



**CITY OF DANIA BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Honorable Mayor Marco Salvino
Honorable Vice Mayor Bobbie Grace
Honorable Commissioner Chickie Brandimarte
Honorable Commissioner Walter B. Duke, III
Honorable Commissioner Albert C. Jones

Memo #: DFA-15-002

FROM: Robert Baldwin, City Manager

BY: Nicki Satterfield, Finance Director

DATE: March 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Government Finance Officer's Association – Annual Conference 2015
May 31, 2015 to June 3, 2015.

The GFOA (Government Finance Officer's Association) is holding their annual conference May 31 – June 3rd this year. The conference provides continuing education hours to maintain CPA licensure requirements as well as offering annual updates and training covering topics in auditing, financial planning, debt management and various other technical topics including GACB updates. The conference also provides the latest reporting requirements, updates to new pension requirements and proposed legislative updates including health care reform.

The City's FY 2015 budget is planned for and has sufficient funding for attending this conference.

Commission approval is recommended to allow the City Finance Director to attend this annual Government Finance conference.



**CITY OF DANIA BEACH
PRE-APPROVED CONFERENCE OR TRAINING AUTHORIZATION/RECONCILIATION**

EMPLOYEE: Nicki Satterfield DEPARTMENT: Finance

LOCATION: Philadelphia, PA TRIP/TRAINING DATE: 05/31/2015 - 06/03/2015

PURPOSE: _____


Overnight Out of State Air Travel

TRAVEL EXPENSES ESTIMATED: (Policy #2002-10-1)

REGISTRATION (attach conference brochure)	\$ 425.00
LODGING (# of nights <u>4</u>)	\$684.00
MEALS (per diem)	234.30
OTHER INCIDENTAL EXPENSES:	
AIRFARE	400.00
GAS/TOLLS (round trip)	_____
OTHER TRANSPORTATION (Shuttle/Taxi/Parking)	50.00
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	_____
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES:	\$ 1,793.30

This seminar is required for: Certification General Training
 License Other _____ CPE Credits

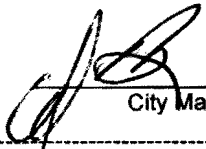
Note any overnight or out of state travel events attended in the last 12 months:

Employee Signature: 


Department Director

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION:

Finance Director


City Manager

If payment is made through City's credit card, please indicate "credit card" under "Date" Column

	Check Payee:	Amount:	Date:	RECONCILIATION	
				Actual	Differences
Registration:		\$ -			\$ -
Lodging:		-			-
Transportation:		-			-
Traveler:		-			-
Others:		-			-
Account #:		\$ -		\$0.00	\$ -

Name: Nicki Satterfield
Location: Philadelphia, PA
Purpose: GFOA Annual Conference

IRS Pub 1542 **M&IE** \$66.00 (obtain from Per diem form on City's Intranet)

	Sat 5/30/2015*	Sun 5/31/2015	Mon 6/1/2015	Tues 6/2/2015	Wed 6/3/2015*	Total Est Exps
Meal Provided:	None	None	Lunch Provided	Lunch Provided	None	
Per Diem	\$49.50	\$ 49.50	\$42.90	\$42.90	\$ 49.50	\$234.30
Lodging	171.00	171.00	171.00	171.00		\$684.00
Shuttle/Taxi	25.00				25.00	\$50.00
Conf Fees	425.00					\$425.00
Airfare	400.00					\$400.00
						\$ 1,793.30

