

Financial Leadership



In Turbulent Waters

NYSAC 60th Annual County Finance School

May 20-22 . 2026
The Queensbury Hotel . Glens Falls . NY



Welcome to the NYSAC 60th Annual County Finance School, a long-standing tradition of excellence in public sector financial education. This conference is made possible through the continued collaboration of the New York State Association of Counties and the Office of the State Comptroller, with valued contributions from the NYS County Treasurers and Finance Officers Association.

We are pleased to have you join us for this annual training event and look forward to providing a productive and engaging experience.



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Lunch Presentation

Wednesday, May 20 | Noon | Queens Ballroom

Capital, Risk, Results: A CFA's Playbook for County Finance



Stephen Murphy, CFA

SVP, Senior Portfolio Manager,
BNY Investments Dreyfus

Steve is a senior portfolio manager responsible for managing multiple cash and short duration fixed income strategies. He is responsible for strategy implementation, security selection, trading and adherence to portfolio guidelines. Since beginning his career in 1996, Steve has accumulated valuable experience in investment management, all focused on the cash space. Steve began managing cash portfolios in 2001. Previously, he served in several specialist roles, including as performance measurement analyst for Mellon Bond Associates and as a securities lending analyst for Mellon Bank N.A.'s Global Securities Lending group. Steve is also a frequent speaker at liquidity events. Steve has an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh and a BA from Westminster College. He holds the CFA® designation.

Agenda

Wednesday
May 20 | 2026

8:00AM - 5:00PM | Lobby
Conference **REGISTRATION**

9:00AM - 10:15AM | Adirondack North
ALBANY UPDATE PLENARY

10:45AM - 12:00PM | Adirondack North (Track A)
Workshop **STRATEGIC FUND BALANCE & RESERVE
MANAGEMENT**

10:45AM - 12:00PM | Adirondack East/West (Track B)
Workshop **CIVIL SERVICE IN TRANSITION: UNDERSTANDING
THE NYHELPS PROGRAM AND WHAT COMES NEXT FOR
COUNTY FINANCE STAFFING**

12:00PM - 1:30PM | Queens Ballroom

Lunch with **Stephen Murphy, CFA**

1:30PM - 2:45PM | Adirondack North (Track A)
Workshop **FROM LEDGER TO BANK:
MASTERING GENERAL LEDGER & CASH
MANAGEMENT**

1:30PM - 2:45PM | Adirondack East/West (Track B)
Workshop **CYBERSECURITY & FRAUD
PREVENTION: PROTECTING PUBLIC FINANCES IN
A DIGITAL AGE**

3:15PM - 4:30PM | Adirondack North (Track A)
Workshop **SMART DEBT PLANNING & LONG TERM
MANAGEMENT**

3:15PM - 4:30PM | Adirondack East/West (Track B)
Workshop **GASB UPDATES: KEY CHANGES AND
PRACTICAL IMPACTS**

5:30PM - 6:30PM | Main Hotel Lobby

Reception

6:30PM - 8:30PM | Queens Ballroom

Dinner

Agenda

Thursday
May 21 | 2026

8:00AM - 9:00AM | Queens Ballroom

BREAKFAST

8:00AM - 5:00PM | Lobby

Conference **REGISTRATION**

9:15AM - 10:30AM | Adirondack North (Track A)

Workshop **AFR EXCELLENCE: TROUBLESHOOTING
AND BEST PRACTICES FOR FINANCE TEAMS**

9:15AM - 10:30AM | Adirondack East/West (Track B)

Workshop **PREPARING FOR FEDERAL & STATE
BUDGET CHANGES: STRATEGIES AND RISKS**

11:00AM - 12:15PM | Adirondack North (Track A)

Workshop **NAVIGATING ESTATE MATTERS: LEGAL
DO'S AND DON'TS FOR COUNTY TREASURERS**

11:00AM - 12:15PM | Adirondack East/West (Track B)

Workshop **PROCUREMENT CARDS DONE RIGHT:
BEST PRACTICES FOR FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT**

12:15PM - 1:15PM | Queens Ballroom

Lunch FINANCE SCHOOL AWARDS LUNCHEON

1:45PM - 3:00PM | Adirondack North (Track A)

Workshop **EFFECTIVE FINANCIAL REPORTING
FOR GOVERNMENT BODIES: CLARITY,
COMPLIANCE & COMMUNICATIONS**

1:45PM - 3:00PM | Adirondack East/West (Track B)

