



AGA Tallahassee Chapter

Citizen-Centric Report to Our Members

Program Year 2015-2016



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AGA Vision

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability.

AGA Mission

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.

AGA Core Values

Service, Accountability, Integrity, Leadership.

About AGA

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is the member organization for financial professionals in government. Through **training and events, professional certification, publications and ongoing education**, AGA helps members build their skills and advance their careers. AGA is committed to increasing government **accountability and transparency** and has been instrumental in assisting with the development of **accounting and auditing standards** and in generating new concepts for the effective organization and administration of government financial management. AGA is organized into 15 regions, has over 100 chapters, and more than 15,000 members. AGA's membership is made up of federal, state, local, and tribal government employees, with members representing private, non-profit, and academic sectors.

Who We Are

Located in Tallahassee, Florida, the Tallahassee Chapter received its charter in 2001. We are a part of the Gulf Region along with nine other chapters. Chapters within the Gulf Region are located in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi. We attempt to leverage our collective efforts to effectively share educational events and chapter management initiatives. Our chapter's diverse membership, representing government and the private sector employees, provides a networking link that successfully serves the governmental, financial, and audit communities in their quest to *advance governmental accountability and transparency*.

What We Do

We support the Association's Core Values -- **Service, Accountability, Integrity and Leadership**. To be a professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management. To serve our members by providing or sponsoring appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, influencing governmental financial management policies and practices, and serving as an advocate for the profession. To serve government officials and the public by sponsoring efforts to ensure full and fair accountability for all public monies and by providing a variety of pro bono services throughout the US and its territories that support that end.

Accomplishments in 2015-2016

Strategic Goals:

Provide members with quality programs, products and services

Provide continuing education to meet the changing needs of the government accountability profession

Provide opportunities for members to serve the chapter and gain leadership experience

Promote AGA's CGFM program

Promote community service

Increase membership

Significant Accomplishments:

Education

Community Service

Developing Future Leaders

Education

AGA Tallahassee provides relevant educational and training opportunities for both members and non-members. In total, the chapter sponsored training events that offered **63 CPE hrs.**

Educational Opportunity	Dates	Per Year	CPE Credit(s)	Total CPE/Year
Chapter Luncheon Meetings	Monthly (Sept - June)	8 Days	1 CPE hour	8
Chapter Hosted Webinars	Monthly (Oct - June)	8 Days	2 CPE hours	16
CGFM Review Course	October	3 Days	24 CPE hours	24
Government Training Event	February	2 Days	15 CPE hours	15

Community Service

The AGA Tallahassee chapter focuses on giving back so others have the opportunity to grow. Our Community Service efforts have made a difference in our community. Community Service events provide satisfaction for members and hope for those who receive the service. The Tallahassee chapter participated in the following events for program year 2015-2016.

Community Service Events	Month
5K Run/Walk - For Sickle Cell Anemia	September
WFSU (Public Radio) - Fund Raiser	October
Ronald McDonald House - Thanksgiving Dinner	November
Elder Care Service - Elder Elf	December
Wreaths Across America - Honor Veterans	December
Homeless Veterans Stand Down	April
WFSU (Public Radio) - Pledge Drive	April

Developing Future Leaders

We take pride in the leadership opportunities our chapter provides. We focus on leadership opportunities in our annual government training event in an effort to empower members to step up and be responsible for some portion of the training. Their successes and experiences in these endeavors better prepare them to seek out leadership opportunities not only within our chapter, but also in their careers. Their efforts do not go unnoticed. We offer the following Scholarships and Awards.

