

Ohio GFOA News & Updates
December 2021

**OHIO
GFOA** **E-NEWS UPDATE**

Government Finance Officers Association



President's Message

By: Randy Bartels, City Auditor, City of Lima



Fellow Government Finance Professionals,

First, congratulations and thank you for leading your organizations through another difficult and unpredictable year. While some things have returned closer to “normal” in 2021, we are still in the midst of some very uncertain and trying times. Please know your efforts to keep your respective entities in sound fiscal condition have not gone unnoticed. Thank you again for all that you do.

One of the areas Ohio GFOA was able to return to normal was hosting our annual conference in person. Thank you to all of those that attended, both in person and virtually. Your continued support is appreciated. I would also like to thank and congratulate Jeff McCuen and the education committee for their work. This group works

year round to not only create our annual conference, but provide educational opportunities throughout the year. As it has for all of us, the current pandemic has caused the education committee to find new ways to get things done. The education committee has risen to that challenge in amazing fashion.

I would like to thank Angel Mumma, CFO of the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) for her leadership this past year as the Ohio GFOA President. Angel's insight and leadership abilities helped to keep Ohio GFOA focused on our mission of educating our members. We also appreciate the time and dedication of our outgoing trustee members, Tracie McCreary, Shawn Hufstedler (President-Elect), TJ Cusick and welcome our new trustees Jamie Nicholson, Tawana Keels, Jessica Marquez, Jeremy Buskirk and Joey Jones. Their willingness to step up and take on this leadership role is greatly appreciated.

Finally, just a reminder that Ohio GFOA has many resources available to you whether it be our many educational webinars, training sessions or conferences, or the member request function found on our website. I encourage you to utilize these resources as we all work together to make our organizations better and stronger. Thank you, again, for all that you do.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday!

Addressing Concerns in the \$4 Billion Unemployment Mess

By: Keith Faber, Ohio Auditor of State



Ohio's unemployment system is broken and failed us in a time of need, but help is on the way.

Thousands of people have had fraudulent unemployment benefits claims submitted with their identity. I also had an unemployment claim made in my name, which I know I didn't file because as an elected official, I'm not eligible for unemployment compensation. The situation has gotten so bad that my office was called upon by state lawmakers to conduct a performance audit of the unemployment system. Additionally, I launched an audit to look at fraud within the system. What we found is rampant fraud and failure on multiple levels in Ohio's unemployment system.

These fraudulent unemployment claims and overpayments are estimated to have cost Ohio over \$3.8 billion- \$475 million in fraud and \$3.3 billion in overpayments and the number keeps growing. The money that has been paid out for these fraudulent claims is unlikely to be recovered, especially the funds we speculate went out of country to places like China or North Korea.

[Read more...](#)

Investing in Ohio's Future

By: Robert Sprague, Ohio Treasurer of State



Usually, when we talk about investment portfolios, it's all about dollars and cents. And while money is central to the strategy, in the Treasurer's office, we're taking it one step further.

Our recently announced Ohio Gains proposal presents new ways to put the state's strong balance sheet to work for Ohio. Central to this effort is modernizing certain investment strategies to better benefit many of the Buckeye State's critical businesses and institutions.

Ohio Gains will enable us to invest more state tax dollars right here in Ohio. The first three reforms focus directly on supporting our agriculture community, hospitals, and public universities.

[Read more...](#)

GFOA Leadership Academy Testimonials



Joni Crawford

Finance Manager, City of Reynoldsburg

GFOA offers a week-long Leadership Academy at the College of Charleston, SC, annually, and with the assistance of the Ohio GFOA, I was fortunate to be able to attend this year's conference. I want to thank the Ohio GFOA for this opportunity because it was such a fantastic program. The program gave government finance

officers an opportunity to step away from the number crunching and focus on refining their leadership skills.

[Read more...](#)

Karen Ervin

Director of Finance, City of Monroe

How would I describe the Government Finance Officers' Association Leadership Academy? A week jam-packed with educational insights and teachings, fabulous new friends and colleagues, and great Southern cooking and friendly hospitality.

If you have never considered applying for GFOA's Leadership Academy, I highly recommend that you give it a try!

[Read more...](#)

IRS Announces Changes to Form 8038-CP Coming in January 2022

By: William T. Conard II, Bricker & Eckler



On November 16, 2021, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) publicly previewed a draft of a revised Form 8038-CP (Return for Credit Payments to Issuers of Qualified Bonds), along with updated filing instructions and a new schedule that will impact some issuers starting in January 2022.

The form is used by issuers of qualified bonds to receive a credit. The credit amount, equal to a percentage of interest paid, varies depending on the type of bond. The form must be filed between 45 to 90 days prior to the relevant interest payment date. The new form must be filed for due dates after January 1, 2022.

[Read more...](#)



Renewal Season

It's renewal time! Ohio GFOA memberships expire on **December 31, 2021**. You should have received a couple online reminders from us by now. If you have not yet renewed, you can do so online by visiting our [website](#) with your user ID and password or contact us at (614) 221-1900 ext. 221 and renew by phone.



New Advisory Opinion!

At its November 10, 2021 meeting, the Ohio Ethics Commission issued formal Advisory Opinion 2021- 02, which addresses the question of whether a member of a legislative body of a local governmental entity can vote to elect himself or herself to serve as presiding officer of the public entity, such as a city council. The question arose since in many situations, serving as a presiding officer results in additional payments for increased duties in a leadership role.

[Read more...](#)



2022 Scholarships Now Available!

Ohio GFOA has added another scholarship opportunity for 2022.

GFOA is offering state and provincial associations the opportunity to award two CPFO enrollment scholarships, per year, to their members. The scholarships will cover the \$600 fee for one year of enrollment in the CPFO program, which includes five exam attempts, two free GFOA e-learning webinars, access to a CPFO Exam Prep product with over twenty recorded seminars, and more. The deadline to apply for this particular scholarship is **March 30**,

2022. For further details and a complete list of Ohio GFOA scholarship offerings, click [here](#).



2022.

Nominate a Candidate for an Ohio GFOA Award!

Getting nominated for an award can lead to a boost of confidence. Click [here](#) for a complete listing of Ohio GFOA Awards. The deadline to submit a nomination form is **July 11,**



GFOA 116th Annual Conference

GFOA's 116th Annual Conference will be held **June 5-8, 2022**, at the Austin Convention Center in Austin, Texas!

Ohio GFOA and Equitable will host an Ohio Reception, in conjunction with the Conference, on **Monday, June 6, 2022**, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Further details coming soon!



Ohio GFOA 35th Annual Conference and Membership Meeting

Ohio GFOA's 35th Annual Conference and Membership Meeting will take place **October 5-7, 2022**, at the Hilton Easton, in Columbus.

Sponsorship opportunities are now available. Click [here](#) for more information.

Exhibit, hotel, and conference registration details coming soon.



Seeking Board Candidates for 2022

All Ohio GFOA members are urged to consider being nominated for a Board of Trustee position - either self nomination or nominating another member with the members' consent. This includes current board members deciding to run a second term.

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for the following trustee positions: City/Village, County, Non-Governmental, School, and Township. Interested members should contact [Angel Mumma](#), Ohio GFOA 2022 Nominating Chair.

[Join](#) Ohio GFOA's LinkedIn® Group



"Shared Knowledge for Effective Government"

is The Government Finance Officers Association's Mission Statement. By Promoting the Exchange of Information Among Finance Officers of all Local Governments, Ohio GFOA works to Meet the Challenges of the Ever-Evolving Profession of Government Finance and Fosters Increase Cooperation Among Governments and Private Financial Institutions.
