



## CITY OF DANIA BEACH FINANCE DEPARTMENT

TO: Honorable Mayor and Commission  
FROM: Robert Baldwin, City Manager  
BY: Mark Bates, Finance Director  
DATE: November 22, 2011  
SUBJECT: National GFOA Conference in Chicago - June 10-13, 2012

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The GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association) is holding its annual conference in Chicago this coming June. This conference presents an excellent opportunity for our Assistant Finance Director to obtain continuing education credits for her CPA license renewal as well as establish communication networks with other City finance colleagues.

I recommend that our Assistant Finance Director, Nicki Satterfield attend this conference in June. Ms. Satterfield has demonstrated a growing improvement to the City's basic Finance internal controls and financial reporting. Attending this conference will allow Ms. Satterfield to learn and share advanced knowledge about the challenging and changing environment of government finance; creating more efficient and capable Department staff.

The estimated cost for conference attendance is approximately \$1,200 with funds available in the Finance Department approved budget:

Airfare	\$ 350.00
Hotel (4 days)	600.00
Conference Fee	380.00
<u>Per diem/transport</u>	<u>250.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,580.00

I request Commission approval for attendance at this June 2012 GFOA conference.



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## Seminar Registration

[Details](#) | [Where](#) | [Directions](#) | [Notes](#)

It appears that you are not a member or you have forgotten to login. If you are a GFOA member and do not have your login information, please contact us at [Logins@gfoa.org](mailto:Logins@gfoa.org).

First-time visitor? Create a login and password to register. - [Sign Up](#)

If you are a GFOA member and have your login information you can login and register for the meeting you are interested in. - [Log In](#)

### 106th Annual Conference

Status: Active  
 Total Items: 2  
 Date: 06/10/2012 thru 06/13/2012  
 Early Registration Deadline: 01/31/2012  
 Late Registration Deadline: 04/11/2012

#### Training Information:

This truly is a period of unprecedented transition. Amidst the many variables facing today's government finance officer, the only constant appears to be change. Meanwhile, government finance professionals must confront these winds of change in the broader context of a deeply troubled economy.

The GFOA's annual conference offers a uniquely cost-effective way to obtain reliable, timely, and practical guidance on the latest strategies, tools, and techniques in each of the major areas of public finance.

It also offers an ideal venue for meeting & networking with colleagues and experts from across the country.

Details | Sort By -  06/10/2012

- [Annual Conference - Chicago, Illinois](#) 01:30 PM
- [DELEGATE](#) 01:30 PM

#### Detail

Auto registration for Annual Conference - Chicago, Illinois			
106th Annual Conference - Winds of Change: Public Finance in Transition			
Date: 06/10/2012 thru 06/13/2012			
Start Time: 01:30 PM			
End Time: 12:10 PM			
Type	Early	Regular	Late
Associate Member	\$ 525.00	\$ 570.00	\$ 645.00
New Account	\$ 535.00	\$ 575.00	\$ 630.00
General	\$ 380.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 475.00

DELEGATE			
DELEGATE			
Date: 06/10/2012 thru 06/13/2012			
Start Time: 01:30 PM			
End Time: 12:10 PM			
Type	Early	Regular	Late
General	Complimentary		

[Login/Password Assistance](#) | [Membership Questions](#) | [Training Questions](#) | [Publication Questions](#)

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada  
 203 N. LaSalle Street - Suite 2700 | Chicago, IL 60601-1210 | Phone: (312) 977-9700 - Fax: (312) 977-4806

Browser Support ([Firefox](#), [Safari](#), [Internet Explorer](#))



Government Finance Officers Association

# **106th GFOA Annual Conference**

## **McCormick Place West, Chicago, Illinois**

### **June 10 – 13, 2012**



## **Winds of Change: Public Finance in Transition**



**21 CPE Credits**

**Register today to take advantage of discounts at  
[www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org)**

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Select from concurrent sessions, discussion groups, and preconference training seminars to customize your own educational curriculum.

Participate in half-day preconference seminars beginning the morning of Friday, June 8, 2012 – Saturday, June 9, 2012.

Concurrent sessions will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 10, 2012, and conclude at 12:10 p.m. on Wednesday, June 13, 2012.



**McCormick Place West Building**  
2301 South Indiana Avenue • Chicago, IL 60616

# Why Attend?

This truly is a period of unprecedented transition. Amidst the many variables facing today's government finance officer, the only constant appears to be change. Meanwhile, government finance professionals must confront these *winds of change* in the broader context of a deeply troubled economy.