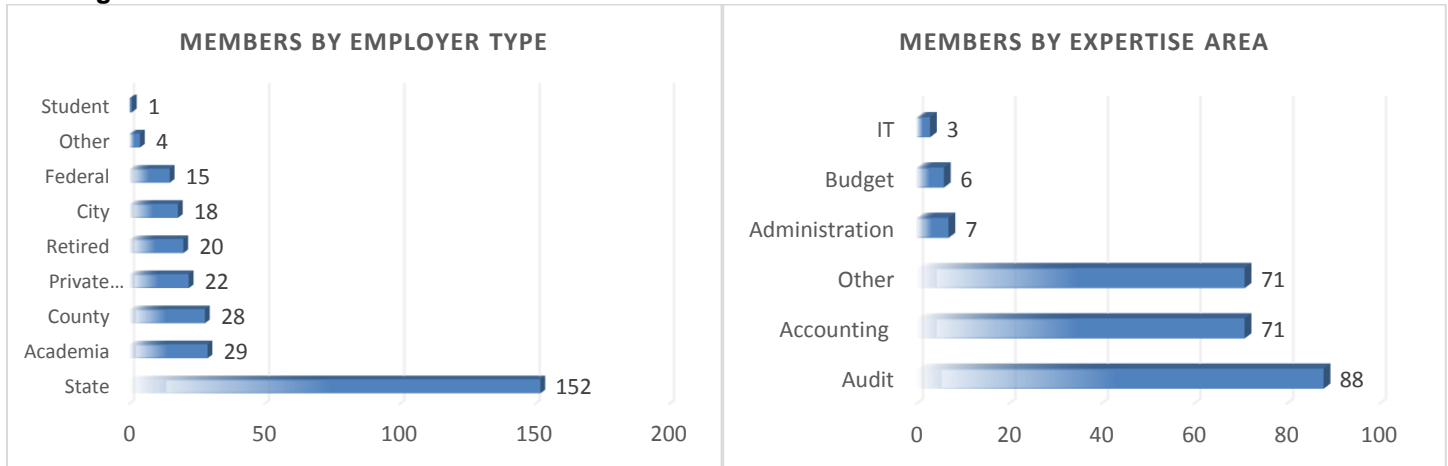
Academic Scholarships Offered	Value
2 - Education Advancement Scholarships	\$500/each

Awards Offered
Advancing Government Accountability Award
Excellence in Government Leadership Award
Emerging Government Leader Award
Tallahassee Chapter Author Award

Membership, Highlights and Financial Strength

Members

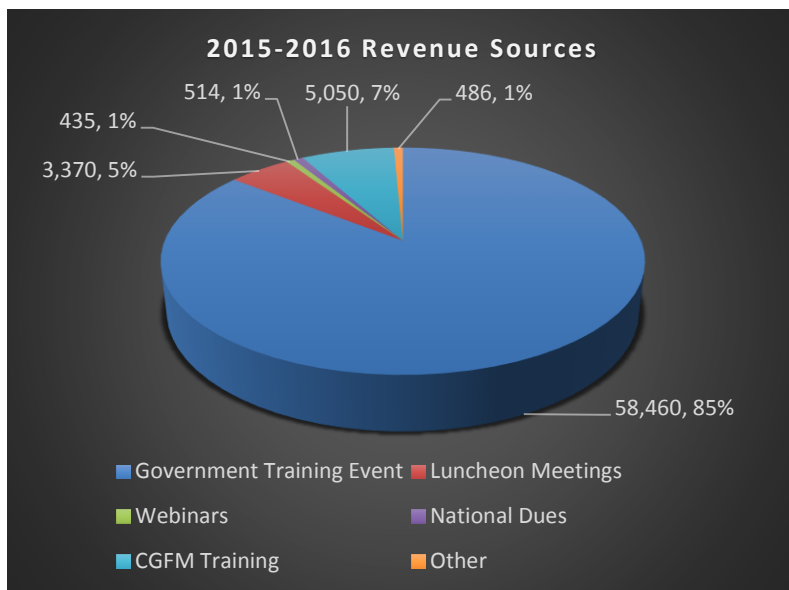
Our chapter's membership has grown over recent years. We are located in Florida's capitol city. Tallahassee is home to Florida's State government, City & County local governments' as well as two public universities plus a large state college. Because of this, there is a strong government sector representation in our membership. Government related employers account for approximately 84% of our members. Currently, the Tallahassee Chapter is in the top 10 of all AGA affiliates. **Ranking #8.**