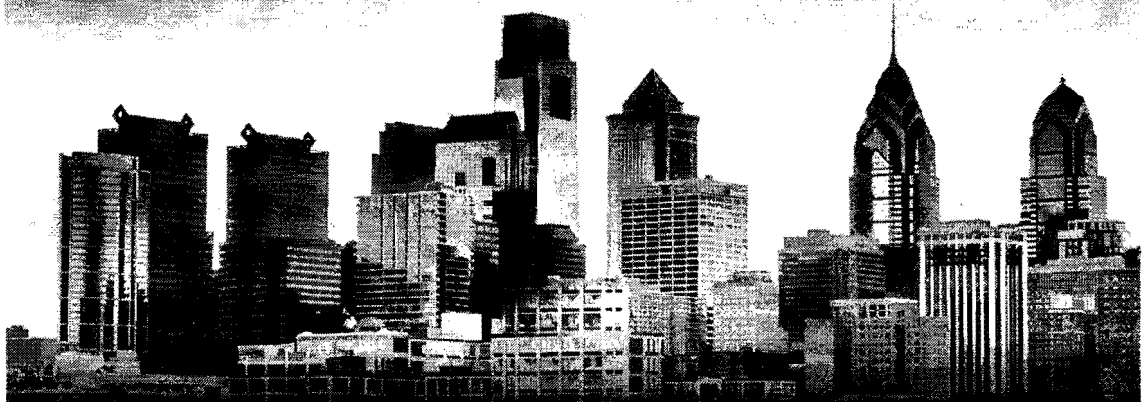
* Travel day

per diem reductions

Breakfast (B) 15% \$9.90
 Lunch (L) 35% \$23.10
 Dinner (D) 50% \$33.00



Government Finance Officers Association



109th Annual Conference Innovation and Resilience

May 31–June 3, 2015
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Register early
and save!*

www.gfoa.org



A Must-Attend Event

Join fellow finance professionals to gain practical advice and learn effective techniques to meet the continuing challenges facing the public and private sector.

Top reasons to attend

- **Mix and match technical sessions to best fit your financial management training needs.** Sessions cover topics on accounting, auditing, and financial reporting; budgeting; capital planning and economic development; debt management; financial management; pension and benefit administration; and treasury and investment management;
- **Preconference seminars** on topics vitally important to finance officers;
 - An unparalleled opportunity to **earn continuing professional education (CPE) credits;**
 - General sessions featuring **nationally recognized speakers** on topics of interest to public finance professionals;
 - An **exhibit hall** offering a wealth of practical solutions to a broad range of professional challenges; and
 - Social events that create a unique opportunity to **build relationships and network with peers** from across the country and around the world.



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

Participate in half-day preconference seminars beginning the afternoon of Friday, May 29, 2015, through Saturday, May 30, 2015. Preconference seminars will take place at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1101 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

Concurrent sessions will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 31, 2015, and conclude at 12:10 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. The sessions will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1101 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

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Join the GFOA and take advantage of membership discount savings on this year's conference registration fee.

Already a member? Encourage your colleagues to join whether they're in the public or private sector: add members to your government's existing membership or introduce your peers who are interested in public finance but practicing in the private sector to join as an associate member.

Go to www.gfoa.org to read about GFOA member benefits and to download a membership application today!

First-time annual conference attendee scholarships

The GFOA strives to provide leadership to the government finance profession through education, research, and best practices. Nowhere are these efforts more apparent than at the GFOA annual conference. To keep with our commitment, the GFOA Executive Board is pleased to announce:

50 scholarships will be awarded per state or province in the amount of the full-conference registration fee to first-time conference attendees who are GFOA active government members.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. To learn more about this opportunity and to apply, please e-mail firstannualconference@gfoa.org.

Conference Overview

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. **In order to meet the needs of our conference attendees, we did not increase registration fees this year.** (For more information, go to page 10. The fee amounts are listed on the conference registration form insert.)

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

- preconference seminars offered on Friday and Saturday
- concurrent sessions from Sunday through Wednesday
- welcome reception on Sunday night
- general sessions on Monday and Tuesday mornings
- closing event on Tuesday night
- discussion groups held throughout the conference

Preconference seminars, conference sessions, and exhibits will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Watch www.gfoa.org for the latest details on all conference events.

Program

The annual conference presents 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 broaden their thinking.

Concurrent Sessions

Create your own curriculum from among concurrent sessions over three days. Sessions will cover the following fields of study:

- accounting, auditing, and financial reporting
- budgeting
- capital planning and economic development
- debt management
- financial management
- pension and benefit administration
- treasury and investment management

Program

Attend the GFOA Conference

GFOA's conference program will feature a broad range of sessions covering all aspects of state and local government finance, with something for everyone! Speakers will include leading public-sector practitioners; experts from the auditing, banking, consulting, and technology industries; and leading academics and researchers at the forefront of the public finance profession.

