

FISCAL FORUM



Florida Government
Finance Officers Association



EDUCATE
SHARE KNOWLEDGE.
BUILD FOUNDATION.



ELEVATE
INSPIRE GROWTH.
ENCOURAGE POTENTIAL.



EMPOWER
SUPPORT LEADERS.
STRENGTHEN OUR FUTURE.

A Message From FGFOA President Kelly Strickland



As the summer draws to a close, many of you are busy wrapping up budgets, preparing for the fiscal year-end, and keeping pace with the latest legislative updates. Your dedication and clarity in these endeavors are commendable, and your efforts continue to reinforce financial stewardship throughout Florida.

This year's legislative activity—including changes to FRS rates and property tax policies—will significantly influence decisions as we look ahead to fiscal years 2027 and 2028. Notably, the introduction of HB 1329 – Government Accountability marks an important step forward in enhancing transparency and building public trust. The bill brings a host of improvements: more comprehensive reporting requirements, updated standards for financial oversight, and new measures that aim to facilitate clearer communication with both residents and elected officials.

FGFOA's committees are actively monitoring these developments and will continue to provide guidance to help you navigate and plan effectively. As budget hearings progress and September approaches, remember that FGFOA's network and resources stand ready to support you—ensuring you remain informed, prepared, and empowered.

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to prudent financial management and for playing a vital role in strengthening Florida's communities. Your work is essential, and your professionalism shapes the future of public finance across the state.



Please join us in **welcoming our newest FGFOA members!!** We are excited to have you as part of a statewide network of government finance professionals dedicated to excellence, innovation, and public service.

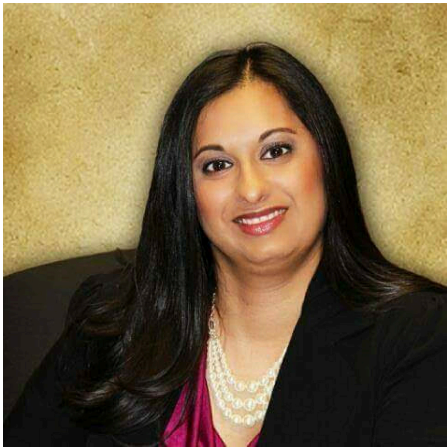
New Member Tip: The best way to get the most from your FGFOA membership is to get involved. Attend a local chapter meeting, volunteer for a committee, participate in educational programs, and connect with fellow members across the state. The relationships and experience you gain through FGFOA can be invaluable throughout your career.

Lindsey Thomas Jacksonville	Nick Bernate CRA, City of Sarasota	William Bousman Sarasota County Clerk of the Circ...	Toni Arnould The Villages Community Develop...	Luke Beverly Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, Fr...
Ashlee Farias Indiantown	Ashlynn Kickl Wakulla County Clerk of Court	Brenda Angel Volusia Sheriff's Office	Angela Mack Citrus County Property Appraiser	Sebastian Sims Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, Fr...
Esmeralda Tzul-Fier... Indiantown	Olena Huleichuk Sarasota County Clerk and Compt...	Patrick Horosco Sarasota Clerk of the Circuit Court...	Melissa Pray City of Tampa/Convention Center	Cheryl Doriah Broward College
Anna Retana Wauchula	Amanda Shaw Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office	Stephanie Swope Manatee County	Kathy Klawitter Villages Community Development...	Charles Brown Hillsborough County Clerk of Courts
Robert Johnson CRA, City of Titusville	Jo Ann Bachman Collier County Clerk of Circuit Court	Hailey Lamb New Smyrna Beach Utilities Com...	Jeremy Paguilligan Escambia County	Taquila Wells Hillsborough County Clerk of Circu...
Wendy Ureña-Caba Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office	Pamela Mercado Ro... Osceola Clerk of the Circuit Court...	Angel McCurdy South Florida Water Management...	Raymond Lee Manatee County Government	Tabbetha Josephson Hillsborough County Clerk of Circu...
Gwendolyn Lawson Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office	Jeremy Sadick Clerk of the Circuit Court & Compt...	Claudy Hernandez Hillsborough Tax Collector Office	Chip Van Voorhees Palm Beach County	Kettly Edouard Hillsborough County Clerk of Circu...
Millicent Richard Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office	Craig Lofaro Edgewater	Brandon Barnes Clerk of the Circuit Court & Compt...	Mickey Joseph Greater Orlando Aviation Authority	Eliane Morales CRA, Town of Davie
Nermine Awad Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office	Angela Williams Bellevue	Maria Arroyo Clerk of the Circuit Court & Compt...	Laurrie Rigaud Hollywood	Andrew Howell Office of Financial Management a...
Martha Horak Rockledge	Kayla Connell Rizzetta & Company	Alessandro Bravo B... Clerk of the Circuit Court & Compt...	Schronie Allen Rockledge	Patricia Smith Gainesville Regional Utilities
Noah Caprio St. Petersburg	Brian High Boynton Beach	Mike Rahn Manatee County	Evan Bycholski Palm Beach County Board of Cou...	My Tam Duong Boca Raton
Tyler Ervin Collier Clerk of the Circuit Court	Thomas Connell Collier Clerk Of Courts	Nicholas Charles Hillsborough County	Teresa Stanis Great Bay Distributors, Inc.	Ivonne Berrios Omni Community Redevelopment...
Connor Wallace Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & F...	Derek Vandenburg Sarasota County Clerk and Compt...	Patrice Coolican Sarasota County Government	Rosemarie Two-Axe Hillsborough County BOCC	Hannah Picott CRA, City of Palmetto

