

YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR SUCCESS

The heart of our agency is our role as a trusted advisor and partner for your organization. We want to explore your needs, challenges, and strengths to find ways to make you more prepared, resilient and productive. We are a trusted resource that can positively impact the success of your organization and ultimately the success of our state.

The logo for Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise (LITE) features the letters 'LLA' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. A white, curved swoosh underline is positioned beneath the letters.The logo for the Center for Local Government Excellence (CLGE) features the letters 'CLGE' in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font.

CENTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXCELLENCE

October 23-24, 2024

In-Person and Live-Stream

Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise (LITE)

At the University of Louisiana at Lafayette
537 Cajundome Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70506



About the Center for Local Government Excellence

The Center for Local Government Excellence began in 2015 with the proactive goal of enabling local officials and their staffs to immediately apply the knowledge and skills learned to their respective governments and use that knowledge to make a positive difference for those they serve, which will ultimately improve the services provided by local governments and the quality of local government audits.

More than 6,900 individuals from 3,400 agencies have participated in this training since 2015. Topics focus on real workplace issues and provide solutions that can be evaluated and replicated. Program participants benefit not only from increasing their knowledge, skills, and abilities to enhance career development, but also from opportunities to interact with Legislative Auditor personnel and network with their peers to build a supportive environment.

The Fall 2024 CLGE program is your can't-miss opportunity to learn Public Bid Law from a scenario perspective, recent legislative changes to laws governments deal with on a daily basis, and the laws on banking and investing public funds as well as to participate in a panel discussion with various experts on statewide agreed-upon procedures. We are very excited to feature a comprehensive half-day session Thursday morning on water systems, from regulations and funding to technical operations, financial sustainability, and technology, with the goal of providing the tools for municipalities to develop and update their water system strategy.

Registration

CLGE is a **complimentary** training provided by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. Since the event is live-streamed, participants can attend virtually or in-person in Lafayette, whatever best fits their schedule and learning style. Click [HERE](#) to register or visit our website at lla.la.gov/clge. Course materials will be posted on the CLGE website when they are available. Prior to the training, registrants will be provided a link to the live broadcast. Questions? Call Liz Martin at (225) 339-3995 or email clge@lla.la.gov.

Certification

This training qualifies for a maximum of 10 hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits. CPE credit for CPAs is based on actual education hours attended on an individual course basis in accordance with Louisiana State Board of CPAs rules. CPE transcripts will be emailed from the LLA a few weeks after the event. Records will be maintained for five years.

Who should attend?

Anyone responsible for managing, utilizing, or accounting for public funds, and those interested in public finance such as

- Accountants and others who perform accounting, finance, and budgeting functions
- Clerks
- Purchasing agents and staff
- Administrative staff
- Department heads
- Elected officials
- Members of governing bodies such as councils, police juries, school boards, and other boards and commissions
- Auditors and contract accountants
- Consultants and advisors to local governments
- Anyone interested in public finance

The Center for Local Government Excellence programs benefit officials and employees new to local government and serve as a refresher for long-time public servants.

PROGRAM AGENDA

October 23-24, 2024

Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise (LITE)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Log-In Opens for Live-Stream
In-Person Registration/Coffee and Pastries

8:30 – 8:40 a.m.

Welcome and Program Overview by Diane B. Allison, CPA,
CGMA, CGFO, Director of Local Government Services

8:40 – 10:50 a.m.

A Practical Guide to Purchasing Under the Public Bid Law

Jenifer Schaye, CFE, General Counsel, LLA

The Public Bid Law has many nuances that can make it difficult to fully understand. Jenifer Schaye will review different scenarios to provide for in-depth discussion of the Louisiana Public Bid Law.

