

AGA Phoenix Chapter (www.agaphoenix.org)

PY 2018-2019

April 2019



Message From the President



This is a great time to get out and enjoy the outdoors before it becomes too hot, to complete your spring cleaning, or even to work on your CPE requirements for the year. In March we held three events. On March 1st we held our annual Tax and Retirement Seminar, March 6th we had a webinar on Updates to the New Tax Reform and on March 27th we had a webinar on Cybersecurity, for a total of 8 CPE opportunities during the month. We also recognized our Chapter CGFMs at the March 1st meeting and presented Governor Ducey's March CGFM Month proclamation.

For April, we will have even more CPE opportunities. We will have a live speaker from the FBI to discuss White Collar Crimes and Following the Money at 10:30 AM on April 10th at ASU Skysong (2 CPE). We will round out the month with our annual PDT on April 26th, also at Skysong. This event will be worth 8 CPEs, and will cover such staples as GASB and Yellow Book Updates, as well as discussions on Economic Development with city leaders and the Current Status of Municipal Bonds. To register for any of the events, including our annual PDT, head over to our website: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Phoenix/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>.

In March we added four new members. We are pleased to welcome Brian from the US Department of Defense, Tami from the State of Arizona, Arvid from the Gila River Indian Community, and Kylan a young professional and AGA Phoenix Chapter Scholarship winner, as new members in March. We also started a CGFM Study Group, which will meet on Wednesdays at the Arizona Department of Administration building and will currently focus on Exam 2 - Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting. If you are interested in participating in this study group, please e-mail us at contact@agaphoenix.gov. Also, don't forget that membership renewals were due on March 31st. You can still renew on the AGA website, here: <https://www.agacgfm.org/home.aspx>

As always, if you have any questions or feedback for us, please e-mail us at, contact@agaphoenix.org. 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

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Reminders:

- Register for Phoenix PDT, held on 4/26
- Register for National PDT, held 7/21-7/24

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 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
Total	\$35,679.75	\$30,200	\$10,406.09

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 to study for Section 2, on Wednesday's at the Arizona Department of Administration building. To find out more, e-mail contact@agaphoenix.org.

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:



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	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 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: 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 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		
		Audit Updates, Includ- ing Cybersecurity in Financial Statement Audits	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

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>

Performance Auditor—Tempe Police Department. \$70,317-\$94,928 / Annually. The purpose of the position is to actively support and uphold the City, and Police Department's, stated mission and values. A Police Performance Auditor performs professional performance audits and conducts comprehensive procedural and operational audits of Police Department programs, procedures, and activities; analyzes data, prepares audit documents and reports. Conduct complex, comprehensive compliance, financial, information systems and performance audits and reviews of PD programs, policies, procedures, operations and systems. Assist managers in identifying risks and liabilities to be addressed through best practices or revising policies, procedures and operations.

Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from an accredited four-year college and three years of recent full-time professional experience conducting compliance, operations, performance or program audits pertaining to the enforcement of policies, ordinances, or laws. Law enforcement experience is desirable.

A Bachelor's degree from an accredited educational institution in accounting, finance, auditing, public or business administration, public policy, or related field emphasizing analytical skills, research, writing, and organization of data. A Master's degree is desirable.

Apply online at: <https://www.tempe.gov/government/internal-services/human-resources/careers>

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

Please email AGA Phoenix Webmaster, contact@agaphoenix.org

Announcements - Job Postings Cont'd

Accountant II—Valley Metro. Salary \$50,425—\$75,637. The Accountant II is the second level in a three level Accountant class series and is for the Grant's Accounting responsibilities. The Accountant II is responsible for performing professional accounting and financial work within the Finance Department. The Accountant II classification is distinguished from the Accountant I classification by the more complex nature of accounting assignments, and the need to exercise initiative and independent judgment in performing work.

The Accountant II shall contribute to team efforts and represents Agency core values in the performance of duties.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, or a closely related field three years of professional level experience in accounting, auditing, budgeting or closely related financial/fiscal activity; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties such as those listed above.

Apply online at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/valleymetro/jobs/2396355/accountant-ii?pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>

Management Analyst—Valley Metro. \$50,425-\$75,637 / Annually. The Management Analyst is the first level in a two level Management Analyst series. Positions perform moderate to complex professional work in support of management services. Typical duties might include: managing financial models and projects; coordinating, preparing, and administering capital programs; preparing and forecasting budgets; conducting cost analyses; monitoring grants; preparing recommendations; and, representing regional interests. This position will be assigned primarily to the Transit Life Cycle Program.

The Management Analyst shall contribute to team efforts and represents Agency core values in the performance of duties.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Management, Finance or a related field, and three years of professional level experience in budgeting, accounting and project management or an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties such as those listed above. Experience with Federal Transit Administration grant programs is desirable.

Valid Arizona Driver's License.

Background Investigation:

Employment is contingent upon the results of a background check.

Apply online at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/valleymetro/jobs/2388794/management-analyst?pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>

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.****