Recent Chapter Highlights

The Tallahassee chapter hosted two major training events in Program Year 2015-2016. The chapter hosted the CGFM Review Class in October 2015 and the Government training event in February 2016. These two events provide a total of 39 CPE hours to our members and non-members. Attendance for those courses continues to increase year after year. CGFM Review Class Attendance: **26**, Government Training Event: **305**.

Financial Strength



Comparative Revenues & Expenses

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>
Government Training Event	58,460	57,265
Luncheon Meetings	3,370	4,150
Webinars	435	1,050
National Dues	514	1,292
CGFM Training	5,050	7,700
Other	486	518
Total	68,315	71,975

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>
Government Training Event	40,465	40,295
Luncheon Meetings	9,484	9,058
Webinars	2,120	2,239
CGFM Training	9,691	10,460
Other	9,339	11,487
Total	71,100	73,539

Future Challenges Moving Forward

Education and Training – Keeping up with the latest most relevant issues to satisfy our member and non-member professional needs is one of the chapter's biggest challenges. The Tallahassee chapter strives to provide useful and relevant education and training opportunities throughout the program year. We continue to do more with less to ensure programs and educational events continue to provide the latest information on changes in government fiscal policy, procedures, reporting requirements and best practices.

Recruiting and Retention – With members continuing to retire, the chapter continues its efforts to recruit new young members. It is critical that our chapter provide services and programs to attract new members and retain the current ones. Our chapter's existence and efforts are to ensure that quality programs and communications of those programs are provided timely to both members and non-members. We continue to communicate the benefits of our chapter membership to both members and non-members. To reach young professionals, we provide scholarships to two college students in an accounting-related field of study, and provide networking opportunities with organizations and the local universities.

CGFM Certification – We as a chapter strive to identify and provide timely, relevant, and economical training opportunities. The Tallahassee chapter continues to stress the importance of the CGFM certification. We will continue to provide CGFM review course training. Communicating the value of the CGFM certification will help spark interest for our chapter and help recruit new members. The Tallahassee chapter receives a proclamation from Tallahassee's Mayor every year in recognition of CGFM Month.

Foster Citizen Understanding of Government Accountability – The chapter must take a heightened role in promoting Citizen Centric Reporting to local governmental entities. The chapter must establish subject matter experts to ensure the success of this important initiative.

Membership Challenges

- Finding ways to reach out to and recruit young professionals.
- Finding innovative ways to attract members to serve as a chapter officer and complete the progression through all positions.
- Helping members overcoming reluctance about becoming more involved with the operations and governance of the chapter. The fewer people who become involved in chapter administration, the greater number of tasks and responsibilities that falls on a smaller group of individuals.

Hard Work and Dedication – Have made the Tallahassee Chapter a success. AGA National has recognized this by bestowing numerous awards to our chapter during past Professional Development Trainings at the national level. This includes the coveted *Platinum Award*, a mark of highest chapter achievement, which the chapter has earned each year it has been offered.

A complete listing of all chapter directors can be found at:

<http://agatallahassee.org/blog/about-us-2/>

We value your input and would like to hear from you. Did you like this report? How can we improve it? Please provide your comments and suggestions to one of your chapter officers. Their contact information is on our website at:

<http://agatallahassee.org/>

Chapter Officer Directory	
Program Year 2015-2016	
Chapter Office	Name
President	Patrick Cowen
President-Elect	Steve Burch
Secretary	Alexandra Weimorts
Treasurer	Lu'Quanda Colston
Treasurer-Elect	Jim Lewandowski
Immediate Past President	Cheryl Ward