Current Developments

The GFOA's annual conference offers a uniquely practical way to keep up with all the most recent developments in public finance, whether it be the latest in the world of governmental accounting and financial reporting (proposed new guidance on other postemployment benefits and leases, meeting the audit challenge created by the latest pension standards, complying with OMB's new "Super Circular"); "what's new" out of Washington (Affordable Care Act ramifications); or advances and other developments in budgeting (resiliency/sustainability, lean applications), cash management, debt and economic development, and employee benefits.

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.



National Registry of CPE Sponsors

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

www.nasba.org

Technical Sessions

Finance officers are called upon to be technical experts, strategic thinkers, resource managers, project leaders, and catalysts for change and improvement. Being effective in so many complex but crucial roles requires skills and experience, as well as training that is not easily accessible. These sessions will assist finance officers in improving their skill set and learning new techniques in accounting, auditing, and financial reporting (IT-related internal control, improved internal auditing, fraud detection techniques); budgeting and forecasting (grants management, program budgeting); capital financing (asset management, debt administration); treasury investment management (investment policies, revenue collections); and pension administration.

Leadership Development

Finance officers are increasingly regarded as organizational leaders. GFOA's conference is a place to fine tune your existing leadership skills and make yourself more valuable to your organization. Sessions are designed for both experienced leaders and those looking to advance in their career (conflict management, team leadership, improved communication skills).

Networking

GFOA's conference also offers multiple opportunities to connect and network with peers from your own area as well as from across the United States and Canada. Those opportunities will include focused networking sessions on specific topics and the unique challenges faced by very large and very small governments.

**Watch www.gfoa.org for
detailed session information**

Preconference Seminars

The GFOA's preconference seminars provide the opportunity for attendees to get in-depth training on topics vitally important to finance officers. Come to Philadelphia a day or two early and multiply the benefits you'll get by signing up for these added training offerings.

Preconference sessions will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center

1101 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107



Taking an afternoon session on Friday or Saturday?

An afternoon snack will be available in your session room.

Taking a morning session on Saturday?

A continental breakfast will be available in your session room.

Taking both a morning and afternoon session on Saturday?

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

Friday, May 29, 2015

Best Practice Trends in Public-Sector Procurement

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 4 CPE Credits

New technology, process improvement, and focus on outcomes have enabled many organizations to evolve their procurement function. This seminar will cover new best practices in purchasing based on the Principles and Practices of Public Sector Procurement (<http://principlesandpractices.org/>) resources developed by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing. Speakers will discuss how to integrate the best practices into high-performing finance organizations to create policies and processes around lease-purchase decision making, the evaluation process, performance-based contracting, cooperative contracts, outsourcing, and more.

Strategic Planning

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 4 CPE Credits

The strategic planning process is important to identifying priorities, setting overall goals, defining key actions, and communicating to stakeholders. Once created, the strategic plan then becomes the foundation for many other activities, such as budgeting and financial planning. It is important, therefore, that the strategic plan be realistic, relevant, and connected to or aligned with other planning processes. When done correctly, strategic planning can be an invaluable tool for the finance officer. This seminar will cover how to develop and facilitate an effective strategic planning process that can be used to guide decision making. Attendees will learn practical techniques, including how to involve the correct stakeholders, properly evaluate opportunities and risks, develop goals, and track results.

Continued

Preconference Seminars

Saturday, May 30, 2015

Evolution of Financial Transparency

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 4 CPE Credits

To be effective, financial transparency needs to reach a wide audience and provide useful information to the public about the ways resources are used and decisions are made. This kind of information typically requires a government to go beyond posting its CAFR or budget document online to include creative use of online tools, strategic communications, and other innovative public outreach methods. A more informed public can help provide government with many benefits—from greater public participation and engagement, to improved trust, to enabling collaboration to help solve challenges. Attend this seminar to hear case studies, lessons learned, tips, and effective strategies from leading practitioners who have developed innovative methods of taking an often complex subject matter to a wide audience. Topics discussed will include how to understand your audience, how to reach different segments of the population, how much it costs to be transparent, how to get started, and if it is possible to be too transparent.