Education • Networking • Leadership • Information

Florida Government Finance Officers Association

Spotlight on Leadership



Local Chapter Committee Chair Jamie Roberson, CGFO, serves as the Chief Operating Officer of Finance for the Martin County Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller, where she oversees court finance, collections, accounts, disbursements, recording, clerk technology, human resources, compliance, and customer care. With more than 20 years of governmental accounting experience, Jamie has held leadership positions throughout Florida, including roles with the Osceola County Clerk of Court, City of Apopka, and Osceola County Property Appraiser’s Office.

A graduate of the University of South Florida’s School of Accountancy, Jamie has been an active member of GFOA and FGFOA since 2002. Her extensive service includes serving as President of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association, President of both the Central Florida and Treasure Coast Chapters, and in numerous leadership and committee roles throughout the organization.

Jamie describes FGFOA as one of the greatest blessings of her professional career, crediting the organization with providing lifelong friendships, mentorship, leadership opportunities, and a network that has shaped both her career and personal life. Today, she is especially passionate about serving as Chair of FGFOA’s Local Chapter Committee, helping strengthen the local chapters that serve as the foundation for member engagement and leadership development.

Her message to fellow members is simple but powerful: get involved. Through volunteering, committee service, and local chapter participation, Jamie believes members can build lasting relationships, grow as leaders, and make a meaningful impact on the profession and the communities they serve. When she is not serving her organization and profession, Jamie enjoys spending time with her husband, five children, family, and friends.

[CLICK HERE to Learn More About Jamie](#)

Member Spotlight

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Thomas Nason, a respected leader in local government finance and a dedicated member of the Florida Government Finance Association (FGFOA).

Thomas served the City of Vero Beach with distinction throughout his career and made a lasting impact on the profession through this service to FGFOA as President from 1987-1988.

On behalf of the FGFOA community, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Thomas's family, friends, and former colleagues during this difficult time. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.



Events and Deadlines



It's Time to Renew Your FGFOA Membership

Stay connected, informed, and engaged by renewing your FGFOA and local chapter memberships for the upcoming year. Thanks to FGFOA's continued partnership with local chapters, the renewal process is easier than ever with one streamlined system and flexible membership options.

Membership Options:

- FGFOA State Membership: \$100
- Local Chapter Membership: Varies by Chapter
- Combined FGFOA State and Local Chapter Membership: Conveniently renew both at checkout

Renew by August 15th to continue enjoying valuable member benefits, including:

- Discounted registration rates for the Annual Conference and School of Governmental Finance
 - Access to more than 12 complimentary webinars each year
 - Eligibility to participate in the Beginner Boot Camp and Leadership Class programs
- Professional development opportunities and a statewide network of government finance professionals

Don't miss out on the resources, education, and connections that help support your professional growth.

Renew today & remain an active part of the FGFOA community!

[CLICK HERE to Renew!](#)



Call for CGFO Instructors – Fall 2026 Review Courses!!

The Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) is seeking knowledgeable and experienced instructors to present during the **Fall 2026 Certified Government**

Finance Officer (CGFO) Review, to be held **October 27-29, 2026**, in **Clearwater Beach, Florida** in conjunction with the School of Governmental Finance.