The GFOA's annual conference offers a uniquely cost-effective way to obtain reliable, timely, and practical guidance on the latest strategies, tools, and techniques in each of the major areas of public finance.

It also offers an ideal venue for meeting and networking with colleagues and experts from across the country and around the world—all at a price you can afford!



## CPE Credits

It is possible to earn up to 21 continuing professional education (CPE) credits at the GFOA's annual conference. Additional CPE credits can be earned by attending one or more of the GFOA's preconference seminars.

The GFOA is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors through its website: [www.learningmarket.org](http://www.learningmarket.org).



### National Registry of CPE Sponsors

150 Fourth Avenue North • Suite 700 • Nashville, TN 37219-2417

[www.nasba.org](http://www.nasba.org)

# Conference Overview

Thousands of public finance professionals gather each year for this three-day conference to share ideas, develop technical and managerial skills, view new products, and network with peers.

Take advantage of the following unparalleled opportunities at the GFOA annual conference:

- preconference seminars offered on Friday and Saturday
- concurrent sessions on Sunday-Wednesday
- welcome reception on Sunday night
- general sessions on Monday and Tuesday mornings
- discussion groups on Tuesday afternoon

All preconference and conference seminars and exhibits will be held at McCormick Place West. Watch [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) for the latest details on all conference events.

## Program

The annual conference includes general sessions on Monday and Tuesday mornings that feature recognized leaders in the government finance profession and offers concurrent sessions that address topical issues in government finance.

Our conference attracts attendees who strive to improve current practices and who see innovation as the key to high performance government. They bring a willingness to share ideas and experiences as well as a readiness to network to take home the best ideas from their peer finance officers at the conference.

## GFOA's Products and Services Booth

While in the exhibit hall, be sure to stop by GFOA's Products and Services Booth to keep up to date on recent GFOA activity. A GFOA staff member will be available at all times to answer any questions you may have on membership, publications, training, and GFOA's technical recognition programs. Authors of GFOA's latest publications will be available at the booth during various times.

## Concurrent Sessions

Create your own curriculum from among concurrent sessions in seven tracks offered over three days.

Sessions cover the following areas:

- *Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting*
- *Budgeting and Financial Planning*
- *Debt Management*
- *Management and Policy*
- *Pension and Benefit Administration*
- *Technology and Digital Government*
- *Treasury and Investment Management*

Specific concurrent session information and speakers will be posted to GFOA's annual conference page at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) as they become available. Mix and match the sessions you attend to best fit your financial management needs.

## Certification Examinations

The GFOA's Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO) program continues with the administration of all five examinations on Friday, June 8. Technical and administrative support for the program is provided by Radford University's Governmental and Nonprofit Assistance Center. For an application packet, please go to the certification section on the GFOA's website at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) or call Radford University at 540-831-6734.

## Exhibit Hall

See the latest innovations from exhibitors offering management- and finance-related products and services to local, state, and provincial governments. The GFOA's exhibit hall is open Sunday through Tuesday. Visit [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) for a list of current exhibitors or information on exhibiting.

## Discussion Groups

On Tuesday, June 12 from 4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m., you will have an opportunity in a mid-sized group setting to focus on more concentrated topics affecting day-to-day challenges.

# Session Tracks

## Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting

This past year saw a number of important developments that will affect public-sector accounting and auditing professionals. One recent statement of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) will significantly modify the rules used to identify and report component units. Another recent GASB statement will change the format and terminology used to present the government-wide statement of position. Yet another recent statement from the GASB will modify the rules governing hedge accounting. In addition, the GASB has proposed fundamental changes in accounting and financial reporting for pensions that would affect even employers that participate in cost-sharing plans.

Meanwhile, the GASB is preparing to propose new guidance on topics ranging from accounting and financial reporting for governmental funds to fiscal sustainability reporting. Auditors of state and local governments also must contend with the issuance of a new edition of *Government Auditing Standards* (“Yellow Book”), the latest Single Audit guidance, and changes emanating from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Technical sessions in the accounting, auditing, and financial reporting track will provide timely and comprehensive coverage of all of these topics. They also will explore the latest changes to the GASB *Comprehensive Implementation Guide*, common reporting deficiencies, the new edition of the GFOA’s classic “Blue Book,” *Governmental Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting (GAAFR)*, and practice issues involving internal control, internal audit, and fraud.