Infrastructure Finance

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 4 CPE Credits

State and local governments need large investments in infrastructure to maintain and replace aging (and in many cases outdated) roads, bridges, tunnels, utility lines, and ports, and to build new assets to meet future demands. This seminar will provide guidance on how to prepare for and manage an effective capital financing function focused on infrastructure. Topics covered will include capital planning, determining return on investment for capital expenditures, capital finance strategies, the current capital finance environment, how to leverage public-private partnerships, and use of alternative funding strategies.

Security in an IT Environment

1:00 – 5:00 p.m. 4 CPE Credits

As IT applications increasingly utilize “the cloud” and organizations rely more heavily on the web to deliver services, finance officers must be aware of the associated security concerns. This seminar is designed to help governments differentiate myth from reality when making decisions and managing the business side of IT security related to finance. Speakers will discuss how to develop security policies, develop an overall IT risk management framework, implement procedures to address common vulnerabilities, and monitor or audit the effectiveness of the security strategy.

Welcome Reception

Sunday, May 31, 2015

6:00 – 8:00 pm

The Franklin Institute

222 North 20th Street

Philadelphia, PA

www.fi.edu

All attendees and guests are welcome!

Philadelphia's #1 attended museum



As a GFOA conference attendee, we invite you to experience one of Philadelphia's top tourist attractions in an exclusive after-hours event. Founded in honor of America's first scientist, Benjamin Franklin, The Franklin Institute is one of America's oldest and premier centers of science education.

While the museum will remain closed to the general public, GFOA conference attendees and their guests will receive complimentary general admission to the museum and access to the many interactive exhibitions including:

- Your Brain** an 18-foot-tall web of firing neurons
- The Giant Heart** a 2-story-tall Giant Heart
- Sports Challenge** learn the physics, biomechanics, and material science of your favorite sports
- Franklin Air Show** feel the force for flight and prepare for takeoff



Shuttle service will be provided for guests staying in GFOA's official hotel block.

Light refreshments featuring a "Taste of Philly" and beverages will be served prior to your evening dinner plans.

Closing Event

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

7:00 – 10:30 pm

Pennsylvania Convention Center

1101 Arch Street

Philadelphia, PA 19107

Come join us for a night of food, fun, and entertainment!

After several days of energetic sessions and invigorating discussions, we invite you to relax and enjoy the evening before heading back to your hometown. The GFOA is putting together an event full of good food and lively music to top off your conference experience.

Keep watch on GFOA's website for the special musical guest to be announced.



The Pennsylvania Convention Center is within walking distance or a short shuttle ride provided from hotels within GFOA's official housing block.

Ticket price includes buffet dinner, beverages, and entertainment.

Adults: \$40.00 in advance (\$50.00 on-site after May 29, 2015)

Children/teens under 18: \$15.00 in advance (\$20.00 on-site after May 29, 2015)

Children under 5: complimentary

Registration

Registration Fees Include

- Concurrent sessions on Sunday – Wednesday
- Welcome reception on Sunday night for delegates and guests
- General sessions on Monday and Tuesday mornings
- Luncheons for delegates on Monday and Tuesday
- Discussion groups held throughout the conference

Important Action Dates

First discount deadline
February 17, 2015

Second discount deadline
April 7, 2015

Full registration fee required
April 8, 2015

Confirmations

A copy of the confirmation and invoice will be sent as a PDF attachment via e-mail from 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.

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 17, 2015

No fee for cancellations received before this date.

April 18, 2015

Cancellations postmarked between April 18–May 11 will be refunded, less a 25 percent service fee.

May 12, 2015

Cancellations postmarked after May 12 but by May 26 will be refunded, less a 50 percent service fee.

May 26, 2015

No refunds will be issued this date forward.



Government Finance Officers Association



Register online at 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.

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

Logistics

Airline Discount Codes



There are more than 1,000 daily nonstop flights to Philadelphia. The following airlines service the Philadelphia International Airport.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Air Canada | Frontier |
| Air Tran | Southwest |
| Alaska | Spirit |
| American/US Air | United |
| British | Virgin |
| Delta | |

The GFOA has arranged for additional discounts with the following airlines:

www.delta.com

Meeting ID - NMKCP

When booking online, select Meeting Event Code and enter the Meeting ID in the box provided on the advanced search flight page.

www.united.com

Z-code -ZTMJ

Agreement code - 117459

To book travel online, enter the Z Code and Agreement Code (eg. ZTMJ117459) in the offer code box.



