

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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AGA

Philadelphia
Chapter

JULY 2024

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Thriving Together: Your Vibrant Gateway to Government Financial Management Excellence with AGA Philadelphia!

Welcome esteemed AGA members! As leaders in shaping financial strategies and upholding fiscal integrity in government agencies, you are the cornerstone of AGA Philadelphia. Thank you for being essential to our community, where excellence in government financial management begins and thrives!



Student Membership Opportunities: Join AGA for *FREE* as a Full-Time Student! (PG. 7)



**UPCOMING WEBINARS & EVENTS!
DON'T MISS OUT!
(PG. 10)**

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AGA PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

LAYNA HOLMES-BUTLER
CGFM, CPA

Layna Holmes-Butler is an accomplished accounting and audit professional with a strong focus on delivering comprehensive solutions to individuals and businesses. Her expertise encompasses a wide range of services, including agreed-upon procedures, financial statement preparation following GAAP standards, general ledger management, accounts receivable and payable, and fixed asset accounting. Layna also specializes in conducting compliance audits in alignment with Government Auditing Standards (the Yellow Book) and relevant laws and regulations.

Throughout her career, Layna has worked with major clients such as The Mercadien Group, J. Miller & Associates, and the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Her dedication to excellence and adherence to industry standards make her a valuable asset to the accounting and auditing community.



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AGA Philadelphia Chapter: 2024 Chapter Leadership

Chapter President: Layna Holmes-Butler

Chapter Treasurer: Layna Holmes-Butler

National Council of Chapters Representative: Kyle Smith

ACE Reporting: Teri Lewis

Membership: Clarence Johnson

Social Media: Kyle Smith

Webmaster: Kyle Smith



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JOIN US

JOIN THE PHILADELPHIA AGA CHAPTER LEADERSHIP BOARD!

Are you an AGA Member eager to make a difference in your community? Here's your chance! The Philadelphia Chapter is seeking dedicated individuals to join our Leadership Board. Whether you're a seasoned professional or a college student seeking valuable internship experience, we welcome you to be part of our dynamic team.

Why Join Us?

- **Community Involvement:** Make a meaningful impact in Baton Rouge and beyond.
- **Professional Development:** Enhance your skills and network with industry professionals.
- **Retired Members:** Stay active, share your expertise, and continue making a difference.



www.agacgfm.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY, EMAIL US AT AGAPHILADELPHIA@GMAIL.COM

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CGFM®

Certification



What is a CGFM?

The CGFM (Certified Government Financial Manager) credential, awarded by AGA, showcases expertise in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls, and budgeting across different government levels. It's a respected certification that highlights specialized knowledge and experience essential for effective government financial management. CGFM opens doors to new career prospects and sets you apart as a distinguished professional in the field.

CGFM Certification Benefits:

1. Enhanced marketability across government sectors.
2. Networking opportunities with fellow government financial managers.
3. Boosted confidence in your role.
4. Potential for employer incentives like raises, promotions, and bonuses.
5. Increased value as an employee, both in reality and perception.
6. Support for ongoing education to stay updated with the latest developments and technologies.

Use this link to learn more about CGFM memberships!

www.agacgfm.org

How Do I Become a CGFM?

1. Fill out an online application and agree to AGA's Code of Ethics.
2. Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. college or university.
3. Pass three CGFM examinations.
4. Gain at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management.



For any additional questions, please contact the Office of Professional Certification: 800.AGA.7211 (703.684.6931) or cgfm@agacgfm.org

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Don't Forget: Join or Renew Your AGA Membership!



Benefits:

- **Connect, Collaborate, & Network:**
 - Expand your network, participate in our online mentoring program!
 - Volunteer to serve on AGA committees and boards.
 - Find a position or look for qualified candidates on AGA's Job Board
 - Join the conversation on LinkedIn, Twitter & Facebook.
- **Continuous Learning:**
 - Participate in educational events — learn from and meet the experts.
 - Save money with registration discounts on national and chapter training events.
 - Sign up for four (4) complimentary members-only webinars.
 - Attend the Transformation & Technology Summit for FREE!
 - Attend the Women's Forum for FREE!
 - Leverage discounts on CGFM renewal and application fees.
- **Stay Informed & Find Solutions:**
 - Access online tools, developed by government experts to prevent fraud, reduce improper payments, improve outcomes, mitigate risk, and enhance collaboration.
 - Stay up to date through the quarterly Journal of Government Financial Management.
 - Learn about and share best practices described in AGA research and executive reports.
 - Get the latest innovations in government by tuning into AGA's Accountability Talks podcasts.

**JOIN
NOW**

Don't Hesitate!
Register Now!

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Student Membership Opportunities



Why AGA?

Considering a career in government financial management? Want to meet government professionals in the federal, state, or local government levels?

Join AGA for FREE! Student membership in AGA provides you access to resources to develop your skills and expand your knowledge. Become a part of AGA to build professional connections and discover your future career while positively impacting your community and country.

**APPLY
NOW**



Scholarships

Academic scholarships, National Collegiate Leadership Scholarship, Government Finance Case Challenge, Datathon



Career Coaching & Professional Community

Mentoring Programs & Local Chapters



Tools & Resources

'Accountability Talks' Podcast & Guest Speakers



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ACCOUNTABILITY TALKS



PODCAST
Show



Discover '**Accountability Talks**,' a podcast delving into the government accountability community. Hear from thought leaders, gain career insights, and join our vibrant community!

Click here to listen!