Workshop **SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN NYS:
POLICY, REVENUE & COMMUNITY IMPACT**

3:30PM - 4:45PM | Adirondack North (Track A)

Workshop **FOIL COMPLIANCE AND FRAUD RISKS:
KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR PUBLIC ENTITIES**

3:30PM - 4:45PM | Adirondack East/West (Track B)

Workshop **DSS ACCOUNTING IN NYS: FISCAL
STRATEGIES THAT WORK**

6:00PM - 8:00PM | Davidson Brothers Brew Pub

Special Event RECEPTION & DINNER

Agenda

Friday
May 22 | 2026

7:30AM - 8:30AM | Adirondack North

Continental **BREAKFAST**

8:00AM - 9:15AM | Adirondack North

Workshop **NEW YORK STATE & LOCAL
RETIREMENT SYSTEMS UPDATE**

9:30AM - 11:45AM | Adirondack North

Workshop **REAL PROPERTY TAX ROUNDTABLE**

CONFERENCE ADJOURNS



NYSAC
— NEW YORK STATE —
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



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 except keynote sessions.



County Government Institute Credits: Participants will earn 4 elective & 1 continuing education credit in the County Government Institute for full conference attendance.

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Workshop Overview



Albany Update Plenary: State Budget, Legislation, and Key Issues Impacting Counties

Wednesday, May 20 | 9:00AM - 10:15AM | Adirondack North

Hear the latest insights on key developments in legislation affecting county finances across New York State. This plenary session provides a timely overview of legislative, fiscal, and regulatory changes coming out of Albany.



Strategic Fund Balance & Reserve Management

Wednesday, May 20 | 10:45AM - 12:00PM | Adirondack North

This session will explain what fund balance is, the components of fund balance and considerations when monitoring and analyzing the various levels of fund balance. We will also discuss the purpose, benefits, and proper use of several commonly used reserves.



Civil Service in Transition: Understanding HELP and What Comes Next

Wednesday, May 20 | 10:45AM - 12:00PM | Adirondack East/West

Learn about the evolving landscape of civil service in New York, including the impact of the Hiring Emergency Limited Placement Program. This session will discuss workforce challenges, policy changes, and what local governments should anticipate moving forward.



Cybersecurity & Fraud Prevention: Protecting Public Finances in a Digital Age

Wednesday, May 20 | 1:30PM - 2:45PM | Adirondack North

Understand the growing risks to public sector financial systems and how to mitigate them. This session highlights practical safeguards, internal controls, and response strategies to prevent fraud and cyber threats.



Workshop Overview



From Ledger to Bank: Mastering General Ledger & Cash Management

Wednesday, May 20 | 1:30PM - 2:45PM | Adirondack East/West

Strengthen your understanding of core financial operations from general ledger maintenance to cash flow management. This workshop focuses on the accuracy of creating and entering journal entries, why accounting and banking are not always synonymous, and the reconciliation process to verify the accuracy and reliability of financial information.



GASB Updates: Key Changes and Practical Impacts

Wednesday, May 20 | 3:15PM - 4:30PM | Adirondack North

Stay up to date on the latest standards issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board and their implications for local governments. This workshop translates complex guidance into practical steps for implementation and compliance.



Preparing for Federal & State Budget Changes: Risks, Strategies & Opportunities

Thursday, May 21 | 9:15AM - 10:30AM | Adirondack North

Understanding federal and state budget trends and their impact on county finances is vital to local governments. This session provides strategies on how to use evolving technologies to ease budget risks and improve accounting operations.



AFR Excellence: Best Practices & Troubleshooting for Finance Teams

Thursday, May 21 | 9:15AM - 10:30AM | Adirondack East/West

Gain practical tips for preparing accurate and timely Annual Financial Reports (AFRs). This session will outline the required data for each section and show you how to streamline your AFR review and ensure GASB compliance by correcting common errors before submission.

Workshop Overview



Procurement Cards Done Right: Best Practices for Financial Oversight

Thursday, May 21 | 11:00AM - 12:15PM | Adirondack East/West

As procurement card programs expand across county government, the need for robust financial oversight has never been greater. This workshop will guide participants through proven strategies to manage procurement cards efficiently, prevent misuse, and ensure transparency. Attendees will explore essential controls, audit techniques, and policy development that support responsible spending while streamlining operations. Join us to discover how your county can maximize the benefits of procurement cards and minimize risks, empowering staff to make secure, compliant purchases in today's fast-paced environment.