Amtrak Train Acela Express

<http://www.amtrak.com/acela-express-train>

Acela Express offers hourly service downtown to downtown during peak morning and afternoon rush hours between New York, Washington, DC, Baltimore, and Philadelphia.

Public Transportation



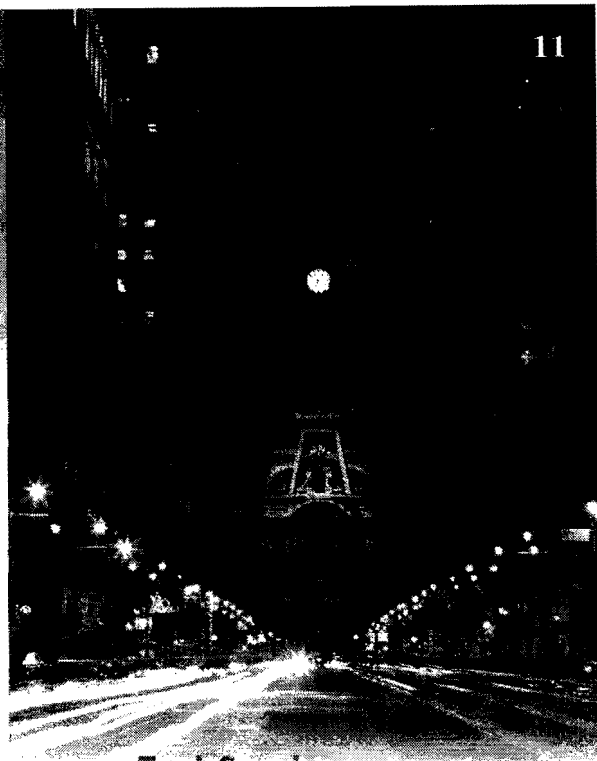
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

(SEPTA) mass transit travels from the Philadelphia International Airport to Center City. The ride is approximately 25 minutes and leaves at 30-minute intervals. A one-way fare is \$7.00.



Rental Car

Phone - 800-654-2240
Hertz.com
CV# 04SJ0003



Taxi Services



Taxi services can be accessed at the Philadelphia International Airport.

All taxi rates are based per trip, not per person.

There is a \$28.50 flat rate from the airport to the Central Philadelphia area.

This area encompasses: Fairmount Avenue (most Northern point), South Street (most Southern point), Delaware River (most eastern point), and University City/38th Street (most Western point). Any destination that falls within these boundaries is eligible for the Center City flat rate.

All taxis accept credit cards.

For additional information, contact the Ground Transportation hotline at 215-937-6958.

Shuttle Service



Express Airport Shuttle

\$9.00 per person (shared ride)

<https://www.express-airportsuttle.com/rate.html>
215-492-7192

Weather



From the annual Cherry Blossom Festival kicking off every spring to the hundreds of outdoor cafes through the summer months, there's always something to do in Philadelphia.

**Average May-June Temperatures:
High 73, Low 53**

Where to Stay in Philadelphia

Reserve your room in GFOA's official hotel block and you'll have a great opportunity to network with other conference attendees outside the convention center.

The official conference hotels are within walking distance of the convention center. (Courtesy shuttles will be offered as an additional option from select hotels.)

The GFOA will provide round-trip courtesy shuttles between all GFOA official hotels and the Sunday night welcome reception.

Guaranteeing Your Room Reservation

Experient is the Official Housing Provider for the GFOA 109th Annual Conference. The GFOA has worked diligently with the hotels in Philadelphia to establish room blocks for attendees and exhibitors. Improper solicitation of hotel reservations from any company or housing provider other than Experient is not approved by the GFOA. Reservations made by unaffiliated organizations may appear to be for lower rates, however, they may be illegitimate, have unreasonable cancellation or change penalties, or be completely non-refundable. Please be aware of, and report any unauthorized solicitation to the GFOA.

