



CMFO NEWS

Certified Municipal Finance Officer

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Incentives Update

Mark Fawver
Contract Audit Review Specialist
Division of Local Government Audit

Well, it has finally been implemented! The CMFO incentives program is off and running and is available to CMFO students who are municipal employees. We are thankful to the Tennessee legislature for providing the funding for these programs in the most recent budget. It is wonderful to see the CMFO program being recognized for its impact on our governments and the improvements to our municipality's financial management as well as the audit reports. The results are something we can all be proud of for the dedicated efforts made by you to ensure our governments work better.

Eligible program participants that are actively pursuing their CMFO certification or have completed the program after July 1, 2022 will now have access to the reimbursement request and stipend authorization forms within their CMFO Act accounts. If you don't see the incentive program forms, it has been determined that you are not eligible. Please reach out to me at mark.fawver@cot.tn.gov if you would like to discuss your eligibility. Please note that the stipend authorization form will not be accessible until you have completed the program. Costs associated with



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425 Rep. John Lewis Way N.
Nashville, Tennessee 37243
Phone: 615-401-7841
Fax: 615-741-6216



obtaining the CMFO certification that are related to travel and class fees and submitted in the system will be reviewed for reimbursement. We have already received several requests for reimbursement; however, many of you have not uploaded the itemized travel expense report signed by your supervisor. The process will be delayed, or your municipality may not receive the reimbursement without the proper documentation uploaded. Another thing important to remember is that these reimbursement requests should be received within 60 days of taking each course. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this transition phase of issuing these incentives.



Registration recently opened for our annual free CPE event coming up in September and October 2022. If you have not yet received an email with the detailed information, please let me know. The registration link is also included in this month's newsletter.

As always, we welcome all questions you have concerning the new incentives program and upcoming training events, as well as the changes in the policies and procedures. Please contact Mark Fawver at mark.fawver@cot.tn.gov or 615-747-8851.



CPE

Continuing Professional Education

Earn CPE deadline is December 31st!

THE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE IS OFFERING FREE CPE

16 hours • 3 Locations • CMFO & CCFO Training Only



KNOXVILLE, TN
SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2022



JACKSON, TN
OCTOBER 20-21, 2022
(WAITING LIST ONLY)

NASHVILLE, TN
OCTOBER 25-26, 2022
(VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON OPTIONS)



TOPICS INCLUDE: *GASB UPDATES, CYBERSECURITY, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, OPEN RECORDS, COMMUNICATIONS AND SO MUCH MORE!*

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICER SPOTLIGHT: **Missy Stahl**

*CIP Manager,
City of Spring Hill*



What interested you in the CMFO program?

I went through the second class of the CMFO program in 2012. At the time I had only been working in government for less than 4 years in the city's finance department. Coming from working in the music industry business, I did not have full knowledge of government practices. I saw the CMFO program as a way to learn about all areas and a way to improve my performance in my role.

How has being a CMFO impacted your position?

I believe the training I received under the CMFO program has helped me advance in my career with the city. I have now been here for 14 years and am now serving as the CIP Manager overseeing all Capital Improvement Projects from start to end. There are many roles that are needed to ensure projects are done correctly in accordance with city and state regulations and that they stay within the budgeted costs. As a CMFO, I can apply my knowledge learned from the course to the various roles to achieve the best end goal possible.

What would you say to anyone thinking about participating in the CMFO Program?

Do it! You will learn a lot even in the areas you think you already know. There are areas that you think will never apply to your job but I believe eventually, some how, some way, you will use every part of the training. Also, don't throw your study guides and books away – I still refer to mine 10 years later.

5 Steps To Password Hygiene



- Create sufficiently-complex passwords.
- Longer passwords are better.
- Never reuse a password.
- Activate two-factor authentication.
- Use a password manager.



Go to tncot.cc/cyberaware to become more Cyber Aware.



SUCCESSFUL CONNECTIONS

A state & local government partnership program

OPEN TO ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
COUNTIES, CITIES, & UTILITY DISTRICTS

**1.5 HOURS CPE CREDIT
AVAILABLE**

(CMFO, CCFO, UTILITY
BOARD TRAINING)
BY REQUEST WHEN
REGISTERING

Session Focus:
Importance of
Long Term &
Strategic
Planning

**7 OCT 2022
11:30AM CT**

193 POLK AVE, SUITE D
NASHVILLE, TN 37219

 ZOOM ALSO AVAILABLE

Moderated by Betsy Knotts, Director,
Division of Local Government Finance

Panel Members:

- Mayor Bob Rial, Dickson County
- Mayor Ken Moore, City of Franklin
- Jeff Stiles, Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership
- Pat Hardy, Municipal Technical Advisory Service
- Russell Sells, Metro Government of Lynchburg & Moore County



REGISTER NOW:

https://comptrollertn.formstack.com/forms/successful_connections_registration_oct2022



Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association

TGFOA FALL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2022

**EMBASSY SUITES &
CONVENTION CENTER**

MURFREESBORO, TN

For more information, please visit:

<https://tgfoa.org/2022-fall-conference/>

Upcoming Training Classes/Conferences

CPE Provider Training Opportunities

(The following list is not a preapproval or endorsement of the provider organizations, nor 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) CPEexpress
<https://www.aicpa.org/cpeandconferences/cpe-selfstudy.html>

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

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

CTAS
<http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/training>

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/>

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/>