Navigating Estate Matters: Legal Do's and Don'ts for NYS County Treasurers

Thursday, May 21 | 11:00AM - 12:15PM | Adirondack North

This session provides New York State county treasurers with practical guidance on handling estate-related matters within legal boundaries. Attendees will learn key do's and don'ts, common pitfalls to avoid, and how to ensure compliance when managing estate assets and obligations. Designed to build confidence and clarity, this workshop helps treasurers make informed, lawful decisions in complex situations.



Effective Financial Reporting to Governing Bodies: Clarity, Compliance & Communication

Thursday, May 21 | 1:45PM - 3:00PM | Adirondack North

Discover how to present financial information in a way that is clear, accurate, and actionable for elected officials. This session focuses on improving transparency, enhancing communication, and meeting reporting standards.



Short-Term Rentals in NYS: Policy, Revenue & Community Impact

Thursday, May 21 | 1:45PM - 3:00PM | Adirondack North

Explore the financial and regulatory implications of short-term rentals for local governments. This workshop covers taxation, enforcement challenges, and balancing revenue opportunities with community concerns.

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Workshop Overview



DSS Accounting in New York State: Fiscal Strategies That Work

Thursday, May 21 | 3:30PM - 4:45PM | Adirondack East/West

This session examines key financial practices for Departments of Social Services (DSS) across NYS. Attendees will gain insight into reimbursement structures, cost control strategies, and compliance requirements.



FOIL Compliance & Fraud Risks: Key Considerations for Public Entities

Thursday, May 21 | 3:30PM - 4:45PM | Adirondack North

Examine the intersection of transparency requirements under the New York Freedom of Information Law and internal fraud risks. Learn how to respond to requests while safeguarding sensitive financial information.



Navigating the Latest NYS Pension Updates for Public Officials

Friday, May 22 | 8:00AM - 9:15AM | Adirondack North

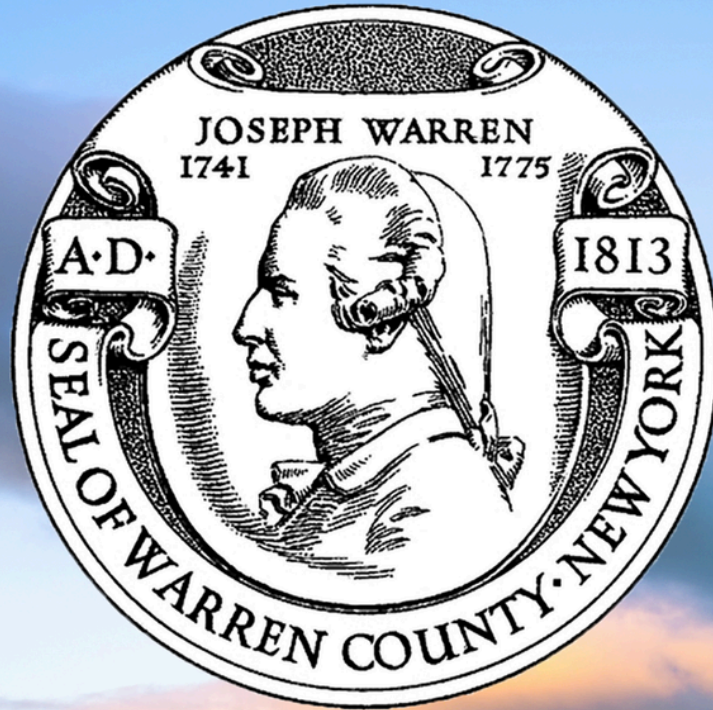
Stay current on recent developments affecting the New York State and Local Retirement System and what they mean for county budgets and long-term obligations. This session will break down key policy changes, contribution trends, and planning considerations for local officials.



Real Property Tax Roundtable: What Leaders Need to Know

Friday, May 22 | 9:45AM - 11:00AM | Adirondack North

Stay informed on recent legislative, legal and administrative updates impacting real property taxation in New York State. Learn how these changes affect levies, assessments, tax delinquency and foreclosure, and local revenue planning.



**NYSAC Expresses Gratitude to
Warren County for Their
Support and Contributions to
the Success of the
County Finance School.**



Hon. Kevin B. Geraghty
Chairman
Warren County Board of Supervisors