

May 2 - 4, 2018
Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel
Syracuse, New York

52nd County Finance School



New Extended Agenda
Offering 16.5
Available CPE Credits!

Sponsored by:

*New York State Association of Counties
Office of the State Comptroller
NYS County Treasurers and Finance Officers Association*



52nd Annual County Finance School

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WEDNESDAY
MAY 2

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM	Registration
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:15 AM -10:30 AM	WORKSHOP Albany Update
10:30 AM -10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM - 12:00 PM	WORKSHOP Using Healthcare as a Shared Services Initiative
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Luncheon Hon. Thomas DiNapoli (Invited) NYS Comptroller
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS TRACK A/B (A) Developing an Effective Fund Balance Policy (B) Retirement System Redesign
2:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 PM - 4:30 PM	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS TRACK A/B (A) Cyber Security for Finance Officials (B) Multi-Year Planning
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Reception & Dinner Event

THURSDAY
MAY 3

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Registration
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	General Breakfast

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM	NYS County Treasurers and Finance Officers Association Breakfast Meeting <i>(members only)</i>
9:15 AM - 10:30 AM	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS TRACK A/B (A) What do Federal Tax Changes Mean for New York (B) Managing Your Cash in a Dynamic Economic Environment
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Break
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS TRACK A/B (A) Improving Internal Controls: Fraud Protection & Detection (B) Accounting & GASB Update
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM	Annual Awards Luncheon
1:45 PM - 3:00 PM	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS TRACK A/B (A) Community College Funding-Chargebacks (B) Landbanks Revisited
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Break
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS TRACK A/B (A) Conflict of Interest Strategies (B) A Deeper Dive: Procurement
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Dinner event at the Persian Terrace, Syracuse Marriott Downtown Hotel

FRIDAY
MAY 4

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM - 9:15 AM	WORKSHOP New York State & Local Retirement Systems Update
9:15 AM - 9:30 AM	Break
9:30 AM - 11:45 AM	WORKSHOP Real Property Tax Roundtable

CPE Credits: If you are participating in CPE qualifying sessions for CPAs, you must sign attendance sheets at the workshops to receive CPE credits. In addition, CPE forms must be filled out and returned to the Office of the State Comptroller. All Finance School workshops are CPE eligible.

NYSAC County Government Institute Credits: Participants will earn 4 elective & 1 continuing education credit in the NYSAC County Government Institute for [full conference attendance](#).

Workshops

Albany Update

Representatives from NYSAC will provide an update of the State budget, legislative priorities and other issues and concerns impacting counties. *(Wednesday, 5/2, 9:00am-10:30am)*

Using Healthcare as a Shared Services Initiative

NYSAC is forming a **Health Care Financing Collective (HCFC)** designed to lower the cost of stop-loss insurance for self-insured county health plans, and public employers with more than 100 covered employees. The HCFC model enables multiple counties to join, aggregate stop-loss plans – and lower pharmacy and administrative costs. Importantly, the program may qualify for shared service initiatives and matching funds for savings. Working with Relph Benefit Advisors to analyze health care plan data of 7 municipalities we discovered over \$1 Million in real dollar savings! *(Wednesday, 5/2, 10:45am-12:00pm)*

Developing an Effective Fund Balance Policy

Fund balance is an important element of a municipality's financial condition. This session will explain the components of fund balance, factors to consider when determining a reasonable amount of fund balance, and the need for an effective fund balance policy. *(Wednesday, 5/2, 1:30pm-2:45pm)*

Retirement System Redesign

This session will provide a detailed breakdown of numerous State Retirement System Redesign changes that will be implemented in 2018. Find out how this will impact employers as users of the system, new reporting requirements, enhanced features of the system and how this will improve the experience of members as they interface with the upgraded system. *(Wednesday, 5/2, 1:30pm-2:45pm)*

Multi-Year Planning

This workshop reviews the importance of adopting a thorough multiyear financial plan and a multiyear capital plan. Presenters will discuss how having a well-developed and routinely reviewed multiyear plan for both your finances and your capital assets can significantly increase the reliability of your budgeting, assist in monitoring financial condition, and help create a platform for increasing meaningful communication within your municipality, as well as with your taxpayers. *(Wednesday, 5/2, 3:15pm-4:30pm)*

Cyber Security for Finance Officials: Are You Protected?

Protecting financial and IT assets is becoming increasingly challenging as cyber-criminals refine their craft. This presentation will provide an overview of information technology security fundamentals and key cyber security best practices that can reduce the odds of becoming a victim of cyber crime. *(Wednesday, 5/2, 3:15pm-4:30pm)*

What Do Federal Tax Changes Mean for New York

Congress enacted significant federal tax reforms in 2017. The impact of these changes on New York State will come into clearer focus over time, but there are immediate impacts on state revenues. The session will provide a review of key features of the new federal tax law and its impact on state finances, individuals and businesses throughout New York, as well as the State's response to the federal changes. *(Thursday, 5/3, 9:15am-10:30am)*

Managing Your Cash in a Dynamic Economic Environment

Managing cash flow and seeking higher returns on county revenues is a critically important function that can benefit government operations and help local taxpayers. Changing interest rates and financial market conditions appear to be on the horizon. Find out what counties are doing in this area and what opportunities may be out there to best position your county. *(Thursday, 5/3, 9:15am-10:30am)*

Workshops

Accounting & GASB Update

Join us as an accounting expert provides an overview of emerging accounting and financial reporting issues related including GASB updates that will impact NYS county finances. *(Thursday, 5/3, 11:00am-12:15pm)*

