



A Report To Our Members

Member Centric Report 2014-2015



About the Association of Government Accountants

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) was founded on September 14, 1950 as the Federal Government Accountants Association (FGAA). In 1975, the Association expanded to include state and local government finance professionals. At that time, the organization’s name was changed to the Association of Government Accountants. Today, the AGA has over 100 chapters across the United States and other countries, and has over 15,000 members worldwide.

About the AGA – Chicago Chapter

The AGA – Chicago chapter was chartered in May 1953, making it one of AGA’s oldest chapters, and has a long and proud history. May 2013 marked the 60th anniversary of the chapter’s founding, and the 2014-2015 chapter year was the Chicago chapter’s 61st chapter year. To find out more on the chapter’s rich history, please see the chapter website at www.agachicago.org.

Selected Chapter Demographics

AGA – Chicago Chapter	2014-2015 Members (% of Total)
Total Members	100 (100.0%)
Membership Type:	
• Full Member	66 (66.0%)
• Private	13 (13.0%)
• Retired	10 (10.0%)
• Lifetime	6 (6.0%)
• Early Career	5 (5.0%)
• Student	0 (0.0%)
Hold CGFM Certification	46 (46.0%)
Employer Type:	
• Federal Government	58 (58.0%)
• Private Sector	13 (13.0%)
• State/County/Municipal Gov.	10 (10.0%)
• Other or Not Provided	19 (19.0%)
Education Level Obtained:	
• Bachelor’s Degree	52 (52.0%)
• Master’s Degree Or Higher	41 (41.0%)
• Other or Not Provided	7 (7.0%)
Gender:	
• Male	60 (60.0%)
• Female	40 (40.0%)

Chapter Strategic Objectives:

- Provide low-cost, quality professional education to our members
- Give back to the community
- Advance government accountability

Table of Contents

<i>About Our Chapter</i>	1
<i>How Have We Progressed?</i>	2
<i>Our Finances</i>	3
<i>What’s Next?</i>	4



Mission

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.

Vision

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability.

Core Values (SAIL)

AGA’s core values are Service, Accountability, Integrity and Leadership.



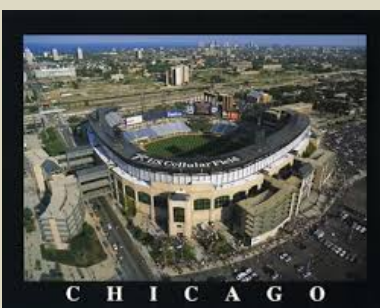
How We Have Progressed

Chapter Year 2014-2015



Accomplishments

- Achieved platinum level for chapter recognition program
- Created a chapter Member-Centric Report and earned a Certificate of Excellence for its overall content, visual appeal, and chapter information.
- Gave back to community through multiple food drives, volunteering at a homeless shelter and participation in the VITA Tax Assistance Program.
- Held a free member appreciation and networking event.
- Celebrated the selection of chapter Past President as Regional Vice President of the North Central Region for chapter year 2015-2016.
- Increased chapter membership by 7 members.
- Advertised chapter and AGA by obtaining and staffing an exhibition table at the Institute of Internal Auditors Northwest Metro Chicago chapter fraud conference.
- Instituted a scholarship program for college students for the first time in many years.
- Sent three chapter members to the AGA Sectional Leadership Meeting in Baltimore, MD.
- Sponsored four chapter members who attended the 2015 AGA National PDT in Nashville, TN.



During 2014-2015, the Chicago AGA chapter provided 25.5 hours of continuing professional education to hundreds of participants throughout the Chicagoland area. Our chapter held educational events throughout the year at various locations in downtown Chicago. The training consisted of different formats, such as live speakers and audio conferences, and covered a wide variety of topics from government accounting, auditing, and internal controls, to fraud and investigations, ethics, collaboration and other people skills. In addition to providing educational events, we held a free member appreciation, networking and new member recruitment event that coincided with the chapter conference, which allowed for chapter conference participants to attend. We gave back to the community via community service events such as multiple food drives, Saturday morning volunteering sessions at a local homeless shelter, and participation in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. To promote the chapter and AGA, we reserved an exhibition table at the Institute of Internal Auditors Northwest Metro Chicago Chapter's Fraud Conference. At this event, we shared personal stories of our experience being members of AGA, as well as AGA National and Chicago chapter brochures and CGFM information with attendees. To foster our relationships with future accounting professionals, we developed a chapter scholarship for those pursuing their Bachelors or Master's degree in accounting related studies. These efforts cumulated in the chapter gaining 7 members compared to the previous year, thus reversing a several year decline in chapter membership.

Selected Accomplishments

<i>Number of Registrants for our Annual Professional Development Training (PDT)</i>	
2013-2014	2014-2015
74	80

<i>Number of Chapter Events Held</i>	
2013-2014	2014-2015
10	9

<i>Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Hours Offered</i>	
2013-2014	2014-2015
25.0	25.5

<i>Number of Members who Checked out a CGFM Study Guide</i>	
2013-2014	2014-2015
5	6

Our Finances

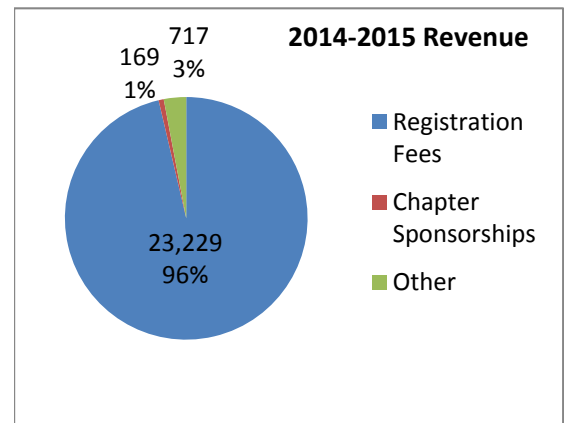
Revenues & Expenses

What are the costs for providing services to our members and how are those costs paid?

