



Investing in education is an investment in strong public finance. Ohio GFOA's 2026 scholarship offerings are designed to help members and emerging professionals expand their knowledge, build leadership skills, and advance their careers through meaningful educational opportunities.

**GFOA Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO) Program Scholarship**      [Online Application](#)

GFOA is offering a limited number of scholarships (\$1,200 value) to Ohio GFOA members to participate in GFOA's [Certified Public Finance Officer \(CPFO\) program](#). The CPFO Program is a self-study program that leads to a designation that signals your mastery of various public finance disciplines. Having the designation is a great way to strengthen your value as a finance officer to your organization, generate opportunities for career growth, and broaden your network to other like-minded professionals.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- A current and paid National GFOA membership (membership is required during the program enrollment and to maintain the CPFO designation).
- A current and paid Ohio GFOA membership.
- Minimum of two years' experience in public finance
- Minimum of an Associate's degree earned in a finance-related field

**Deadline to apply is Friday, March 27, 2026.**

**Traditional Student College Scholarship**      [Online Application](#)

One (1) \$1,000 Scholarship Awarded.

**Requirements:**

- Ohio resident enrolled full-time and entering at least the junior year of undergraduate study in an accredited Ohio college or university.
- Declared major in a field of study related to accounting, finance, budgeting or other similar area.
- Good academic standing.
- Provide list of classes taken, grades (include grade scale) and current class schedule.
- Statement regarding public sector career plans and why you deserve this scholarship.
- Letter of recommendation.

Scholarship awarded as tuition reimbursement to student. Recipient to receive Ohio GFOA student membership, good through December 2027.

Ohio GFOA Board of Trustees family members are not eligible.

**Deadline to apply is Monday, July 20, 2026.**

**First-Time Annual Conference Attendee Scholarship**      [Online Application](#)

Open to members and non-members. Includes:

- Ohio GFOA Annual Conference registration (\$350 Value).
- A two-night hotel payment, made directly to the conference hotel.
- \$100 for travel expenses, made payable to entity.
- Ohio GFOA membership through December 2027.

**Requirements:**

- Must be an Ohio governmental entity employee.
- Must be a first-time Ohio GFOA conference attendee.
- A letter on government stationary, from the applicant's supervisor, stating why the individual is worthy of the scholarship, that the applicant is permitted to attend the entire conference and that there are no other training opportunities nor financing available from the entity.
- A statement, from the applicant, telling why they are deserving of the award.
- Must attend the conference welcome/business luncheon on Wednesday.
- Must be at least 21 years old, by September 1, 2026.

***Deadline to apply is Monday, July 20, 2026.***