The CGFO review program plays an important role in preparing finance professionals for the CGFO examinations while promoting excellence in local government finance throughout Florida. We are looking for engaging presenters who are passionate about sharing their expertise and helping the next generation of government finance professionals succeed.

Instructor Qualifications

To be considered as an instructor, applicants must meet **one** of the following qualifications:

- Hold the **Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO)** designation; or
- Be a **non-government professional** who is widely recognized as an expert in the subject matter being presented.

Subject Areas

The Certification Committee is seeking instructors for the following subject areas:

- Debt Administration
- Financial Administration
- Planning & Budgeting
- Treasury Management
- Accounting & Financial Reporting

Whether you have taught previously or are interested in presenting for the first time, we encourage qualified professionals to volunteer. Instructors have the opportunity to share practical knowledge, contribute to the professional development of fellow government finance officers, and support the continued success of the FGFOA CGFO program.

Interested in Teaching?

Please submit your interest no later than August 21, 2026 to John McKinney, CGFO Certification Chair, at jmckinney@deltonafl.gov

Thank you for your willingness to share your expertise and help strengthen the government finance profession across Florida. We look forward to hearing from you!!

Greetings from the Technical and Legislative Resources Committee!

As you know, we keep an eye out for the latest GASB interactions (this year looks to be a little slower...) and share what is happening or has happened during the Legislative Session(s). We also share information on reporting requirements, especially when we see a large number of local governmental entities with outstanding audit reports.

To refresh you on the topic, s. 218.39, F.S., requires local governmental entities subject to an annual financial audit (i.e., each county; any municipality with revenues or the total of expenditures and expenses in excess of \$250,000, as reported on the fund financial statements; any special district with revenues or the total of expenditures and expenses in excess of \$100,000, as reported on the fund financial statements) are required to file the audit report within 45 days of delivery of the audit report to the governing body of the audited entity, but no later than 9 months after fiscal year end.

The Auditor General will soon mail letters of noncompliance to as many as 15 counties, 145 municipalities, and 300 special districts for failing to file their reports. Eventually, the Auditor General will notify the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, and it may take action against a county or municipality, including directing the Department of Revenue and the Department of Financial Services to withhold any funds not pledged for bond debt service satisfaction that are payable to such entity until the county or municipality complies with the law. In the case of a special district, the committee may notify the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and several others, including the Department of Commerce, of the special district's non-compliance. This could result in the dissolution of the non-compliant special district.

If you know of anyone who has completed their FY 2024-25 audits but has not submitted them yet (via e-mail or snail mail), please give them a gentle nudge, as well as those still working with their auditors to complete their audits.

For more information, please contact Rick Voss with the Auditor General at 850-412-2892.



Applications Now Open!

Ready to grow your career, strengthen your leadership skills, and build meaningful professional connections? The FGFOA Mentoring Program is kicking off a new session, and now's your chance to join!

For Mentees: Connect with an experienced government finance professional who will help you navigate career goals, offer guidance, and support your path to success. "I gained a support system... I truly appreciated her willingness to help in any way she could."

For Mentors: Make a lasting impact while gaining fresh perspectives and strengthening your own leadership. "Just knowing I made a difference... that meant everything."

Whether you're looking to learn or ready to lead, this program offers an enriching, inspiring experience for all.

Spots are Limited -- Apply Today!

Help Build the 2027 FGFOA Conference Program

What topics are shaping the future of government finance? What challenges, innovations, or success stories should be shared with your peers?

The FGFOA Conference Program Committee is seeking ideas for educational sessions and speakers for next year's Annual Conference. Whether it's an emerging trend, a practical solution, a leadership topic, or a compelling case study, we want to hear from you.

Submit your suggestions through **the Call for Session Topics link below** and help create a conference program that is relevant, engaging, and valuable to finance professionals across Florida.

Your ideas can inspire the conversations that shape our profession. Share them today!

CLICK HERE to Submit a Topic

The FGFOA Annual Conference Program Committee Needs You!!

Our 2026 Annual Conference was a tremendous success. Approximately 1,149 government finance professionals came together at the Loews Sapphire Falls Resort at Universal to share their inspiration, knowledge, and experience so that we could all grow in our careers and develop the next generation of fiscal stewards.

In order to continue this important mission, the FGFOA Annual Conference Program Committee **needs your help** developing conference session topics and recruiting speakers to present to attendees at the 2027 FGFOA Annual Conference at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee, June 19-23, 2027.

