



CMFO News

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Who or What is GASB?

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Many of you already know these things, but it never hurts to remind ourselves about the author-

ity of GASB and how GASB affects our governments. Let's ask a few questions.

1. What does the abbreviation GASB stand for?

GASB stands for the "Governmental Accounting Standards Board." GASB establishes accounting standards that become "Generally Accepted Accounting Principles" or GAAP.

2. Is GASB a government organization?

No. GASB is not a federal, state, or local government organization. GASB is a non-profit organization created in 1984 to establish accounting standards on behalf of governments. In other words, the way we account for government assets, liabilities, deferrals, equity, revenues, and expenditures is defined by GASB. Governments operate differently from private sector businesses; therefore, governments have a unique type of accounting that is established by GASB. Everyone who prepares financial statements under GAAP, should report their financial information in the same way.

3. Do governments in Tennessee have to follow the accounting standards that GASB issues.

Governments in Tennessee must be audited

every year according to Tennessee statutes. Similarly, governments in Tennessee are required to follow GASB accounting standards according to state statutes. If a government does not follow GAAP, that government will likely receive an audit finding(s).

4. Are there any new GASB accounting standards for 2019 audits?

Yes. There are three new standards that must be followed depending on whether you report on a calendar year (12/31) or fiscal year such as June 30, 2019. The new standards are:

GASB Statement 83 – Certain Asset Retirement Obligations. This standard requires that a liability be calculated and recorded for the costs associated with the retirement of certain capital assets. The liability will be recorded now, even though the asset will be retired in the future. **Does your government have any assets that fall under this new reporting standard?**

GASB Statement 88 – Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements. This standard defines what qualifies as "debt" for financial statement reporting. If you have a bond issue that is outstanding, this would be defined as debt according to the standard, but certain other long-term liabilities would not be considered to meet the definition of debt. For example, a pension liability is long-term liability. **But is this long-term liability considered to be "debt" under GASB's new definition? The answer is No. So, what should you present as "debt" in your financial statements?**

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Upcoming Training Classes/Conferences

CPE Provider Training Opportunities

(The following list is not a preapproval or endorsement of the provider organizations, and neither do we provide any assurance regarding classes offered by the organizations.)

ACFE (Association of Certified Fraud Examiners)
<http://www.acfe.com/>

ACPEN (Accounting CPE Network)
<http://www.acpen.com/>

AGA (Association of Government Accountants) (CGFM)
<http://www.agacgfm.org/>

AICPA (American Institute of Certified Public Accountants)
CPEXpress
<https://www.aicpa.org/cpeandconferences/cpeselfstudy.html>

Checkpoint Learning CPEasy
<http://www.cpeasy.com/>

Continuing Academics CPETutor
<http://www.cafacpe.com/default.aspx>

GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association)
http://www.gfoa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=28&Itemid=49

Local Government Corporation
<https://www.localgovernmentcorporation.com/drupal7/>

MTAS
<http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/training-calendar-0>

NASACT (National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, & Treasurers)
<http://nasact.org/>

TGA (Tennessee Gas Association)
<http://www.tngas.org/>

TCMA (Tennessee City Management Association)
<http://www.tncma.org/>

TGFOA (Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association)
<http://www.tngfoa.org>

TSCPA (Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants)
<http://www.tscpa.com>

TVPPA (Tennessee Valley Public Power Association, Inc.)
<http://www.tvppa.com/>

Tyler Technologies
<http://www.tylertech.com/>

Western CPE
<http://www.westerncpe.com/>



Registration is now open

For more information concerning this event, please visit <http://tngfoa.wildapricot.org/event-3451390>.

PENALTY NOTICE

Penalty hours will be assessed to individuals who did not complete the required 24 hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for 2018. A letter was sent to these individuals indicating the number of additional penalty hours they incurred for 2019. The deadline for penalty hours is six months from the date of the letter. Failure to complete these hours may cause the city to be in noncompliance. As a result, your status will change from 1) penalty, 2) delinquent, or 3) expired. □

SPOTLIGHT ON GOING INACTIVE

To change your status to inactive, your current CMFOA status must be active and your CPE status is none or current, please notify us in writing and we will send you a form to fill out and return to us. To obtain a copy of the form, please email Yanna Utley at Yanna.Utley@cot.tn.gov.

You will not be able to change your status, if your status is anything other than what is stated above. Please see the policy and procedure manual, page 26 section E1 at https://www.comptroller.tn.gov/RA_Upload/CFMOPoliciesandProcedures.pdf. □



CPE

Continuing Professional Education

The deadline for all CPE hours is
December 31st.

For assistance in finding a class, please check out our website at:
https://www.comptroller.tn.gov/la/pdf/20171213CPE_Reporting-ProviderIdeas.pdf