Reservations will be processed on a first-come, first served basis. A hotel is assigned in order of your preference, as available, or closest to event if not available. You can expect to receive a confirmation within two business days of booking your room reservation. If you have not received your acknowledgment by Wednesday, April 29, 2015, please contact the GFOA Housing Department at GFOA@experient-inc.com or 1-800-650-6835 (international callers 1-847-996-5874).

A major credit card number valid until June 2015 or later or a check for one night's room and tax (add 15.5% tax) is required to secure a reservation. Credit cards are for guarantee only and are not charged to hold reservations. A charge of one night's room and tax will be charged or forfeited on reservations that do not arrive (no-show) and were not cancelled before 72 hours of arrival. Early departures after check-in are subject to penalty fees set by hotel.

Checks must be received by April 29, 2015, and must be made payable to Experient/GFOA Housing. Reservations indicating a deposit guarantee, for which no check has been submitted, are subject to cancellation. Please base the amount of the check on the rate at the hotel of

your first preference. Note: Institutional purchase orders are NOT accepted. Cancellations within 72 hours of arrival will forfeit one night's room and tax. Refunds to those who guaranteed accommodations with a check deposit will be mailed after the end of the event.

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.



Internet: Use Experient'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 and look for the housing link.



Phone:
8:00 am – 5:00 pm CST, Mon - Fri
1-800-650-6835 (Domestic)
1-847-996-5874 (International callers)



Mail:
Reserve by mail:
Experient/GFOA Housing
5202 President's Court
Frederick, MD 21703



Fax:
1-301-694-5124



E-mail:
GFOA@experient-inc.com

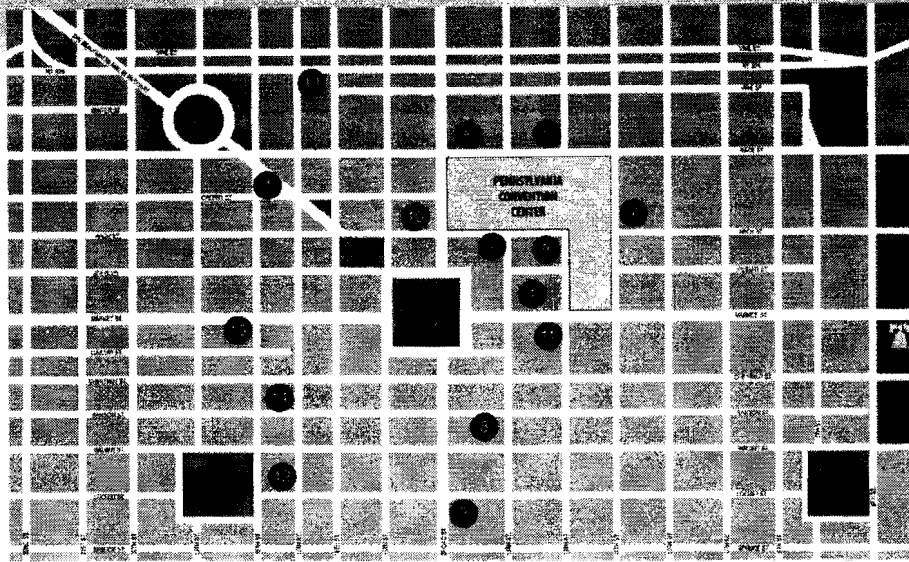
Changes and Cancellations

Cancellations within 72 hours of arrival will be charged one night's room and tax.

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 where you can easily make your group booking through Experient's online system. Please indicate any special needs.