Join our team of dedicated volunteers focused on making the 2027 FGFOA Annual Conference the best ever.

Fill Out a Committee Application Here



Save the Date School of Governmental Finance Registration Opening Soon!!!

Mark your calendars!! Registration for the **2026 FGFOA School of Governmental Finance** will open in **August**.

This premier educational event will be held October 25-30, 2026, at the beautiful **Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater Beach, Florida**.

The School provides an outstanding opportunity for government finance professionals to enhance their knowledge, earn continuing education credits, and connect with peers from across the state.

Be sure to watch for the **registration e-bulletin** with details on course offerings, registration information, and lodging arrangements.

Don't miss out – save the date and start planning now! We look forward to seeing you in Clearwater Beach this October.

FGFOA Boot Camp Returns This October!

Ready to strengthen your government finance knowledge and connect with fellow professionals? The **FGFOA Beginner Boot Camp** will return this October as part of the **School of Governmental Finance**, offering an excellent opportunity for both new and emerging government finance professionals to build a strong foundation in key governmental finance concepts.

Registration will open in August, so be sure to watch for upcoming announcements and registration details.

Please note that space in the Beginner Boot Camp is limited. To provide all interested members with a fair opportunity to participate, seats will be filled through a random lottery selection process from those who register for the lottery.

To register for the Boot Camp lottery or attend any Boot Camp program, participants **must be active FGFOA members** at the time of registration. If your membership is due for renewal, now is a great time to ensure it remains current.

Don't miss this valuable learning opportunity—mark your calendar and watch for the registration announcement coming in mid-August!

Virtual Training Opportunities

Upcoming FGFOA Webinars – Mark Your Calendar!

Stay current and connected with FGFOA's lineup of professional development webinars! Each session is designed to provide practical insights, timely updates, and tools you can apply directly in your daily work. Whether you're looking to strengthen your technical knowledge or expand your leadership skills, there's a webinar for you.

- August 20, 2026 – Data Driven Finance (TB)
- September 17, 2026 – Revisiting Pensions & OPEB Disclosures (AA)
- October 15, 2026 – Cyber Risks 2026/PCI Readiness and Compliance (TB)

Visit the **FGFOA WEBINAR PAGE** and click “**Register Now**” or log in to your member portal and go to the “**Events**” tab.

Don't miss these valuable learning opportunities!

Looking for additional ethics CPE opportunities?

The Florida Institute of CPAs (FICPA) is offering “FICPA Ethics: Protecting the Integrity of the Florida CPAs,” created with the DBPR and approved by the Florida Board of Accountancy. Sessions are available online, in-person, and on-site (live or virtually).

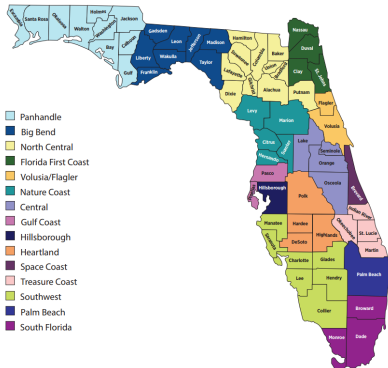
[Learn more and register](#)

Spotlight on Membership

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond? A mentor, colleague, or chapter leader who deserves to be recognized? **Nominate them for the FGFOA Member Spotlight!** It only takes a few minutes, and your nomination could help highlight the inspiring work of a fellow member.

[CLICK HERE to Nominate a Member](#)

Local Chapter News



FGFOA's local chapters are the heartbeat of our organization, offering members valuable opportunities to connect, learn, and grow within their own communities. These events range from professional development sessions and technical trainings to networking socials and community outreach initiatives.

Attending your local chapter events is a great way to stay engaged, expand your professional network, and share ideas with peers who understand the challenges and opportunities of government finance. Be sure to check your [Local Chapter Calendar](#) for upcoming local chapter events and opportunities to engage with your peers.

Stay Connected with FGFOA!

View all current and past **E-Bulletins** and editions of the **Fiscal Forum Newsletter** on the FGFOA website:

www.fgfoa.org/e-bulletins

Follow the Florida Government Finance Officers Association on social media to get the latest updates, event announcements, and news that matters to government finance professionals.

Stay informed. Stay engaged. Be part of the FGFOA



Florida Government Finance Officers Association | 301 S Bronough Street Suite 300 | Tallahassee, FL 32302 US

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