Improving Internal Controls: Fraud Prevention and Detection

This session will provide tips and tools to recognize potential "Red Flags" for fraud and abuse. Participants will learn about the fraud triangle, "Red Flags" that are common in the workplace, what makes organizations vulnerable, and what can be done to minimize the risks. *(Thursday, 5/3, 11:00am-12:15pm)*

Community College Funding-Chargebacks

State law requires comprehensive reform of the Community College chargeback system. The changes require SUNY to come up with a new methodology for determining chargebacks within parameters defined in the law. It also calls for streamlining and simplifying the chargeback process for counties, including payments and administration of the system overall. An update on the implementation of these changes will be provided. *(Thursday, 5/3, 1:45pm-3:00pm)*

Landbanks Revisited

Several years ago, the state enacted legislation to allow the creation of local Land Banks designed to create a partnership between not-for-profit entities and local governments to address the negative impact blighted and abandoned properties can have on a community. The original law allowed for a handful of land banks, which has now grown to an authorization for 25, with county government often taking a lead role. This session will provide an update on how land banks are doing and what their future holds. *(Thursday, 5/3, 1:45pm-3:00pm)*

Procurement: A Deeper Dive

The Office of the State Comptroller's Legal Division will discuss legal requirements for competitive bidding, including statutory amendments to the General Municipal Law Section 103 and various exceptions to the bidding requirements.

(Thursday, 5/3, 3:30pm-5:00pm) NEW EXTENDED SESSION!

Conflict of Interest Strategies

Ethics and conflicts of interests issues have become hot button issues for any public servant. Local officials are held to a high standard of ethical conduct and need to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of impropriety. It is important that officials have an understanding of the laws governing this area. This session will provide an overview of the principles of incompatibility of office, Article 18 of the General Municipal Law, the requirement for local codes of ethics, and laws relating to conflicts of interest. *(Thursday, 5/3, 3:30pm-5:00pm) NEW EXTENDED SESSION!*

New York State and Local Retirement Systems Update

A representative from the State Comptroller's Office will provide an update on the New York State and Local Retirement System. *(Friday, 5/4, 8:00am-9:15am)*

Real Property Tax Roundtable

There are numerous bills pending in the State Legislature that could (and will) alter Real Property Tax Laws in New York. The latest updates on how this may impact county real property tax operations now and in the future will be discussed. *(Friday, 5/4, 9:30am-11:45am) NEW EXTENDED SESSION!*

FINANCE SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

**ONLINE
REGISTRATION
ONLY**

@

**www.regonline.com/
cofinanceschool2018**

52nd County Finance School
May 2-4, 2018, Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel, Syracuse NY



GOING PAPERLESS

Become more efficient, save money, improve your eco-footprint and most importantly, save an awful lot of time and space.

REGISTRATION FEES (For County/State/Federal Officials Only-Private Sector Guests May Register Via Our Conference Exhibitor/Sponsorship Form):

\$160 Early Bird Conference Registration- Includes participation at all workshop sessions; Wednesday lunch, coffee break & dinner event; Thursday breakfast, lunch, coffee break & reception and dinner; and Friday continental breakfast.
(Registration must be received by April 18th, 2018 to receive the Early Bird Rate)

\$185 Conference Registration - Includes participation at all workshop sessions; Wednesday lunch, coffee break & dinner event; Thursday breakfast, lunch, coffee break & reception and dinner; and Friday continental breakfast.
(Applies to registration received after April 18th, 2018)

Complimentary Registration for State & Federal Representatives (Elected and/or Staff) and Complimentary Spouse Registration
All State & Federal Representative and Spouse attendees must email Juanita at jmunguia@nysac.org to register.

✓ Please go to <https://www.regonline.com/cofinanceschool2018> to **REGISTER ONLINE!!!**
You may register online with a purchase order, voucher, check, credit card or you may choose to be invoiced.

Finance School Registration Policy

- ✓ Hotel Reservations must be made by calling the Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel directly (see below)
- ✓ Even if you register with the hotel for a room, you must also register with NYSAC for the conference.

Conference Registration Cancellation Policy:

All conf. reg. cancellations will be charged a \$25 processing fee and must be submitted via email to receive a refund.
Registrations must be cancelled through NYSAC by 5pm, Friday, April 27th for a partial refund to be made.

Please contact the hotel directly with hotel cancellations.

Protected class or disabled attendees requiring special accommodations should notify NYSAC in advance.

HOTEL RESERVATION POLICY

Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center, 801 University Avenue, Syracuse, New York 13210

Reservations Telephone: 315-475-3000 or 800-395-2105

RESERVATION DEADLINE with the Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel is APRIL 13th, 2018 or until room block sells out (which can be before the cut off date!)

****RATE \$129.00 Single or Double****

Conference participants will need to call the above number to reserve accommodations DIRECTLY with the Sheraton. Rooms will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Please refer to the New York State Association of Counties room block when registering. **ONCE THE ROOM BLOCK HAS BEEN RELEASED OR SOLD OUT, RESERVATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED BY THE HOTEL AT THEIR DISCRETION AND SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AND POSSIBLE INCREASE IN PRICING.**

****Please pay the hotel directly for your room by county check, county credit card, or county voucher.** Please note that if you are using a county voucher, it must be provided at the time of check-in. You must bring a tax exempt form in order to receive tax exemption. If a tax-exempt form is not on file upon check-in, the voucher alone is not an acceptable form of tax exemption. PLEASE PROVIDE CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO GUARANTEE YOUR ROOM. Complimentary parking is available for overnight guests.

Please return any vouchers or purchase orders or payment to:

52nd Annual County Finance School, NYSAC, 540 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12207 or fax 518.465.0506

Please contact Juanita Munguia with any questions or registration cancellations via email: jmunguia@nysac.org