## Budgeting and Financial Planning

To manage public resources within a volatile world and national economy, finance officers are adopting new approaches to fiscal planning, budget development, and budget monitoring. For example, new forecasting methods are focusing on alternative scenarios in anticipation of unexpected economic changes. User fees continue to be near the top of the list of budget balancing options as property and sales taxes grow slowly or not at all. Above all, managers who are responsible for the planning and budget process must anticipate change and offer options that accommodate a wide range of fiscal contingencies. This year’s budget and financial planning sessions will provide innovative techniques for forecasting, fee setting, and budgeting to support long-term fiscal resiliency. Sessions will also give conference attendees up-to-date information on how to thrive in changing times, including new approaches to public-private partnerships, identifying and funding alternative service levels, and gaining greater public understanding and support through information transparency.

## Debt Management

Nowhere are the winds of change more evident than in the municipal bond market. From new rating agency practices to increased Congressional and regulatory focus, debt managers in government must understand what is changing and how those changes will impact their governments’ debt program. Sessions will offer large and small government practitioners information on fiscally sound debt practices and current market dynamics. Updated best practice debt management policies will be highlighted throughout the sessions, in addition to market analysis and legislative and regulatory initiatives likely to have an impact on state and local government borrowers. Sessions will feature experts from the state and local government community, as well as industry experts and federal government officials in order to provide attendees with timely and appropriate advice.

## Management and Policy

More than ever before, governments are turning to their finance officer for information and guidance. The effective finance officer must not only be an expert in technical areas of finance but also play a critical role in developing and advising on organizational strategy. Finance officers are expected to collect the right information; accurately analyze, understand, and explain the situation; and recommend not only near-term tactics but long-term strategies for financial resiliency. Internally, finance officers are often faced with reduced staff and uneasy officials, where “soft” managerial skills such as effective communication, negotiation, and group facilitation are required. Externally, the ability to work with the public, other governments, and the media is critical. The management and policy track will feature management and leadership skill building, including sessions on strategic planning, communication, motivation, ethics, problem solving, teamwork, risk management, and negotiation strategies. In addition, GFOA’s research staff will be presenting information from GFOA’s new book on financial policies.

# Session Tracks

## Pension and Benefit Administration

The cost of pension and health-care benefits for employees and retirees remains in the forefront of concern for finance officers and the elected officials they serve. The key to reform is to assure that plans are fiscally sustainable, while still offering benefits that promote the recruitment and retention of high quality employees. Conference sessions will provide the latest research and practices on the sustainability of defined benefit pension plans as well as the costs and benefits of hybrid alternatives. Session speakers will also discuss innovative health-care cost containment strategies, new methods for managing pension plans efficiently and effectively, and new information systems that can improve efficiency, accuracy, and security of information.

## Technology and Digital Government

As the winds of change bring the cloud to the public sector, finance officers are learning how cloud computing can help their governments provide technology solutions at significantly lower cost. They are also learning how to address concerns about data security in the cloud. In the meantime, finance officers are applying new techniques to capture cost savings and other benefits that have been promised by newly implemented technology. Tech sessions will address security and risk mitigation; optimizing the efficiency of current systems; technology for collecting, analyzing, and using performance data; and how to take mobile applications, enterprise financial solutions, and social media to the next level while protecting the IT infrastructure.

## Treasury and Investment Management

Attend this year's treasury and investment management track to learn how your peer professionals are finding ways to invest public funds securely while getting reasonable returns in an economy too stubborn to rebound. The treasury and investment track will provide conference attendees with expert analysis of the impact of world events, the economy, technology, and other factors on local government investment strategies. Session topics will cover the spectrum of treasury management, including strategies for portfolio development in a volatile environment, the impact of banking industry changes, and how to write local investment policies and practices that will withstand economic tumult. The latest trends in treasury technologies will also be examined.

**Watch [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org)  
for specific session information**





# Preconference Seminars

## **Preconference sessions will be held at the McCormick Place West Building**

2301 South Indiana Avenue • Chicago, IL 60616

### **Taking a morning session?**

A continental breakfast will be available in your session room.

### **Taking an afternoon session?**

An afternoon snack will be available in your session room.

### **Taking a morning and afternoon session?**

Enjoy a continental breakfast and afternoon snack in your session room, as well as a grab-and-go lunch.

