



Christopher P. Morrill
Executive Director/CEO

Looking Beyond the Conference

GFOA staff has been hard at work, getting ready for another big conference this year in Orlando. Putting on the event, scheduled for June 9 to 12 in Orlando, Florida, requires thousands of hours of work, with planning starting as soon as last year's conference in Portland, Oregon, closed. We're excited to showcase more than 100 sessions including keynote speeches, concurrent sessions, pre-conference seminars, and networking events. We also have a full exhibit hall, with more than 200 exhibitors, and we're thrilled to host several social events including Tuesday night at Universal Studio. We also have something new this year—a 5K run on Sunday morning. In all, we expect to host approximately 5,000 delegates from all 50 states, seven Canadian provinces, four U.S. territories and nine countries, helping them take advantage of the opportunities for learning, networking, and fun in Orlando.

As excited as we are about all we have planned for the 2024 annual

conference, we also realize that many of our members aren't able to attend. In fact, approximately 80 percent of GFOA members won't be attending the event. So, for all our members who can't travel or are just looking for opportunities to engage with their GFOA peers from the convenience of their own offices, I want to highlight a few events we have coming up.

Best Practices Forum (virtual, July 29-August 2). GFOA's Best Practice Forum provides an overview of essential best practices across all disciplines of public finance. Over the course of a week, GFOA presenters will highlight more than 20 individual best practices and provide the latest information on trends, implementation considerations, and essential practices for all governments. This training event provides finance professionals in all types of organizations with an opportunity to better understand what defines the best practice in a wide array of topics, along with interactive elements that attendees can use to conduct self-assessments and learn from each other.

Each session will feature presentations on key elements of GFOA's best practice statements, a case study showing how the best practice was implemented, and an interactive self-assessment exercise that allows you to benchmark your results against your GFOA peers.

MiniMuni (October 9-11). At the 6th Annual MiniMuni Conference, finance professionals who work in debt management will hear from leading experts, seasoned practitioners, and regulators about a host of issues that affect municipal issuers. Whether it is ESG or the Financial Data Transparency Act, the MiniMuni Conference guarantees that attendees will walk away understanding the most pressing issues in the market, how to best handle all forms of disclosure, and what their colleagues across the country are thinking about.

GAAP Update (November 14 and December 5). GFOA will offer two sessions of the Governmental GAAP Update using GFOA's online learning management system. This four-hour, four CPE session covers everything there is to know about what's new in governmental accounting and auditing.



Each year, more GFOA members participate in the GAAP update than any other training event. Join us to hear from and interact with recognized subject matter experts, industry leaders, and GFOA's technical award reviewers. In addition, attendees can participate in interactive exercises to test their understanding of the material being presented.

Affinity group networking sessions. GFOA now has eight active member affinity groups that host regular virtual networking sessions that are free to members who qualify. The sessions provide opportunities to connect with peers, ask questions, share stories, and build relationships with GFOA members you have things in common with. For more information on affinity groups, or to join one, please go to gfoa.org/gfoa-groups.

Ongoing educational events. Each month, GFOA offers virtual classes from our training catalog, plus additional webinars on current events and the latest GFOA research. These

events vary in length from one hour to multiple days and reach a wide audience that is interested in public finance topics. For more information on registration and a schedule of events, please go to gfoa.org/events.

Standing committees. If you'd like to engage with GFOA in a more significant way, we are now recruiting for our six standing committees. Each committee comprises 25 members who meet in person twice a year, and remotely throughout the rest of the year, to discuss and develop GFOA best practices. Committees provide an excellent opportunity to not only learn from other peer leaders in local government, but also to give back and share your experiences to better the profession. Applications are available at gfoa.org/committee-application.

I encourage you to get engaged with all GFOA has to offer, and I am always available to connect with our members.

Sincerely,

Chris

GET INVOLVED TODAY!

Learn about essential best practices and how to implement them by attending our virtual Best Practices Forum (July 29–August 2): gfoa.org/gfoa-best-practices-forum

Register for GFOA's 6th Annual MiniMuni Conference (October 9–11): gfoa.org/minimuni

Sign up now for this year's Governmental GAAP Update and take advantage of an early registration discount (two sessions; November 14 and December 5): gfoa.org/gaap-update

Connect with other GFOA members by joining one of our eight affinity groups: gfoa.org/gfoa-groups

Learn from other leaders and make a difference. Apply for a standing committee: gfoa.org/committee-application

View the full schedule and register for GFOA's ongoing virtual classes and webinars: gfoa.org/events