About the Host



Meet **Paul Marshall, CPA, CGFM, CIA, CICA, PMP, VP at MIL Corporation and dedicated AGA member with 20+ years in government accountability.** He champions best practices in audits, financial reporting, and more, serving on AGA boards at local and national levels.

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AGA Philadelphia Chapter Achieves ACE Reporting Bronze Award!

The AGA Philadelphia Chapter is elated to announce that **Chapter President Layna Holmes-Butler, CPA, CGFM, has been honored with the prestigious 2024 ACE Reporting Bronze Award.**

Layna Holmes-Butler's leadership and dedication have been instrumental in achieving this milestone. Her exceptional efforts, alongside the collaborative spirit and perseverance of the chapter members, have propelled the Philadelphia Chapter to this remarkable achievement.

The chapter expresses its deepest gratitude to AGA for this significant honor. With this recognition, the Philadelphia Chapter is more motivated than ever to continue its dedication to excellence in reporting. The members eagerly anticipate what lies ahead, confident that their hard work and commitment will lead to even greater achievements.

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Upcoming Webinars & Events

You Do Not Want to Miss Out!

SAVE THE DATE



Embark on a journey of professional growth and excellence with AGA's upcoming events and webinars. Dive into our exclusive professional development sessions designed to elevate your skills and knowledge in government financial management.

In addition to our professional development sessions, we have a lineup of both Chapter and National events that provide valuable networking opportunities and insights into industry best practices. Don't miss this chance to unlock your full potential and propel your career forward. Join us for these enriching sessions and discover the keys to success in the public sector.

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National Events



**DON'T
MISS OUT**

Celonis Public Sector Process Intelligence Forum

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Washington Marriott at Metro Center

Join AGA, in partnership with Celonis, for our Public Sector Process Intelligence Forum in Washington, D.C. on August 13, 2024. Discover how you can adhere to policy and achieve A-123 compliance, and learn ways to modernize systems and processes efficiently.

Attend in person to earn 3 CPE credits, engage in valuable learning, and collaborate with your peers.

REGISTRATION

**Celonis Public Sector Process
Intelligence Forum**



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National Events



Internal Fraud Prevention Training

Thursday–Friday, September 19–20, 2024

8:30 AM. – 3:45 PM ET

Washington D.C. or Virtual

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center

14 CPES

The Internal Control & Fraud Prevention Training focuses on management's responsibility for ensuring good systems of internal control, and the role of accountability professionals to minimize the risk of fraud, waste and abuse. Leaders in government and private industry discuss the latest discovery techniques, lessons learned and how governments are cooperating to improve services to citizens.

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Registration & Fees

Early bird deadline – Aug. 23, 2024

	Online	All Other
AGA Members		
Early Bird	\$550	\$575
Standard	\$650	\$675
Non-members		
Early Bird	\$725	\$750
Standard	\$825	\$850

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)

[Join AGA Now to Save \\$175!](#)

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National Events



Webinar: Communications

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS:

COMS

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None
required

Field of Study: Communications
and Marketing (COMS)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



FREE Members Only Webinar

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

2:00–3:15 PM ET | 1.5 CPEs | FOS: PD

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None
required

Field of Study: Personal
Development (PD)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



Webinar: Uniform Guidance & GA

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS: AUDG

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Auditing – Governmental (AUDG)

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National Events

Webinar: Ethics

Friday, November 13, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS: BETH

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Behavioral Ethics (BETH)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



Webinar: Internal Control

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

2:00–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | FOS: AUDG

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Auditing – Governmental (AUDG)

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)



FREE Members Only Webinar

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

2:00–3:15 PM ET | 1.5 CPEs | FOS: PD

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Personal Development (PD)

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Future Professional Development Trainings (PDT)

Save the Date for AGA's future Professional Development Training (PDT) events!



Nashville, Tennessee

July 27-30, 2025

Gaylord Opryland Hotel



Dallas, Texas

July 26-29, 2026

Gaylord Texan Hotel



Chicago, Illinois

July 18-21, 2027

Hyatt Regency Chicago

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We at the AGA Philadelphia Chapter hope you are having an amazing summer! Whether you're taking a well-deserved vacation, enjoying a relaxing staycation, or continuing to work hard, we encourage you to make the most of this sunny season.

As we embrace the summer months, we also want to remind our members of the exciting opportunities and events coming up. Whether it's attending our educational webinars, participating in community service projects, or networking with fellow professionals, there are many ways to stay engaged and connected with the AGA Philadelphia Chapter. We appreciate your continued support and involvement, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events. Have a fantastic summer and make the most of every moment!

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Premier Group is a full-service CPA firm founded by Joye Sistrunk in 2005, embodying a passion for numbers, community purpose, integrity, and a mission of trust.

At Premier Group, we are dedicated to serving a diverse range of clients, including government agencies, federal contractors, nonprofits, and mid-sized businesses. Our commitment to excellence, teamwork, and collaboration ensures that every client receives personalized attention and the highest quality of service. Partner with us to experience the difference that passion, purpose, and integrity can make in achieving your financial goals.

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Our Services Include:

Audit and Assurance Services: Thorough examination and verification of financial records, assuring stakeholders.

Financial Budgeting and Forecasting: Expert analysis and planning to help clients make informed financial decisions for the future.

Risk Management: Identification, assessment, and mitigation of risks to safeguard financial assets and operations.

Litigation Support: Professional assistance in legal matters involving financial disputes, providing expert testimony and analysis.

Tax Advice and Preparation: Strategic tax planning, compliance, and preparation services to minimize tax burdens and optimize financial outcomes.

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