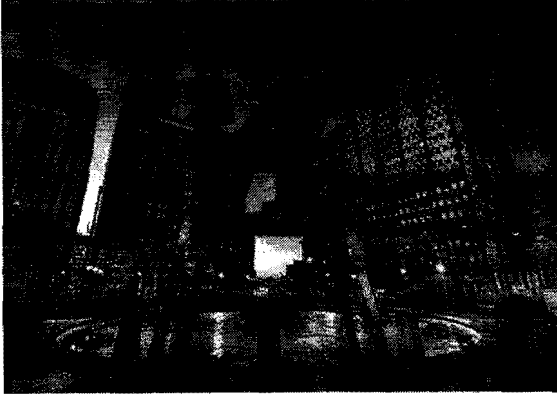
GFOA Official Hotels and Area Map



Hotel	Limited Government Rate	Group Rate
	<i>Single/Double</i>	<i>Single/Double</i>
1. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown	--	\$232/\$242
2. Courtyard by Marriott Philadelphia Downtown	--	\$222/\$232
3. Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Philadelphia Center City	--	\$189/\$209
4. Embassy Suites Philadelphia Center City	--	\$179/\$199
5. Four Points by Sheraton Philadelphia Center City	\$171	--
6. Hampton Inn Philadelphia Center City	\$155	\$184
7. Hilton Garden Inn Philadelphia Center City	\$171	--
8. Holiday Inn Express Philadelphia Midtown	--	\$155/\$163
9. Home2 Suites – Philadelphia Center City	\$171	--
10. Le Meridien Philadelphia	\$171	\$195
11. Loews Philadelphia Hotel	--	\$204/\$229
12. Radisson Blue Warwick Hotel	--	\$199
13. Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown	\$171	--
14. Sofitel Philadelphia	--	\$170
15. Sonesta Hotel Philadelphia	--	\$155

Rates are per room per night. A 15.5% state and city tax will be added to the room rate. Taxes are subject to change.

All hotels are within a 10- to 15-minute walk to the convention center. The GFOA will provide courtesy round-trip shuttle service from the following hotels to the convention center: Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Philadelphia Center City, Embassy Suites Philadelphia Center City, Holiday Inn Express Philadelphia Midtown, Radisson Blue Warwick Hotel, Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown, Sofitel Philadelphia, and Sonesta Hotel Philadelphia.



Tours

Whether it is being home to the nation's first Capital, being home to the Continental Army during a turning point in the Revolutionary War, or being home to one of the world's largest gardens, Philadelphia is a city steeped in rich history, culture, arts, and entertainment. Come and experience the "Best of

Philly" on a fun and memorable tour which is sure to be one step ahead of the rest!

Tours will be offered on Saturday through Tuesday and will include:

- Historic Philadelphia: Birthplace of a Nation
- River to River
- Evening River to River
- Longwood Gardens
- Evening Candlelight Stroll
- Valley Forge
- Pennsylvania Dutch
- A Taste of Philly
- Rights and Wrongs
- Philadelphia in High Style



For more information or to reserve a spot, visit www.centipedetours.com/gfoa2015.html or e-mail at info@centipedetours.com. Onsite registration will be available; however, space is limited.



About Philadelphia

Welcome to Philadelphia, where big-city excitement meets neighborhood charm. The second-largest city on the East Coast, Philadelphia is at the center of the Northeast Corridor and within a day's drive of 40 percent of the U.S. population. Made famous as the birthplace of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," the city's strength is in the culturally diverse neighborhoods that merge to create a unique and dynamic destination. Listen to the sounds of Philadelphia on the Avenue of the Arts at the new Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. Taste the distinctiveness of world-renowned chefs' creations at restaurants located on Rittenhouse Row or in Old City. Relive history at "America's most historic square mile," Independence Mall, home to the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and the National Constitution Center. Feel the pulse of the city through touring its neighborhoods such as South Philadelphia's 125-year-old Italian Market or the stately historic homes on Delancey Street in Old City.

Philadelphia is also home to the world's largest landscaped urban park, Fairmont Park. Within Fairmont's 9,200 acres of winding creeks, green meadows, and 100 miles of rustic trails are early American mansions, historic landmarks, outdoor sculptures, and open-air theatres. Also located within Fairmont Park is America's first zoo, the Philadelphia Zoo. More than 1,300 animals from around the world, picturesque Victorian gardens, outstanding art, and historical architecture set the scene for a rewarding visit to the zoo.

For more information about Philadelphia, go to www.discoverphl.com/gfoa/.

More GFOA Information



About the GFOA

For over a century, the GFOA has been dedicated to enhancing the professional management of governments for the public benefit. The association's more than 18,000 members rely upon the GFOA to provide timely information, practical educational opportunities, high quality professional publications, and the latest information on best practices.

Membership

Stay current with developments and trends in the government finance profession by uniting with GFOA's membership. Go to www.gfoa.org to learn more about membership benefits and to download an 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. Questions? E-mail: membership@gfoa.org.