The financial data provided below is for chapter year 2014-2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015), during which time the chapter had a successful program year, and revenues exceeded expenses. As the chapter incurred a loss the previous chapter year (2013-2014) and had its only corporate sponsor not renew, the chapter increased the admission fee for the chapter's annual Professional Development Training (PDT), and reduced speaker expenses. These actions, plus great attendance at chapter events such as the chapter PDT, resulted in a financially successful year. With the chapter's strengthened financial condition, the chapter was able to sponsor 2 additional attendees for the national PDT (for a total of 4), and has the financial flexibility to invest in the chapter next year through higher quality speakers and a scholarship program for college students. Although the chapter may make money some years and lose money other years, the chapter's goal over the long term is to break even while providing members with low-cost, quality professional services. Complete, as well as updated, financial information can be found on the chapter's website at www.agachicago.org.

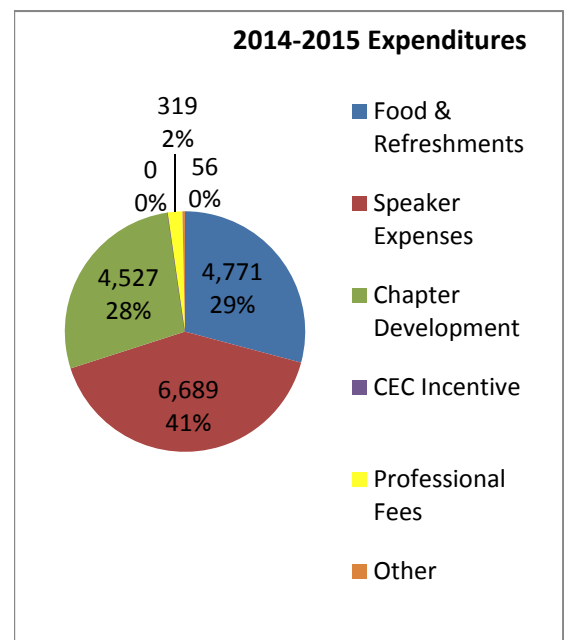
Revenue by Source

	Chapter Year 2012-2013	Chapter Year 2013-2014	Chapter Year 2014-2015
Registration Fees (PDT, Monthly Luncheons, Etc.)	\$15,490	\$14,907	\$23,229
Chapter Sponsorships	677	465	169
Other (Chapter Membership Dues, Interest Income, Etc.)	634	739	717
Total Chapter Revenue	\$16,801	\$16,111	\$24,115



Expenditures by Source

	Chapter Year 2012-2013	Chapter Year 2013-2014	Chapter Year 2014-2015
Food & Refreshments	\$6,429	\$4,852	\$4,771
Speaker Expenses (Speaker Fees, Gifts & Expense Reimbursements)	4,912	9,299	6,689
Chapter Development Expenses (National PDT Scholarships & SLM Expense)	1,715	2,873	4,527
CEC Incentive Expenses (Dues Reimbursement, CEC Food, Etc.)	1,416	0	0
Professional Fees (License Fees, Accounting Services, Etc.)	619	150	319
Other (Printing, Postage, Telecommunications, Etc.)	507	386	56
Total Chapter Expenditures	\$15,598	\$17,560	\$16,362



Independent Review

An independent review of the chapter's financial statements for chapter year 2014-2015 was performed, resulting in a clean opinion.

What's Next

Chapter Initiatives & Challenges



We value your input and want to hear from you!

- Do you like this report?
- Would you like to see other information?
- Do you have any questions?

Please let us know by contacting Matthew Matczynski at Mmatczynski@hudoig.gov.

For more information on the Chicago chapter, visit our chapter website at www.agachicago.org.

Key Initiatives

- **Increase use of technology.** This initiative will involve using technology to automate event registration and allow attendees to make admission fee payments via internet and smartphone.
- **Increase the number of chapter members holding the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) certification.** This initiative will involve creating a greater awareness of the benefits of the CGFM certification and the chapter resources available to members such as the chapter's CGFM study guides. It will also involve obtaining employer support for employees in the process of obtaining the CGFM certification and rewarding employees who obtain the CGFM certification.
- **Promote government accountability.** This initiative will involve encouraging and assisting local governmental entities in preparing Citizen Centric Reports (CCRs), and assisting in the distribution of completed CCRs. The initiative will also include improving next year's chapter Member Centric Report so that it can be used as a model for other governmental entities to use in preparing CCRs.
- **Give back to the community.** This initiative will involve both increasing the number of as well as diversifying the types of community service events sponsored by the chapter. By increasing the number of community service events and holding a wider variety of events, it will provide more opportunities to match with the members' time and talents. This in turn will increase the impact of the chapter's community service efforts.

Key Challenges

- **Retain current members and recruit new members.** This is a difficult challenge due to the shrinking pool of potential membership candidates as a result of government hiring freezes, reduced interest by college students in pursuing careers in government due to lack of government internships and job opportunities, expected increase in government employee retirements, tighter family budgets, and the recent AGA membership price increase. The chapter foresees overcoming this challenge by creating a greater awareness of who we are and what we do, building management support for AGA, and increasing chapter membership benefits.
- **Increase attendance rates at chapter events.** This is a difficult challenge due to the already high rate of work-related travel, in addition to the increasing use of telework and alternative work sites by our chapter members. The chapter foresees overcoming this challenge by increasing its focus on providing timely and relevant speakers, providing more networking opportunities at chapter events, and pricing chapter events to provide an outstanding value.

