Chapter <u>website</u> for the updated forms.

To assist our Chapter CGFMs in meeting their required CPEs, upcoming training opportunities will be emailed by the Certification Director.

CGFM LIVE, VIRTUAL COURSES

Course Schedule and Registration

Course 3 ("Governmental Financial Management and Control")

- January 11-13, 2023, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. ET each day
- \$525 per person
- Register
- Deadline to register or cancel January 4, 2023

Course 1 ("Governmental Environment")

- February 15-16, 2023, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. ET each day
- \$325 per person
- Register
- Deadline to register or cancel February 8, 2023

Course 2 ("Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting")

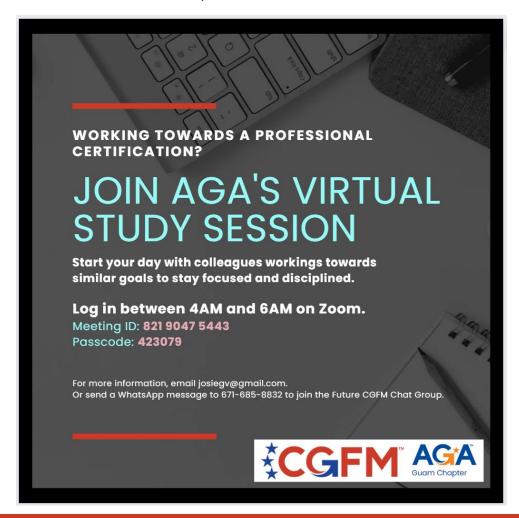
- Save the date March 7-10, 2023, registration coming soon!
- \$725 per person

Course 3 ("Governmental Financial Management and Control")

- January 11-13, 2023, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. ET each day
- \$525 per person
- Register
- Deadline to register or cancel January 4, 2023

VIRTUAL STUDY SESSIONS

Virtual study sessions have resumed for those studying for the CGFM or any other professional certification. See the flyer below for more information.



CONGRATULATIONS TO PILAR PANGELINAN

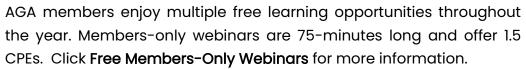
Congratulations to Pilar Pangelinan on passing all three parts of the CGFM Exam this December. Look out for next month's issue for Pilar's journey on passing the exam and some tips/advice on how she did it.



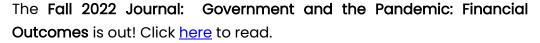
LINKS & RESOURCES



and other member benefits



Recordings Available Did you miss the last webinar or want to review some key takeaways on effective intergenerational communication? The recording is now available in **My AGA**, along with all our other free members-only webinars and select other recordings. Check them out today!



Want to contribute to **The Journal**? View the <u>Editorial Calendar</u> for the upcoming themes or view the Submission Guidelines for more information on articles for consideration.



AGA Accountability Talks "Accountability Talks" is a podcast focused on the government accountability community. These conversations will enlighten and inspire you as you navigate your career, provide fascinating insights from government thought leaders and encourage you to take part in this vibrant community.



Check your inbox for AGA Topics emails!

APPLY NOW FOR AGA'S 2023 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships of \$3,000 are available to rising college freshmen, undergraduate students, and graduate students. Students applicants must be pursuing degrees in accounting, economics, finance, information systems/technology, and public administration to be eligible. AGA's 2023 Academic Scholarships deadline is June 11, 11:59 p.m. ET.

Click here for more information.

2023 National Academic Scholarships

Ends on June 12, 2023

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, economics, finance, information systems/technology or public administration? If so, consider applying for an AGA academic scholarship!

This year, AGA will award:

- Rising college freshman: Two scholarships (full-time)
- Undergraduate students: Four scholarships (full-time)
- **Graduate students:** Three scholarships (full-time or part-time)
- **Community service:** Two scholarships among any of the three categories noted above.
- *All scholarships are worth \$3,000.

Applications are due by **Jun. 11, 2023, at 11:59 pm Eastern Time**. Questions? Email scholarships@agacgfm.org.

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Young Professional Director Rachel F. Cubacub

Young Professional Co-Director <u>Tiera Nikole B. Santos</u>

E-MAIL US AT:

- For general inquiries: aqaquamchapter@qmail.com
- For event related inquiries: aqaqaumchapterevents@aqmail.com
- For inquiries directed at our Chapter President: aqaquamchapterpresident@amail.com
- For membership related inquiries: agaquamchaptermembership@gmail.com





2208 Mount Vernon Avenue Alexandria. VA 22301-1314