## **Friday, June 8, 2012**

### **Best Practices in Procurement, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. • 4 CPE Credits**

Procurement practices can make a substantial contribution to the bottom line. Inefficient, overly time-consuming processes can result in unnecessary cost, while innovative, customer-focused procurement procedures can cut the time and costs for providing services to the community. This workshop is designed to provide finance officers with a practical understanding of recent innovations and best practices in public-sector procurement that simultaneously provide effective stewardship and excellent customer service. Some of the concepts to be covered include best practices in managing vendor and supplier relationships, performance contracting, and value-based contract management.

### **Taming Employee Health-Care Benefit Costs, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. • 4 CPE Credits**

The ever-escalating cost of employee health-care benefits is a perennial challenge for both public and private employers. While there is very little public employers can do to counteract macro-level factors – such as increasingly sophisticated and expensive medical technology and an aging population – some governments have taken advantage of key leverage points to manage and contain their health-care benefit costs. This session will explore these leverage points and provide attendees with specific cost management strategies along with ideas for improving the quality of benefits.

### **Using the CIPFA-GFOA FM Model to Achieve Your Financial Management Goals, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. • 4 CPE Credits**

The GFOA's new financial management assessment tool, the CIPFA-GFOA FM Model, enables governments to compare their current financial management practices to best practices and to pinpoint areas for improvement. This session will focus on using the FM Model to understand your organization's current financial management "profile," whether it's basic stewardship, performance-focused, or strategic financial support, and how to change practices to conform to the profile your government aspires to. Practitioners who have used the model will discuss their experience. The session will conclude with an overview of how to report progress toward achieving financial management goals.

# Preconference Seminars

**Saturday, June 9, 2012**

## **Taking Charge of Internal Control: A Managerial Perspective, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. • 4 CPE Credits**

Many managers mistakenly view internal control as something of concern primarily, if not exclusively, to accountants and auditors. Yet the fundamental purpose of internal control is to provide managers with reasonable assurance that they are meeting three of their most basic managerial objectives: 1) operating the organization effectively and efficiently, 2) complying with applicable laws, regulations, and policies, and 3) preparing reliable financial reports. Moreover, experience has demonstrated, time and again, that internal control cannot be effective without active management support and involvement. This one-half day preconference seminar will provide managers, regardless of their professional background, with a solid understanding of what constitutes a comprehensive framework of internal control, and of the role they need to play as managers in implementing, monitoring, and maintaining that framework.

## **The Finance Officer's Role in Labor Relations, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. • 4 CPE Credits**

The impacts of bargaining agreements have increasingly become important factors in preparing budgets and maintaining structural fiscal balance in state and local governments. This session will focus on what the finance or budget officer must know to effectively participate in formulating and carrying out their government's labor relations strategies. Presenters will cover key practices for modeling the cost of compensation proposals and how to develop forecast assumptions under conditions of uncertainty. This session will also address how to conduct compensation and benefit cost analyses and how to make analyses understandable to non-financial participants in the bargaining process. Presenters will also describe the factors that make the finance officer an effective member of the government's negotiating team.

## **Using Performance Management to Rethink Service and Funding Priorities, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. • 4 CPE Credits**

Governments across the country have been applying the National Performance Management Advisory Commission's recommended framework and incorporating performance-based practices into their planning, budgeting, and management processes. This pre-conference seminar will provide a review from the field on what has been accomplished, and how performance management techniques are helping governments to rethink their funding priorities and service strategies, as well as to understand and learn from results. Practitioners will discuss which performance-based tools have been most effective, how they have gained support for performance-driven management, and what they learned along the way.

## **Taking the Mystery out of Alternative Service Delivery Options, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. • 4 CPE Credits**

Public-private partnerships and intergovernmental service agreements are alternative approaches that can allow governments to provide services to the public at lower cost. Yet relatively few governments have taken advantage of these alternatives. This half-day seminar will offer examples of successful alternative service delivery arrangements. Practitioners who have implemented such arrangements will describe lessons learned and effective approaches that reduce risk and provide transparency to the public. Effective approaches to negotiating workable agreements based on GFOA research will also be presented.

# GFOA Events

## Welcome Reception

**Sunday, June 10, 2012 • 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**The Field Museum • 1400 South Lake Shore Drive**

**All attendees are welcome.**



Shuttle service will be provided from the McCormick Place West Building and all conference hotels to The Field Museum beginning at 5:45 p.m. Return shuttle service will be provided from The Field Museum to all conference hotels.

We invite you to spend a night with us at the museum! This is a great opportunity to renew acquaintances and make a few new friends. Stroll through the museum while enjoying some appetizers and drinks. With 4.6 billion years under one roof, The Field Museum is your passport to travel around the world and back in time.

Pay a visit to the largest, most complete, best preserved T. rex ever discovered. You can meet the T. rex named Sue. Don't

worry, she doesn't bite. Discover one of the nation's largest mummy collections in the *Inside Ancient Egypt* exhibit and journey through 4 billion years of life on earth in *Evolving Planet*. Marvel in the beauty and splendor of gemstones in The Field Museum's newly renovated *Grainger Hall of Gems*.

**Plan now to attend!**

For more information on the museum, visit [www.fieldmuseum.org](http://www.fieldmuseum.org).

## GFOA's Taste of Chicago

**Tuesday, June 12, 2012 • 7:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.**

**Navy Pier • 600 East Grand Avenue**

Ticket price includes transportation, food, beverages, and entertainment.

- Adults \$40.00 in advance (\$50.00 on site)
- Children/teens under 21 \$15.00 in advance (\$20.00 on site)
- Children under 5 complimentary

Continual shuttle service will run between GFOA conference hotels and Navy Pier beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Mix and mingle at Chicago's Navy Pier — the Midwest's #1 tourist and leisure destination, attracting more than 8.6 million visitors a year. Located on Lake Michigan, just east of Chicago's Downtown, Navy Pier has been a Chicago landmark since it first opened in 1916.

Take in some of the most spectacular views of the city. Enjoy a buffet dinner with some classic Chicago food before getting ready for the night's musical entertainment. Watch [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) for exciting details to be posted as they become available.



**You will not want to miss this event!**

# Registration

## Registration Fees Include

Monday and Tuesday luncheons for delegates and the Sunday Welcome Reception for delegates and guests.

## Important Action Dates

### First discount deadline

January 31, 2012

### Second discount deadline

April 11, 2012

### Full registration fee required

April 12, 2012

**NEW**

## CONFIRMATIONS

A copy of the confirmation and invoice will be sent as a PDF attachment via e-mail from [training@gfoa.org](mailto:training@gfoa.org). Please add this address to your allowed senders list.

## Registration Fee Discounts

Take advantage of the following discounts. This is a great way to save when sending junior staff in your office.

- Receive a 10 percent discount on your conference registration fee if three or more people from your jurisdiction register together (registrations must be submitted together). This discount does not apply to preconference seminars.
- Qualify for the early registration fee discounts. Payment must be received by the deadline dates listed in this brochure.
- Join the GFOA today and receive \$25 off the conference registration fee with a paid new membership.

# Logistics

## Airline Discount Codes

### United

Phone number – 1-800-521-4041  
Meeting ID – 1234555

### American

Website – [AA.com](http://AA.com)  
Promotion code – 6962BS

### Delta

Phone number – 1-800-328-1111  
Contract number – 413727

## Rental Car

Avis – The **Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD)** Number is **D256980**.  
[https://www.avis.com/AvisWeb/reservation/ReservationsInitializer?&AWD\\_NUMBER=D256980](https://www.avis.com/AvisWeb/reservation/ReservationsInitializer?&AWD_NUMBER=D256980)

Hertz – Phone: **1-800-654-2240** • CV# **04SJ0001**

## Guest Registration

There is no registration fee for guests or children, but they must be preregistered. Guests will be admitted to the Sunday Welcome Reception and during designated hours of the exhibit hall. Conference sessions and the luncheons on Monday and Tuesday are not open to guests and children.

## Substitutions

### (Government entities only):

A one-for-one substitution of a nonmember for an active member is allowed. If your organization has a current GFOA member on the staff who is not attending conference, a nonmember may attend in his or her place at the lower member rate.

Please provide the name or the membership number of the GFOA member.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

### April 15, 2012:

No fee for cancellations received before this date.

### April 16, 2012:

Cancellations postmarked between April 16 – May 21 will be refunded, less a 25 percent service fee.

### May 21, 2012:

Cancellations postmarked after May 21 but by June 4 will be refunded, less a 50 percent service fee.

### June 5, 2012:

No refunds will be issued this date forward.

## Airport Shuttle Service

GO Airport Express – Airport Shuttle Services Information: \$3 off one-way and \$6 off round-trip for shuttle reservations made using the link below or by calling with the group code

<http://airportexpress.hudsonltd.net/res?USERIDENTRY=GFOA&LOGON=GO>

### OR

Call 1-888-284-3826 and mention the code **GFOA** to the reservation agents to receive the discount

For more information and for full rates, visit GFOA's annual conference page at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org).

# Logistics

## Public Transportation

The **Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)** offers fast, direct train service from airports to downtown along convenient bus and train lines to major attractions, simple fare cards, easy-to-use maps and brochures, and custom trip planning for groups. Use the trip planner at [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com) to find the best routes using multiple transportation options.

**Metra Commuter Rail** operates 12 commuter rail lines into downtown Chicago from the six-county area of northeast Illinois. Visit [www.metrarail.com](http://www.metrarail.com) for maps, schedules, fares, ticket information, online ticketing, and stations.

## Shuttle Service to and from Convention Center

Continuous shuttle service will run between all GFOA conference hotels and the McCormick Place West Building beginning Saturday, June 9 – Wednesday, June 13. Limited transportation will be provided on Friday, June 8, for preconference seminar participants. Check the hotel lobby for signs on times and pick-up location.



Register online at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) or fill out the form in this brochure and mail or fax it to the GFOA, fax: **(312) 977-4806**, or scan the completed registration form and e-mail it to [conference@gfoa.org](mailto:conference@gfoa.org).

Phone registrations cannot be accepted. Check the registration discount dates and save money by registering early.

## Taxis

### Taxi Service at O'Hare Airport

Taxis are available outside each terminal's Arrivals area. Taxi dispatchers curbside ensure a reasonably smooth operation. Journey time to/from downtown Chicago is 30-45 minutes depending on traffic. The taxi fare between O'Hare Airport and downtown Chicago is around \$40-\$45.

### Taxi Service at Midway Airport:

Taxis are regularly available from the curbside outside baggage claim. The average cost is approximately \$30-\$35 plus tip for a ride to downtown Chicago – expect to pay more if traveling during Chicago's rush hours.

## Parking at Convention Center

Lot A is located on Martin Luther King Drive, adjacent to the West Building. Covered walkways from Lot A leading directly into McCormick Place and the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place Hotel also provide added convenience. The parking rate is \$19 for up to 16 hours.

## Weather

Daily high temperatures in June in Chicago usually stay between 78°F and 92°F (26°C to 33°C). Check weather updates often before leaving for your trip. Visit [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) for both long-range predictions and up-to-the-minute reports.



# Where to Stay in Chicago

## Guaranteeing Your Room Reservation

onPeak is the only official housing company associated with the GFOA 106th Annual Conference. While other hotel resellers may contact you offering housing for your trip, they are not endorsed by or affiliated with the show and entering into financial agreements with such companies can have costly consequences.

Reservations will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. You can expect to receive a confirmation within 72 hours of booking your room reservation. If you do not, contact onPeak at [gfoa@onpeakevents.com](mailto:gfoa@onpeakevents.com) or at 800-947-7358 (US toll free) or 312-527-7300 (local).

No charges are incurred at the time of booking; however, a payment guarantee is required to hold your reservation in the amount of one night's stay at the confirmed hotel plus current tax of 15.4%, subject to change. Credit card information must be provided to guarantee reservation until check arrives. Check must accompany the completed housing reservation form and arrive no later than May 1, 2012. Make check payable to onPeak, LLC.

The hotel will charge payment to the credit card provided upon check-in. Please refer to your confirmation for full details, which may vary per hotel.

## Changes and Cancellations

Names can be added to rooms at a later time. Please note that all names must be provided by May 1, 2012.

Reservations cancelled less than 72 hours from the confirmed check-in date or not cancelled at all (no-show) are subject to loss of deposit. Please refer to your reservation confirmation for full policy details, which may vary per hotel.

## Housing Policies

The lowest available room rates at event hotels have been specially negotiated. Other booking channels are continuously monitored to track down rival rates. Event rates are re-negotiated when necessary and the lower rates are applied to already-booked rooms.

**Internet:** Use onPeak's online system to simplify your group/block booking and reserve your rooms in real-time with an immediate confirmation. Log on to [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) and look for the housing link.