10:50 – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Responsibility for Public Funds/Deposits and Investments

Patrick Virgadamo, CFE, Senior Attorney, LLA

Banking and investing public funds carries with it legal responsibilities to protect the public's assets and demonstrate fiduciary responsibility. Patrick Virgadamo will explain selecting fiscal agents, collateralization, investing, and other aspects of public banking and investing.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

2024 Legislative Updates

Jenifer Schaye, CFE, General Counsel, LLA
Angela Heath, LLM, CFE, Senior Attorney, LLA

Over 1,400 bills were filed during the 2024 legislative session and 792 were enacted into laws. In this session Jenifer Schaye and Angela Heath will discuss important changes to the Audit Law, Open Meetings Law, Public Records Law, and Public Bid Law, and discuss recent Attorney General opinions with importance to local governments.

2:30 – 2:50 p.m. Break

2:50 – 4:20 p.m.

Demystifying Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures: A Panel Discussion

Barry O. Kelly, MBA, CIA, Special Projects Senior Auditor, LLA
Brandon Boylan, Director of Finance, City of Gonzales
Bryan K. Joubert, CPA, CGMA, Partner, Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC

Statewide agreed-upon procedures (SAUPs) have been a part of audits of Louisiana's political subdivisions since 2017. In this session a seasoned auditor and a city mayor will join Barry Kelly in a straightforward discussion of the importance of these procedures, common challenges, and practical solutions to provide a deeper understanding of SAUPs from very different perspectives.



Don't miss out on this great opportunity!
[Click here to register!](#)

"This was one of the best conferences I have attended. Presenters were great - personable and knew their subject matter. I really enjoyed the program!"

- March 2024 CLGE Participant

For our in-person attendees dress is business casual. Coffee, water, and snacks will be available each morning. Lunch will be on your own each day.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

- 8:00 – 8:20 a.m.** Log-In Opens for Live-Stream / In-Person Registration / Coffee and Pastries
- 8:20 – 8:30 a.m.** Program Overview by Diane B. Allison, CPA, CGMA, CGFO, Dir. of Local Government Services

Managing Public Water Systems in Louisiana: Advice from the Trenches

8:30 – 9:20 a.m. **Summary of Water System Challenges Facing Louisiana**

Michael G. Battle, MPA, CIA, CGAP, CRMA, Senior Advisory Manager, LLA

Mike Battle will put in perspective the challenges that local governments face when managing their water systems and set the stage for experts from the Louisiana Department of Health, Louisiana Infrastructure Technical Assistance Corporation, and Louisiana Rural Water Association to give technical, operational and financial advice and share creative and innovative ideas for operating a water system in the 21st century.

9:20 – 9:30 a.m. **Break**

9:30 – 10:20 a.m. **Regulatory Issues and Solutions for Public Water Systems**

Amanda Ames, P.E., Chief Engineer, Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Engineering Services

Engineer Amanda Ames will focus on sustainability factors such as technical, managerial, and financial capacity as well as current and future regulations water systems must contend with and funding available to water systems to address deficiencies and increase their sustainability into the future.

10:20 – 10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:30 – 11:20 a.m. **Challenges and Solutions for Public Water Systems Related to Operations and Funding**

Leslie Durham, Executive Director, Louisiana Infrastructure Technical Assistance Corporation (LITACorp)

LITACorp's Executive Director Leslie Durham will discuss the importance of identifying the underlying causes of challenges in water systems and adopting a proactive approach in anticipating future obstacles. The session will delve into potential solutions for infrastructure investments through various means, including rates, grants, and loans, and share some alternative options such as regional collaboration and the adoption of innovative technologies.

11:20 – 11:30 a.m. **Break**

11:30 – 12:20 p.m. **Data Driven Decisions based on Operational and Financial Record Keeping**

Rusty Reeves, Deputy Director, Training Specialist, Louisiana Rural Water Association (LRWA)

A veteran water operator, Rusty Reeves will discuss the review and comparison of historical data that includes monthly and annual financial information, and daily and monthly operational practices to help local government officials make informed financial and operational water system decisions.

**To attend this dynamic
and informative program
[click here to register!](#)**