



## February 2018

### Training

Check calendar and register on-line.

### Employment Opportunities

See openings or add an announcement.

### VGFOA Certificate Program

Course content & requirements.

### Membership Directory

Contact someone, or update your information online.

### VGFOA Board

Meet your Board, see committee assignments, and make contact.

**Do you have a story to share?** Submit an article to the Editor for a future newsletter.

### VGFOA's Strategic Plan

Directions for the future.

### Renew Membership

## President's Message

Happy New Year!

I am sure you are all knee deep in the budget process, but I hope the new year finds you well!

Registration for the Spring Conference is open and I hope everyone will join us at our new location...**The Main in Norfolk**. The Main is downtown Norfolk's **newest luxury hotel** and is located on the **waterfront**. Visit the hotel website for more information about this Hilton property <http://www.themainnorfolk.com/>.

In addition to the new conference venue, the Board is thrilled to be bringing **Sunjay Nath** back as the keynote speaker. You may recall that, last Spring, Sunjay delivered the 10-80-10 Principle during his keynote address. This Spring, he will be presenting a follow up, The Number One Thing That Holds Us Back. Sunjay will also have his books available for sale and signing.

As if a brand new hotel and a popular keynote speaker are not exciting enough...the Board will be introducing some enhancements to the conference this Spring. We will be offering, for the first time, a **pre-conference mentorship workshop** on Wednesday morning. Also, we received excellent feedback from you on the networking session that we have been offering at conferences. Attendees suggested that we hold this session at the beginning of the conference so that they could continue networking the rest of the week. **Thank you for your valuable feedback!** We will now be offering the **networking session on Wednesday afternoon**. For our much appreciated sponsors and exhibitors....we have **streamlined the sponsoring and exhibiting opportunities** and moved to a tiered structure like many other organizations. Please check out the conference website for details. Finally, we will, once again, be hosting a **luncheon to welcome first time conference attendees** on Wednesday. We have one or two more enhancements that are in the final planning stages so stay tuned for more information!

Do not forget to visit our website to see what **education programs courses** we will be offering this year. The Board is finalizing the details of the 2018 Professional Development Program offerings and will provide information as soon as it is available.

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**News**

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Please feel free to contact me at [dbergeron@manassasva.gov](mailto:dbergeron@manassasva.gov). Remember, VGFOA is YOUR organization. **Please stay involved and let the Board know what VGFOA can do to support you.** See you in May!

## **2018 VGFOA Spring Conference**

Join over 250 of your peers from across the Commonwealth in Norfolk, at our new location, The Main, May 23 - 25!!

Don't miss the opportunity to earn continuing education credits towards your professional certification, socialize with local government finance directors, and learn best practices from top speakers! Sunjay Nath will deliver the keynote address and speak on "The Number One Thing That Holds Us Back" as a follow-up to the 10-80-10 Principle that was delivered in Spring 2017.



This year we will be offering a pre-conference seminar on mentoring. A separate registration is required and participation adds additional CPE's. We will be holding a session on Wednesday to provide an opportunity to meet your peers and network as our session speaker guides us through the agenda.

Speakers from GASB and GFOA are also on the agenda. Registration is still open, so sign up today!!

[Ethics](#) will also be offered on Friday, May 25 for a separate fee of \$65. Visit the VGFOA 2017 Spring Conference website for all of the details.

## **2018 VGFOA Fall Conference Update**

Planning is underway for the fall conference at The Hilton Short Pump on October 24-26, 2018. We are working on securing a keynote speaker. If you have a topic that would be good for the fall conference please let the committee know.

## **Edward T. Pettigrew College Student Scholarship Application is Now Available!**

To honor the contributions made by Edward T. Pettigrew, the VGFOA's first president, the VGFOA is offering two governmental accounting/public administration awards to be given to students attending a Virginia university or college. Each selected student will receive a \$1,000 award.

[Applications](#) are being accepted through **March 31, 2018**.

Awards will be presented at the Spring VGFOA conference in May 2018 at the Hilton Norfolk The Main.

## **Education / Training Update**

The Virginia Government Finance Officers Association (VGFOA) is continuing its partnership with Virginia Tech's School of Public & International Affairs (SPIA) and Office of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) to design and deliver another year of educational programs focused on addressing a variety of topics critical to today's government finance professionals. In the second year of the partnership, Virginia Tech will offer four in-person workshops and three online webinars to address topics such as government/policy, compliance, trends, budgeting, payroll law, procurement, leadership, and technology. Workshops will be designed in collaboration with VGFOA leadership. In-person workshops will be held at Virginia Tech venues located across the Commonwealth. These programs will strengthen the current offerings of VGFOA, building on the Association's history of providing relevant and timely professional education offerings to its members through conferences and the VGFOA certification program. The upcoming schedule includes the following programs:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Webinar	2/22/2018	Virginia Public School Authority
One Day Workshop - Roanoke	3/29/2018	Strategic Planning/Financial Policies/ Best Practices

Feedback on all of the new webinars and workshops have all been very positive. If you have any comments, suggestions or would like to request a new topic, please contact Trish Davidson at [tdavidson@rockinghamcountyva.gov](mailto:tdavidson@rockinghamcountyva.gov).