Awards for Recognition

The GFOA has established several highly regarded awards 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:

Innovations in public finance

Awards for Excellence in Government Finance (AwardsforExcellence@gfoa.org)

Budgeting

Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program (budgetawards@gfoa.org)

Financial reporting

Award Program for Small Government Cash Basis Reports (cashbasis@gfoa.org)

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GFOA's Research and Consulting Center has provided advisory services to hundreds of local, county, and state governments; public utilities; school districts; transit authorities and other special districts. GFOA consulting services focus on business process improvement, long-term financial planning, budgeting, and planning and procurement assistance for technology projects – including needs analysis, RFP development, requirements definition, system selection, and contract negotiations for financial management, human resource, payroll, and other administrative systems. For more information, please contact consulting@gfoa.org.

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The GFOA works to keep members informed on federal legislation, regulations, judicial actions, and policies that affect public finance functions and to represent the interests of GFOA in Washington, DC. The GFOA collects, analyzes, and disseminates information to GFOA members and provides policymakers with information on GFOA positions. To learn more or make suggestions about the GFOA's Washington activities, e-mail FederalLiaison@gfoa.org.

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Training Opportunities

The GFOA provides professional development training opportunities to state and local government finance practitioners. In addition to the annual conference, training courses are presented as basic, intermediate, advanced, update, or overview and range in length from one day to week-long immersion courses. 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 for exciting new training announcements and details. Questions? E-mail training@gfoa.org.

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GFOA Philadelphia Checklist

- Register for conference
- Register for preconference seminars
- Purchase your tickets to GFOA's Closing Event
- Reserve your hotel room from GFOA's official block of rooms
- Make your travel arrangements

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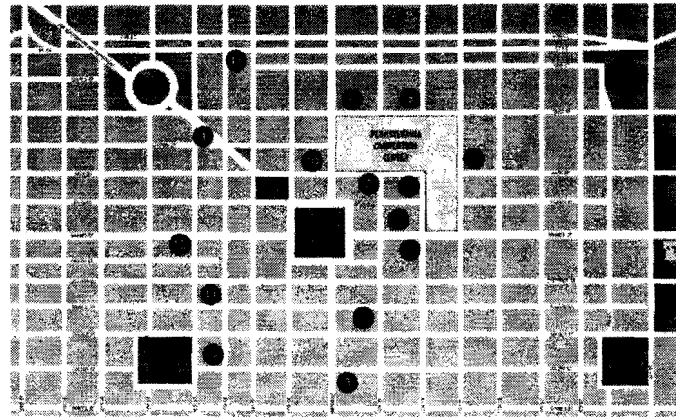
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2015 Annual Conference Hotels

All hotels are within a 10- to 15-minute walk to the convention center. The GFOA will provide courtesy round-trip shuttle service from the following hotels to the convention center: Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Philadelphia Center City, Embassy Suites Philadelphia Center City, Holiday Inn Express Philadelphia Midtown, Radisson Blue Warwick Hotel, Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown, Sofitel Philadelphia, and Sonesta Hotel Philadelphia.



1. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (\$232/\$242)
2. Courtyard by Marriott Philadelphia Downtown (\$222/\$232)
3. Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Philadelphia Center City (\$189/\$209)
4. Embassy Suites Philadelphia Center City (\$179/\$199)
5. Four Points by Sheraton Philadelphia Center City (\$171)
6. Hampton Inn Philadelphia Center City (\$155/\$184)
7. Hilton Garden Inn Philadelphia Center City (\$171)
8. Holiday Inn Express Philadelphia Midtown (\$155/\$163)
9. Home2 Suites – Philadelphia Center City (\$171)
10. Le Meridien Philadelphia (\$171/\$195)
11. Loews Philadelphia Hotel (\$204/\$229)
12. Radisson Blue Warwick Hotel (\$199)
13. Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown (\$171)
14. Sofitel Philadelphia (\$170)
15. Sonesta Hotel Philadelphia (\$155)

Rates are per room per night. A 15.5% state and city tax will be added to the room rate. Taxes are subject to change.

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For questions, please contact the housing bureau at GFOA@experient-inc.com or by phone at 1-800-650-6835.