



2015-2016 Chapter Recognition Program

Objectives and Guidelines

The Chapter Recognition Program (CRP) is a noncompetitive program recognizing a chapter's performance in relation to a standard or benchmark linked to AGA's mission. The objective of the CRP is to support, encourage and promote the accomplishment of AGA's mission, and to provide flexible noncompetitive guidelines for a well-rounded chapter.

Above all, the CRP is a planning guide to be used before the start of the program year, with results reviewed throughout the year by the chapter president or designee.

Program Year

The CRP year begins on June 1 and concludes on May 31. AGA's Program year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. The difference provides for continuity between chapter officers, that is the incoming officers have a vested interest in the outgoing officers' accomplishments for the program year, and the determination/preparation of the awards presented at the national PDT held in Anaheim, CA in July 2016.

AGA Chapter Participation

Each chapter is strongly encouraged to participate in this program. We recommend that the chapter president-elect, in conjunction with the chapter recognition chair and the immediate past chapter president, prepare the quarterly reports under the direction and oversight of the chapter president. This allows the chapter president-elect to become familiar with chapter activities BEFORE he or she takes office.

Reporting (Data Entry of Quarterly Credits)

Program credits are entered via the Members Only area of the AGA website. Log on to the AGA Members Only site using your AGA ID number as your login and your first initial followed by your last name as your password. You must be registered as a chapter officer with the AGA National Office in order to view the CRP. Click on the navigational button called "Chapter Recognition Program" for access to the data entry form for your chapter. Once you enter your chapter's credits and hit the "update" button, the information is permanently stored in the database.

Reports Due by:

September 30
December 31
March 31
May 31

Reports Cover the Months:

June, July, August, September
October, November, December
January, February, March
April, May

Although reports are due to be filled out quarterly, it is recommended that chapters take time out each month to compile their credits for the respective month. Some chapters have found that they can use their newsletter as a tool to prepare the quarterly reports since it usually documents directly or by reference most (but not all) items eligible for credits.

Each chapter should also advise its Regional Vice President (RVP) that their credits for the quarter have been completed. RVPs can access their chapters' reports via the Members Only site. The information will help the RVP and other National officers and staff be constantly aware of the health of each chapter and provide assistance if necessary. The **Grand Totals Report** can also be accessed on the Chapter Recognition Page at any time to see cumulative credits.

Documentation

Please take note that some areas in the program require you to send in information each quarter. It is highly recommended that chapters also keep copies of this information to pass along to the next chapter president and recognition chair.

Individual Chapter Goals

A chapter will qualify for recognition under the program once it has attained its specified goal for the year. The chapter president-elect, in coordination with the National Office staff, provides the chapter's goal for the recognition year. All chapters are encouraged to achieve at least 10,000 credits for the year.

There are several exceptions to the 10,000-credit goal. New chapters and chapters that have not recently participated in the program are given a goal of 3,000 credits for the first year. At the end of the first year, AGA staff and chapter officials will decide whether the goal should remain at 3,000 or be increased.

Recognition

Each chapter president whose chapter reaches its goals will be recognized with a plaque at the 2016 AGA PDT to be held in Anaheim.

A **Bronze Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 12,000 and 14,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Bronze status.

A **Silver Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 14,501 and 17,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Silver status.

A **Gold Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 17,001 and 19,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Gold status.

The **Platinum Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 19,501 and 22,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Platinum status.

The purpose of the Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum designations is to encourage chapters to participate in the CRP at the level they feel comfortable with and to develop a continuity of sound leadership and programs.

Special Circumstances

To recognize special circumstances such as extra effort in starting a new chapter, an innovative activity not presently covered in the program, or for any other reason, the National Office has the freedom to award bonus credits. For example, starting a new chapter may earn 1,000 bonus credits. Chapters are encouraged to convey this information in writing to the National Office no later than April 6, 2015 for consideration.

2015 – 2016 Chapter Recognition Program

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Introduction:

AGA’s mission is to serve professionals in the government financial management community by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

The Chapter Recognition Program (CRP) is designed to support, encourage and promote the accomplishment of AGA’s mission, and to provide flexible noncompetitive guidelines for a well-rounded chapter. The CRP is a noncompetitive program recognizing a chapter’s performance in relation to a standard or benchmark linked to AGA’s mission.

SECTION I - CHAPTER LEADERSHIP, PLANNING & PARTICIPATION - 3,000

Maximum Credits

The purpose of the Chapter Leadership, Planning and Participation section of the Chapter Recognition Program (CRP) is to provide guidance and ideas for the planning, organization and participation within the overall network of AGA. These guidelines include some of the basic structure needed in developing and maintaining a well-rounded AGA chapter. Within your chapter, you will identify other ideas and traditions, which are also very important – incorporate those into your plans and administration as well.

Goal 1. Chapter leadership

Chapter leadership is listed first in the CRP because it is an essential ingredient for a successful well-rounded chapter. Developing a strong, diverse Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) is important for the long-term development, growth and strength of your chapter. It is important to have an officer succession plan or strategy, especially for the position of chapter president. Who is your chapter grooming to be a future leader?

Diversity within the CEC includes chapter leadership experience (keep some continuity and bring in some new leaders each year), employment positions (auditors, budget, accountants, IT, etc.), and employer (it is always good to have representation from all major AGA member employers), etc. The positions within the CEC vary from chapter to chapter, however all chapters should have a president, president-elect or vice president, treasurer, and coordinators or directors responsible for key areas. Chapter leaders should consistently be encouraging members to become involved, have a method for members to “move up the ranks,” and represent the membership in chapter decisions.

A. The Chapter Bylaws conform to AGA Prototype Bylaws and are on file at the National Office - 300 credits.

B. Elect officers as designated by Chapter Bylaws –100 credits

- i) Submit to National Office, Chapter Officers Directory by June 1st – 100 credits
- ii) Submit to National Office, Chapter Officers Directory by April 30th – 50 additional credits

C. Appoint chapter coordinators and committee chairs – 100 credits

D. Encourage members to become involved in chapter leadership. Chapters need to develop and maintain a balance of experienced and inexperienced members on the CEC and other committees.

- i) New CEC member who has not previously held a leadership position – 75 credits (maximum credits 150 per year)
- ii) Have a new member serve on a committee – 25 credits each

E. Develop a strategic, multi-year written plan to accomplish the chapter's and AGA's mission.

- i) First year plan developed or revised – 100 credits
- ii) Plan maintained and followed – 25 credits

F. Prepare financial statements and reports –

- i) Monthly- 25 credits
- ii) Annual - 200 credits

G. Annual audit/review of chapter finances conducted. The auditor or reviewer should be independent of the treasurer and the finance and executive committees. Submitted to National Office within 90 days after close of chapter's fiscal year – 200 credits.

H. Publish (print or electronic) records (minutes) of meetings, activities and events (CEC meetings or regular meetings) – 25 credits each meeting etc.

I. Maintain and publish chapter history files – Submit to National Office – 50 credits per year

J. Submission of a suggestion to improve the AGA CRP by November 15. (maximum 50 credits)

Goal 2. Planning and preparation

Leadership naturally includes yearly planning and preparation to accomplish the chapter's goals and objectives for the program year (July 1st – June 30th). The goals and objectives should be based upon the chapter's strategic plan. A well-rounded chapter consistently considers the needs of the members, potential members and employers. Some chapters have found success in meeting with the principals of the employers involved in government accountability to get additional input as they are planning. These employers often include government entities or agencies – federal, state, local, municipalities, school districts, etc. and government contractors. The following items are by no means all-inclusive – you may want to add other line items for your chapter. