

# May 18-22, 2024

The Diplomat Beach Resort Hollywood, FL

# Schedule at a Glance\*

# Saturday, May 18, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Desk Open

8:00 a.m. - 4:40 p.m. Leadership Pre-Conference Seminar (8 hrs. BEH) (Additional and pre-registration required)

8:00 a.m. - 4:40 p.m. Investment Pre-Conference Seminar (8 hrs. TB) (Additional and pre-registration required)

# Sunday, May 19, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Registration Desk Open

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Zumba Class** 

11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. First-Time Attendees' Orientation

11:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open** 

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. GASB Update: When is Enough Enough? (AA)

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. Procurement Strategies (TB)

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. Be in the Know: The Role of the Different Health Accounts (TB)

2:40 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Refreshment Break**  3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. GASB Hot Topics (AA)

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Which Retirement Plan is Right? (TB)

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Cybersecurity: From Threats to Mitigation and Protection (TB)

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Association Night Reception

8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Hospitality Suite Open

# Monday, May 20, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** 

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Registration Desk Open** 

8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. Opening General Session

9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open** 

9:40 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Refreshment Break** 

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. Introduction to Governmental Accounting and Best Practices (AA)

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. **"Yes, We Can!" (BEH)** 

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. Self-Funded Health Plan Strategies and Considerations for Employers (TB) 10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. Technology and the Future of Public Finance (TB)

11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. FGFOA 2024-2025 Standing Committee Meetings

11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch in the Exhibit Hall

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. Disaster Reimbursement Do's and Don'ts (TB)

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. Economic Update and Indicators (TB)

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. The Growth Mindset: How to Develop Tomorrow's Leaders Today (BEH)

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. Investment Strategies for Small and Large Governments (TB)

2:40 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Refreshment Break** 

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Financial Reporting Challenges (AA)

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Assessments 101 (TB)

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Public Records and Sunshine Law (TB)

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Current Market Conditions (TB)

8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Hospitality Suite Open

# Schedule at a Glance\*

# Tuesday, May 21, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** 

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Desk Open

8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. Free Money? Yes, Please! All About Grants (TB)

8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. Legislative Update (TB)

8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. Mitigating Banking Risk (TB)

8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. The Transformation Process (TB)

9:40 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Refreshment Break** 

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. Internal Controls in Government (AA)

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. Budget Best Practices (TB)

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. **No More Silos! (BEH)** 

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. "How Would You Like to Pay?" (TB)

11:50 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Innovation Awards Luncheon & Past Presidents' Recognition 1:30 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. Auditor General and Department of Financial Services Update (AA)

1:30 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. Strategic and Financial Planning (TB)

1:30 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. HR Salaries and Union Procedures (TB)

1:30 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. Governmental Deferred Compensation Plans: A Comprehensive Guide for Finance Directors (TB)

3:10 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Refreshment Break** 

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Common Audit Findings (AA)

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. On Your Way to Royalty with GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (TB)

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Lean Six Sigma (TB)

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Rating Agencies FAQs (TB)

6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. **Tuesday Night Event** 

9:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. **Hospitality Suite Open** 

# Wednesday, May 22, 2024

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Registration Desk Open

8:30 a.m. - 9:20 a.m. Breakfast and Annual Business Meeting

9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Single Audit Updates and More (AA)

9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. HR Hot Topics (TB)

9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Planning (TB)

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Refreshment Break** 

11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. Financial Condition Assessment Indicators and Procedures (TB)

11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. Hybrid and Remote Policies and Best Practices (TB)

11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. Microsoft Suite: Tips and Tricks (TB)

\*This is a tentative conference schedule and subject to change.



We have planned several networking opportunities during the conference that will make your stay at the Diplomat more enjoyable.

# **EXHIBIT HALL**

Be sure to visit the exhibit hall and meet with the companies that help make this conference possible. Refreshment breaks, Sunday's Association Night Reception and Monday's lunch will be held in the exhibit hall.

# **HOSPITALITY SUITE**

After a long day, join us in the hospitality suite to relax and network with friends, vendors and colleagues while enjoying refreshments. Plenty of activities will be going on, so be sure to check it out! The hospitality suite hours will be:

SUNDAY, MAY 198:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M.MONDAY, MAY 208:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M.TUESDAY, MAY 219:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M.

# **ZUMBA CLASS**

SUNDAY, MAY 19 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Fitness enthusiasts, be sure to join us for a fun and energetic Zumba class led by our own Nicole Gasparri. She is sure to get your heart rate up and ready for the day.

# **ASSOCIATION NIGHT RECEPTION**

SUNDAY, MAY 19 5:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Mingle with friends and colleagues and learn about innovative financial advances while enjoying delicious food and drink.

Association Night is open to registered adults only; no children, please.

# **TUESDAY NIGHT EVENT**

TUESDAY, MAY 21 6:30 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Come ready to party at **Gulfstream Park**. The event will include dinner and dancing to live music by Miami's premier '80s cover band, **Juanabe**.

This event is included with regular registration, and guest registrations may also be purchased. **A name badge is required to attend this event, so all guests must be registered**. See page 10 for more details.



# **Education Schedule\***

# Saturday, May 18, 2024

8:00 a.m. - 4:40 p.m. **Pre-Conference Seminars** (Additional and pre-registration required)

# LEADERSHIP CPE Credit: 8 Hours (BEH)

### 8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. **Growth of a Leader**

Are you ready to expand your knowledge base and transition to a leadership role from a worker bee? How can you tell if your staff is ready? How do you properly prepare your staff and groom your successor? This workshop will cover all of this and more.

#### 10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. Habits for Successful Leadership: Emotional Intelligence Tops the List!

Of course, emotional intelligence is important! And there is a benefit to high EI in the world of work. But what does that mean exactly? Why are leaders making decisions driven by emotional intensity? No two people experience the same emotions. As a result, employees respond to situations in different ways. Yet emotional intelligence is responsible for roughly 58% of productivity! Employees with high EQ are 127 times more productive than others! In this session, you will learn about emotional intelligence, why it's difficult and how there is a need for human skills now more than ever. Develop the skills and learn actionable tips you need for leadership now and beyond 2025.

# 1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Adaptation of Leadership Styles

Understanding the nuances of your workplace environment and culture will help guide your approach to leading a team. Leaders need to adapt their leadership style to the changing work environment. This session will focus on how to accomplish this.

#### 3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Building and Sustaining Highly Effective Teams

Bridging the generational gap is vital in today's workplace as a new generation of employees joins your organization. Do motivations change between different generations? How do you build and sustain highly effective teams across generations? This workshop will provide insights into these questions and more.

# INVESTMENT CPE Credit: 8 Hours (TB)

# 8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

**Investment Policies Best Practices** This discussion will focus on best practices related to investment policies and explore how and why to implement them.

# 10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. Economic and Market Update

This session will review recent economic and capital market developments using an interactive format. We will discuss how local government investments may be affected by economic events such as changing inflation, geopolitical events and the actions of the Federal Reserve.

# 1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

**The Short and Long of Investments** Discussion in this session will focus on investment considerations for both the operating and long-term portfolios.

#### 3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. Measuring and Communicating Performance

Learn how to measure your agency's investment performance. Do your investments align with your organization's strategic plan? You'll also receive tips on how to communicate performance to elected officials and other stakeholders.

# Sunday, May 19, 2024

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

### GASB Update: When is Enough Enough?

# CPE Credit: 2 Hours (AA)

This session will include the latest news from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and provide answers to address public confusion about current pronouncements. Included in this session discussion will be the new GASB Reporting Model.

#### Procurement Strategies CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

This session will provide an overview of the various procurement methods, including requests for bids, requests for proposals, sole source/single source, piggybacks and co-operatives. It will also provide insight on how to document the procurement method to enforce compliance with Florida Statutes and agency policies while ensuring financial planning and budgets are adhered to.

#### Be In the Know: The Role of the Different Health Accounts CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

This session will help you understand the benefits of HSA, HRA and FSA programs to your employees. It will also discuss how these plans can be used effectively in employee benefit programs to meet both employer and employee needs.

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.

# GASB Hot Topics

#### CPE Credit: 2 Hours (AA)

This session will cover the major accounting and financial reporting issues associated with implementing GASB 87 and GASB 96.

# Which Retirement Plan is Right? CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

This session will provide a comprehensive understanding of the various types of retirement plans available in the public sector. It will provide insights into the key features, ben-

# Sunday, May 19, 2024 continued

efits and considerations associated with different retirement plans, as well as the long-term financial implications of each type of plan on a government agency. This session will also discuss the agency's fiduciary responsibility for each type of plan, as well as what finance professionals should consider when planning for retirement.

#### Cybersecurity: From Threats to Mitigation and Protection CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

It's not a matter of if but when your network will be impacted by a cyber incident. This session will teach you how your organization can mitigate the disruption to vital services that a cyber incident can cause and safeguard financial data. This workshop will also explore best practices for securing financial systems and preventing data breaches.

# Monday, May 20, 2024

8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m. Opening General Session

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.

#### Introduction to Governmental Accounting and Best Practices CPE Credit: 2 Hours (AA)

Are you new to the governmental arena? This session will cover the basics of governmental accounting and reporting in today's environment. It will review the unique aspects of the governmental environment, recognize the financial reporting structure used by governments and review the basic differences between commercial and governmental accounting and why these differences exist. Additionally, best practices for accounting procedures for governmental agencies, including the clerk's offices, will be addressed.

# "Yes, We Can!"

# CPE Credit: 2 Hours (BEH)

In this session, participants will explore the role of women in leadership, including the skills needed, the struggles that are faced and how to accomplish the balancing act. How to inspire and support other women and the next generation to do great things will also be discussed.

#### Self-Funded Health Plan Strategies and Considerations for Employers CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

This session will provide an overview of self-insured health insurance, program strategies to consider, best practices and important compliance requirements related to self-insured health plans.

# Technology and the Future of Public Finance

*CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)* Learn how artificial intelligence may affect the future of public finance, from financial reporting to risk management and beyond. The discussion will include understanding the potential applications of AI, RPA and Generative AI in finance, such as enhancing financial analysis, automating tasks, developing content for board reports, streamlining processes and deriving valuable insights from financial data to aid the decision-making process.

1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

# Disaster Reimbursement Do's and Don'ts

#### CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB) Is your organization ready? This session will focus on FEMA's and the Florida Division of Emergency Management's reimbursement process for emergency management expens-

for emergency management expenses. FEMA's reimbursement categories (A to Z) will be reviewed, as well as what documentation is needed to maximize reimbursement for declared emergency management events. Additionally, the session will provide a comprehensive overview of F-ROC, which is a new initiative sponsored by FDEM that standardizes, streamlines and simplifies the FEMA Public Assistance process, resulting in a quicker recovery and reduced risk for applicants.

# Economic Update and Indicators CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Economic conditions affect budget-

ing and financial planning functions in all governmental entities. This session will discuss the current state of the economy and provide national, state and regional trends. This session will also provide a thorough understanding of key economic indicators and metrics that are essential for financial planning, budgeting, investment and decision-making.

#### The Growth Mindset: How to Develop Tomorrow's Leaders Today

# CPE Credit: 2 Hours (BEH)

Whether you are new to a leadership team or a longtime leader, having a growth mindset is key. In order to develop others you must be continually developing yourself. In this session, we will explore how to keep developing yourself while developing others on your own leadership journey.

#### Investment Strategies for Small and Large Governments CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Participants representing small, mid-size and large governments will learn about the overall public funds investments landscape, including goal setting, implementation and monitoring performance. The session will touch on investment policy-permitted basics for short- to long-term strategies, including LGIPs and SMA portfolios, how to evaluate banking services, financial institutions, permitted investment instruments and recommended strategies. Additionally, given the considerable changes in the public funds investment landscape over the last two years, participants will learn about Federal Reserve policy dynamics and how these affect investments and public funds management overall.

3:00 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.

#### **Financial Reporting Challenges** CPE Credit: 2 Hours (AA)

This session will focus on providing answers to various hypothetical complex accounting and financial reporting questions faced by many Florida governments.

# Monday, May 20, 2024 continued

#### Assessments 101

CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Special assessments are an essential tool for funding local infrastructure and services. Understanding the legal, financial and managerial aspects is crucial for government finance officers. This session will provide an overview of the types of special assessments that are authorized by Florida Statutes and will segue into an in-depth exploration of the processes involved in developing, implementing and managing special assessments.

#### **Public Records and Sunshine Law** CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

This session will help you understand the importance of maintaining and retaining public records, public records requests and Florida's Sunshine Law.

#### Current Market Conditions CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Join a discussion on the bond market with updates on national and local trends.

# Tuesday, May 21, 2024

8:00 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

# Free Money? Yes, Please! All About Grants

CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Local governments often turn to grant opportunities to help fund new initiatives, provide for new capital projects or support important initiatives that otherwise would be unaffordable. However, the effort reguired to find, manage and report on grants can be significant, especially for a small government. Attendees will learn how to distinguish between types of grants, write a better, more competitive grant proposal - tailoring their application to compete - and learn how to implement and comply with complex grant requirements and navigate and use grants.gov.

# Legislative Update

CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

This session will discuss the 2024 Legislative Session, review the bills that passed and failed and discuss their implications for local governments.

#### Mitigating Banking Risk CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Governments are exposed to a variety of banking risks that can impact their finances and, in turn, their ability to serve their citizens. Such risks include interest rate risk, credit risk, operational risk, market risk, reinvestment risk, liquidity risk and total risk. To mitigate banking risks, governments can do a variety of things, such as careful selection and management of banks; implement sound risk management practices; and protect deposits. This session will cover all of those items and speak to how governments are part of promoting financial stability, as well as economic arowth, which reduces the likelihood of banking crises.

# The Transformation Process

CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB) Learn tips and advice about ERP implementation, including compiling needs, the RFP process, implementation, project management, timelines and using change management to mitigate obstacles. Additionally, explore how IT-driven digital transformation can enhance financial processes, customer experiences, operational efficiency and digital platforms. Explore the benefits of upgrades and justifications for doing so.

10:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.

#### Internal Controls in Government CPE Credit: 2 Hours (AA)

This session will provide guidance in designing, implementing, maintaining and auditing internal controls to safeguard your organization, reviewing key internal controls for government. Included in this is a discussion on IT internal controls and the role IT plays, as well as how the shift in the remote work environment has added more layers that need to be evaluated, designed for and implemented.

#### Budget Best Practices CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Are you looking for new and creative ways to approach the budget process? This session will walk you through a local government budget process and provide insight into some effective best practices. Topics will focus on various aspects of the budget process, including establishing a vision and priorities, engaging with the public, obtaining departmental input, developing and balancing the annual budget, preparing for budget presentations, issuing the proposed and adopted budget document and monitoring the budget throughout the year.

#### No More Silos! CPE Credit: 2 Hours (BEH)

Learn how to create a collaborative environment in your organization that has good inter- and intra-departmental communication. The discussion will focus on how to communicate with those charged with governance and with citizens.

#### "How Would You Like to Pay?" CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

What are the best financing option(s) for your agency's capital plan? Find out in this session.

1:30 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.

#### Auditor General and Department of Financial Services Update CPE Credit: 2 Hours (AA)

Receive an update from the Florida Auditor General's Office and Department of Financial Services on current issues pertaining to local governments.

#### Strategic and Financial Planning CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

The strategic plan is a useful tool to ensure resources are properly allocated based on the top priorities of a community, and it becomes the foundation for your budget and long-term financial plan. This session will walk you through the strategic

# Tuesday, May 21, 2024 continued

planning process, provide examples of how to integrate the strategic plan into the budget process and provide insight on how to develop a multiyear financial plan that supports your strategic plan.

#### HR Salaries and Union Procedures CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

Learn how to maintain a competitive pay structure with all that is facing local governments, including salary compression, inflationary pressure and cost of living and contract negotiations.

### Governmental Deferred Compensation Plans: A Comprehensive Guide for Finance Directors

#### CPE Credit: 2 Hours (TB)

This session will cover the fiduciary and management responsibilities of governmental 401(a) and 457(b) plans. Fiduciary responsibilities, including what being a fiduciary means, fiduciary standards of care, types of fiduciary liability and how to mitigate fiduciary risk, will be discussed. There will also be a review of the different plan types, eligibility requirements, contribution limits, investment options and distribution rules. Unique considerations for governmental plans, compliance requirements and best practices for plan management will also be covered.

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

#### **Common Audit Findings** CPE Credit: 1.5 Hours (AA)

This session will include a discussion of common audit findings at various local government entities related to financial reporting, internal controls and compliance, as well as best practices for addressing them.

### On Your Way to Royalty with GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

# CPE Credit: 1.5 Hours (TB)

Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program (COA), the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award (PAFR) and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. All awards encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements and create more transparency, understandability and full disclosure. This session will focus on the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award in depth.

#### Lean Six Sigma CPE Credit: 1.5 Hours (TB)

How can Lean Six Sigma benefit your organization? Not only will participants gain a refresh of what Lean Six Sigma is, but case studies will be presented to show how Lean Six Sigma benefited the organizations involved.

# Rating Agencies FAQs

*CPE Credit: 1.5 Hours (TB)* Learn all that local governments need to know to prepare for and begin a new rating process, including suggested pertinent information to support the rating agency's review. Panelists will discuss credit attributes associated with higher rated entities and factors that contribute to lower rating levels. Rating agency updates will also be discussed.

# Wednesday, May 22, 2024

9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

#### Single Audit Updates and More CPE Credit: 1.5 Hours (AA)

This session will provide an update on the Office of Management and Budget's revisions to the Uniform Guidance and the Compliance Supplement. This session will also cover the audit implications of these revisions and any revisions to the Florida Single Audit Act. Additionally, this session will provide tips on what finance officers and grant managers can do to prepare in advance for their required annual single audits of federal and state grants. What do your auditors look for? Find out so you can pass your single audit with ease and efficiency.

#### HR Hot Topics CPE Credit: 1.5 Hours (TB)

This session will provide insights for finance professionals into the latest trends, challenges and best practices in human resources management. The session will cover a range of topics relevant to the public sector, including diversity, equity and inclusion in government; remote work and hybrid work models; talent acquisition and retention; performance management and appraisal; workforce planning and succession management; HR technology and automation; employee well-being and mental health; and compliance and legal updates.

# Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Planning

### CPE Credit: 1.5 Hours (TB)

This session will focus on how IT and finance departments need to work together in developing disaster recovery and business continuity plans to minimize financial losses during disruptions.

11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

#### Financial Condition Assessment Indicators and Procedures CPE Credit: 1 Hour (TB)

Rules of the Auditor General require local governmental entity audits to include the use of financial condition assessment procedures to detect deteriorating financial conditions. Learn how that assessment is determined and the indicators of those conditions.

# Hybrid and Remote Policies and Best Practices

#### CPE Credit: 1 Hour (TB)

COVID has changed everything. Updating and developing sound policies and procedures for the "post-COVID" world, including work schedules and places and the technology involved, is now a must!

#### Microsoft Suite: Tips and Tricks CPE Credit: 1 Hour (TB)

Items from the Microsoft Suite will be highlighted for tips and tricks for leveraging technology governments already own and use. Learn how to use Microsoft Teams to organize and optimize projects and milestone tracking, plus what you can achieve with Excel and SharePoint.

\*This is a tentative conference schedule and subject to change.

# **General Conference Information**

# **ADVANCE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

All participants are encouraged to register in advance to avoid delays at the conference registration desk **and to receive housing information**. When your registration is received, a registration confirmation and housing information will be sent via email. Your badge, program, tickets and other information about the conference can be picked up upon arrival at the FGFOA Registration Desk.

# **ONLINE REGISTRATION**

A convenient online registration option is available through the FGFOA website at **fgfoa.org**.

You can pay directly online with a Visa, Mastercard or American Express. Registrations submitted and paid online via credit card will automatically be marked as paid, and you will receive your conference confirmation and housing information immediately via email.

**NOTE:** If you need to pay by check, you can download a registration form from the website. Your payment must reach the FGFOA office postmarked no later than April 19, 2024, to qualify for the early registration fee.

# **REGISTRATION FEES**

To qualify for the early registration fee, all conference registrations must be received on or prior to **April 12, 2024**. Registration forms postmarked after April 12, 2024, will be processed at the specified late fee. The registration fees for the FGFOA Annual Conference are:

	EARLY FEE	LATE FEE
REGISTRATION FEES	4/12/2024	AFTER 4/12/2024
FGFOA Government Member	\$425.00	\$475.00
FGFOA Associate Member	\$500.00	\$550.00
FGFOA Non-Member	\$550.00	\$600.00
Lifetime Member	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
PRE-CONFERENCE SEMINAR		
FGFOA Government Member	\$175.00	\$225.00
FGFOA Associate Member	\$225.00	\$275.00
FGFOA Non-Member	\$250.00	\$300.00
Lifetime Member	\$175.00	\$225.00
GUEST REGISTRATION		
Adult Guest	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00
Child Guest (3-18)	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00

Registrations are done on an individual basis. The FGFOA does not permit the sharing of a registration between two attendees. Each attendee must have a separate registration and pay the full amount.

**NOTE:** Make sure your membership dues are up to date **BEFORE** you register. Anyone who is not a current paid member will be charged the **non-member rate**, and **refunds will NOT be made after May 3, 2024**.

# **General Conference Information**

# **REGISTRATION PACKAGES**

The member and non-member registration fees include admission to all regular conference sessions, refreshment breaks, exhibit hall, Sunday's Association Night Reception, Monday's lunch in the exhibit hall, Tuesday's Luncheon (no guests, please), the Tuesday Night Event and Wednesday's breakfast. These fees do not cover Saturday's pre-conference seminar, lodging or other meals.

# **GUEST REGISTRATION**

Adult and child (3-18) guest registration includes admittance to the Tuesday Night Event **only**. All guests **must** have name badges to attend the Tuesday Night Event, so registration is required.

If a spouse or guest wants to attend sessions and be scanned for continuing education credits, they must register as a non-member.

# **EXHIBITORS**

Exhibitors are required to register individually for the conference if they will be seeking continuing education credits or planning to attend any conference events after **6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 20**. The registration fee covers all regular conference sessions, refreshment breaks, Sunday's Association Night Reception, Monday's lunch in the exhibit hall, Tuesday's Lunch, the Tuesday Night Event and Wednesday's breakfast. The fee does not include Saturday's pre-conference seminars. If you have not yet secured an exhibit booth, please contact Heidi Hogarth at 850.701.3605 or *hhogarth@flcities.com*.

# **REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

All conference registration forms must be received by FGFOA postmarked no later than **Friday**, **April 12, 2024**, to qualify for advanced registration. After April 12, registrants will be subject to late registration fees.

# REFUNDS

Conference registration cancellation requests must be sent via email to *mhowe@flcities.com*. All cancellations received in the FGFOA office by 5:00 p.m., **Friday, May 3, 2024**, will receive refunds, minus a **\$50.00** cancellation fee. Refunds will be issued after the conference. **No refunds can be made after May 3 or for early departure from the conference.** Registrations may be transferred to another individual with advanced notification.

# **General Conference Information**

# **HOTEL INFORMATION**

The landmark Diplomat Beach Resort sits right on Hollywood Beach and features incredible views of the Atlantic. The hotel boasts a spectacular two-level lagoon-style pool and many water activities. Visit the hotel's website at *diplomatresort.com* for more details. **The Diplomat is a smoke-free property.** 

**NOTE: The hotel will NOT accept any reservations by phone. See below for details.** The reduced rate for conference registrants will be **\$189/night**. FGFOA has secured the reduced rate of **\$32.80** per day for self-parking and **\$41.60** per day for valet parking.

# HOTEL POLICIES

Check-in time is after 4:00 p.m. Check-out time is before 11:00 a.m. A credit card is required to hold a reservation. Tax-exempt forms must be shown at check-in or sent in advance. See details in your registration confirmation email.

# **ROOM RESERVATIONS – IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ**

In recent years, many of our registrants have experienced the inconvenience of having to stay outside of the host hotel. Our hotel room block has filled up sooner than expected, with people making reservations they may not use, "just in case." These individuals end up not attending the event and canceling their reservations, but it is too late to help others who have booked into other properties and cannot cancel without a penalty.

As a result, our policy is that all hotel reservations will be made via an **online link**, which you **will receive when the FGFOA has received your registration** for the conference. **The Diplomat will NOT accept any reservations by phone.** Once your registration is received, you will be emailed an attendee-specific link to make your room reservation online.

Please note that the reservation cutoff date is **April 12, 2024**. It is important that you register for the conference early so that you have plenty of time to make your reservations. Note that the hotel could sell out **before** the cutoff date, and the FGFOA cannot guarantee rooms will be available at the time you make your reservations, **so please register for the conference, and make your reservations as soon as possible**.

We apologize in advance for any confusion or inconvenience this may cause, but we sincerely hope that this procedure will enable more of our participants to stay in the host hotel. **Please register early.**