**Phone:** 800-947-7358 (US toll free)  
312-527-7300 (local)

**Fax:** 312-329-9513

**E-mail:** [gfoa@onpeakevents.com](mailto:gfoa@onpeakevents.com)

**Mail:** 106th Annual Conference  
c/o onPeak  
350 North Clark Street • Suite 200  
Chicago, IL 60654

## Room Requests

Use the grid on the enclosed housing reservation form to indicate your room type(s) and number of rooms you are requesting per night. Enter your hotel choices in order of preference. For more space, attach an additional page, or log on to [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) where you can easily make your group booking through onPeak's online system. Please indicate any special needs.

**Reserve your room in GFOA's hotel block and you'll have a great opportunity to network with other conference attendees outside the convention center. You'll also have easy access to GFOA's Tuesday night event as shuttles will pick up from all conference hotels.**

**When you reserve your room in the GFOA hotel block, you'll automatically be eligible for:\***

- \$100 gift certificate to a local restaurant (20 winners)  
*\*Winners will be announced on June 1, 2012. One person can only win one prize.*



# Hotels and Area Map



## IMPORTANT NOTE

You will not be contacted by phone prior to making your housing reservations. Any such phone solicitations are unauthorized and should be ignored.


## BOOK NOW

Use our online system to simplify your group/block booking and reserve your rooms in real-time with an immediate confirmation. Log on to [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) and look for the housing link.

## Four Ways to Book

 [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org)

 [gfoa@onpeakevents.com](mailto:gfoa@onpeakevents.com)

 (800) 947 7358 US Toll-free  
(312) 527 7300 Local

 (312) 329 9513 Fax

1. Doubletree by Hilton Chicago Magnificent Mile  
300 E Ohio St  
Single/Double: \$195



2. Hilton Chicago  
720 S Michigan Ave  
Single/Double: \$209  
Single/Double: \$199



3. Hyatt Regency Chicago  
151 East Wacker Dr  
Single/Double: \$219  
Government Rate- Single/Double: \$171



4. Hyatt Regency McCormick Place  
2233 S Martin Luther King Dr  
Single/Double: \$245

5. Palmer House Hilton  
17 E Monroe St  
Single/Double: \$209



*Rates do not include current tax of 15.4% or applicable surcharges, subject to change.*



Shuttle Service Provided

## Special Notes

If booking a government-rated room please note that proper government ID will be required at check-in. Failure to do so may result in your rate being changed.

# Golf Tournament, Fun Run, and Tours

Information on the golf tournament, fun run, and tours will be available in mid-January on [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org). The golf tournament and fun run will take place on the morning of Sunday, June 10, 2012. Tours will be offered throughout the conference.

## About Chicago

Chicago has unparalleled sophistication, class, and style. Not to mention, breathtaking views. Our prime location and two international airports make Chicago second to none when it comes to accessibility. And once you're here, you'll find world-class meeting space and accommodations, world-renowned museums, nightlife and music for every style, theater that's home to world-premiere shows, and a dining scene that has so many accolades it's in a ranking of its own.

**Come experience Chicago, and find out why it's truly in a class by itself.**  
[www.choosechicago.com/gfoa](http://www.choosechicago.com/gfoa)

### Free Chicago Activities

- For a list of free activities to participate in during your stay in Chicago, visit GFOA's annual conference page at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org)
- Check out "Chicago's Sweet Deals" on restaurants, entertainment, and attractions by visiting [www.choosechicago.com](http://www.choosechicago.com)
- Save with additional visitor discounts with the "ChicaGo Guide to Special Values" at [www.explorechicago.org](http://www.explorechicago.org)

## Uniquely Chicago – Checklist

There's so much to do in Chicago; that's what makes this city so great. So we've put together a checklist of Classic Chicago activities to help you chart your course. But just as Chicago is unique, we invite you to put your personal stamp on your Chicago adventure.

- Visit the *Tallest Building in North America*** at the Willis Tower and step out onto **The Ledge**, a suspended glass box at **Skydeck Chicago** more than 1,000 feet in the sky.
- Submerge yourself in the U-505 German Submarine** at the Museum of Science & Industry, the *Largest Science Museum in the Western Hemisphere*.
- Find yourself Deep in Space** at the Adler Planetarium's Grainger Sky Theater, the *World's Most Advanced Digital Theater* boasting images that are eight times sharper than your local digital cinema.
- Dive in to a coastal environment** of Beluga whales, dolphins, sea otters, and seals at the Shedd Aquarium's 3-million-gallon saltwater Oceanarium, the *Largest Indoor Marine Mammal Habitat in the World*.
- Take pleasure in one of the *World's Finest and Largest Collections of French Impressionist*** art at the Art Institute of Chicago. And while you're there, explore the architecturally stunning Modern Wing housing great collections of modern and contemporary art.
- Look up at the *World's Largest Tiffany Art Glass Dome*** in the Chicago Cultural Center for a sparkling masterpiece created with nearly 30,000 pieces of stained glass.
- Roar with the lions** at one of the nation's last *Free Zoos*. This unforgettable wildlife experience amid a stunning skyline, Lincoln Park Zoo is open to the public for free every day of the year.
- Feel the power of Chicago's dazzling, knee-slapping, and thought-provoking theater scene.** As the nation's only city to have *Five Regional Tony Award-Winning Theater Companies*, Chicago delivers unforgettable performances every day of the week.
- Explore Chicago's lush Millennium Park** that is home to the famous Cloud Gate or "Bean" sculpture, Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Lurie Garden, and the *Crown Fountain* spouting water from its digital faces. Millennium Park is constructed on top of a railroad yard and expansive parking garages making it one of the *Largest Green Roofs in the World*.
- Indulge in some cheesy goodness** at one of Chicago's famous pizzerias serving up our *Award-Winning Deep-Dish Pizzas*. Who serves up the best pies? That's for you to decide!



# More GFOA Information

Since 1906, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has provided practical assistance and support to public-sector finance officers to help them better serve their communities.

Stay current with developments and trends in the government finance profession by uniting with nearly 17,400 members in the United States and Canada whose careers, studies, or interests involve government financial management.

Visit [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) and click on “Join GFOA” to download a membership application and fee schedule.

**JOIN NOW and receive \$25 OFF your conference registration fee with a paid new membership! Add the new membership fee directly to the enclosed conference registration form. Then, fax or mail us the membership application that is posted on [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org). Questions? E-mail: [membership@gfoa.org](mailto:membership@gfoa.org).**

## Enhance your Library with these GFOA Publications

Whether you are new to the finance profession or a career veteran, you'll find publications at every level to fit your management needs. Visit [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) for GFOA's latest publications and to download an order form. You may place your order online at GFOA's e-store. Interested in receiving quantity discounts? E-mail [publications@gfoa.org](mailto:publications@gfoa.org).

## Training Programs

Dedicated to the sound management of government financial resources, the GFOA provides professional development training opportunities to state and local government finance officials. Training courses are presented as basic, intermediate, advanced, update, or overview. Take part in CPE-accredited group-live courses or enjoy the convenience of training at your desktop with our group Internet-based seminars and live-streaming courses. Watch [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org) for exciting new training announcements and details. Questions? E-mail [training@gfoa.org](mailto:training@gfoa.org).

## GFOA Research and Consulting

Based on a unique blend of practitioner experience and public-sector knowledge, the GFOA consulting practice combines the latest real-world results, in-depth research, and a rigorous approach to develop innovative solutions in technology, budgeting, financial planning, and organizational analysis.

## Washington, D.C. Representation

The GFOA Federal Liaison Center in Washington, D.C. represents the interests of state and local governments on Capitol Hill and keeps the GFOA's members informed about federal legislation, regulations, judicial actions, and policies that affect all aspects of public finance. Liaison staff can be reached by e-mail at [FederalLiaison@gfoa.org](mailto:FederalLiaison@gfoa.org).

## Technical Recognition Programs

The GFOA has established several highly regarded professional recognition programs to encourage and assist state and local governments of all types and sizes to improve the quality of their financial management and to recognize their achievement:

**Innovation in any area of public finance:** Awards for Excellence in Government Finance  
([AwardsforExcellence@gfoa.org](mailto:AwardsforExcellence@gfoa.org))

**Budgeting:** Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program ([budgetawards@gfoa.org](mailto:budgetawards@gfoa.org))

**Financial reporting:** Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting ([cafrprogram@gfoa.org](mailto:cafrprogram@gfoa.org))  
Canadian Award for Financial Reporting ([canfr@gfoa.org](mailto:canfr@gfoa.org))  
Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award ([pafr@gfoa.org](mailto:pafr@gfoa.org))

Help improve your government's financial management – become a participant or reviewer today!

**Register Early  
and Save!**



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## **GFOA Chicago Checklist**

- Register for conference
- Register for preconference seminars
- Reserve your hotel room from  
GFOA's official block of rooms
- Book your flight
- Purchase your GFOA Tuesday night event tickets