## Communications, Legislative & Standards Setting Update

### 2018 Legislative Update

The following highlights some of the bills impacting Finance under consideration as of February 7, 2018. It is likely that continuing activity will change the status of many of these bills. Bills with broader impacts are at the beginning, followed by a section for Counties, a bill governing CPA licensing, and two bills impacting State agencies. Updates can be found by accessing

<https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?ses=181&typ=lnk&val=02>

**SB 751 - Localities and school divisions; posting of register of funds expended.** Requires every locality with a population greater than 25,000 and each school division with greater than 5,000 students to post quarterly on the public government website of such locality or school division a register of all funds expended, showing vendor name, date of payment, amount, and a description of the type of expense, including credit card purchases with the same information. The bill allows any locality or school division to exclude from such posting any information that is exempt from mandatory disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, any personal identifying information related to a court-ordered payment, and any information related to undercover law-enforcement officers. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2019.

**SB 630 - Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); civil penalty.** Passed Senate. Provides that in addition to any penalties imposed under FOIA, (i) if a court finds that any officer, employee, or member of a public body failed to provide public records to a requester in accordance with the provisions of FOIA because such officer, employee, or member of a public body intentionally altered or destroyed the requested public records prior to the expiration of the applicable record retention period set by the retention regulations promulgated pursuant to the Virginia Public Records Act (§ 42.1-76 et seq.) by the State Library Board, the court shall impose upon such officer, employee, or member in his individual capacity, whether or not a writ of mandamus or injunctive relief is awarded, a civil penalty of up to \$100 per record altered or destroyed, which amount shall be paid into the Literary Fund, and (ii) if a court finds that a member of a public body voted to certify a closed meeting and at the time of such certification such certification was not in accordance with the requirements of FOIA, the court shall impose on each such member voting to certify in his individual capacity, whether or not a writ of mandamus or injunctive relief is awarded, a civil penalty of \$500, which amount shall be paid into the Literary Fund.

**SB 714 - Local economic development expenditure.** Continued to 2019. Provides that any local economic development expenditure shall be first approved by the local governing body. *Additional study, possibly JLARC, about this topic before 2019.*

### COUNTIES

**HB 302 - Additional powers of certain counties.** Grants counties with a population greater than 100,000 certain powers of cities and towns, including taxation, borrowing, and payments for highway maintenance. Currently, such powers are generally granted to cities and towns only. The provisions of Chapter 6 (§ 58.1-600 et seq.) to the contrary notwithstanding, any city or town ~~having general taxing powers established by charter pursuant to or consistent with the provisions of § 15.2-1104~~ and any county with a population greater than 100,000 may impose excise taxes on cigarettes, admissions, transient room rentals, meals, and travel campgrounds

**HB 1390 - Bond referenda; authorizing counties to make bond issuance contingent on enactment of a food and beverage tax.** Authorizes counties to enact ordinances providing that bonds shall be repaid from food and beverage tax revenues. The bill provides that if a county enacts such an ordinance, the referendum submitted to the voters shall include as a single

question the issuance of bonds and the enactment of a food and beverage tax. Under current law, the questions of bond issuance and tax enactment are submitted as separate ballot questions

**SB 527 - County food and beverage tax.** Increases from four percent to eight percent the maximum tax that any county is authorized to impose on food and beverages sold by a restaurant, commonly referred to as the meals tax. The bill also removes the requirement that a county hold a referendum before imposing a meals tax.

**CPAS - SB 428 - Public accountants; issuance, renewal, and reinstatement of licenses.** Passed Senate. Changes from every 12 months to a time period set by the Board of Accountancy the renewal requirement for licenses granted to provide the license holder the privilege of using the CPA title. The bill contains an emergency clause.

A. A Virginia license shall provide its holder with ~~a 12-month~~ *the* privilege to use the CPA title in Virginia or provide attest services, compilation services, and financial statement preparation services to persons and entities located in Virginia.

~~B. If the~~ *A license granted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be renewed as prescribed by the Board. Any license is not renewed by the end of the 12-month period, it pursuant to the provisions prescribed by the Board shall be considered to have expired and the person or firm shall be considered to no longer hold a Virginia license.*

#### **STATE AGENCIES**

**HB 724 - Virginia Public Procurement Act; prompt payment; payment date. (For State Agencies)** Amends the prompt payment provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement Act by changing the definition of "payment date" from 30 days to 15 days after receipt of a proper invoice by the state agency, where a contract does not specify the payment date.

"Payment date" means either (i) the date on which payment is due under the terms of a contract for provision of goods or services; or (ii) if such date has not been established by contract, (a) ~~thirty~~ 15 days after receipt of a proper invoice by the state agency or its agent or ~~forty-five~~ 45 days after receipt by the local government or its agent responsible under the contract for approval of such invoices for the amount of payment due, or (b) ~~thirty~~ 15 days after receipt of the goods or services by the state agency or ~~forty-five~~ 45 days after receipt by the local government, whichever is later.

**SB 252 - Public employment; inquiries by state agencies and localities regarding criminal convictions, charges, and arrests.** Passed Senate. Prohibits state agencies from including on any employment application a question inquiring whether the prospective employee has ever been arrested or charged with, or convicted of, any crime, subject to certain exceptions. A prospective employee may not be asked if he has ever been convicted of any crime unless the inquiry takes place after the prospective employee has received a conditional offer of employment, which offer may be withdrawn if the prospective employee has a conviction record that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the position. A prospective employee may not be asked if he has ever been arrested or charged with a crime unless the inquiry takes place after the prospective employee has received a conditional offer of employment

*Virginia Government Finance Officers' Association's mission is "...to foster financial excellence in government by creating opportunities for professional development."*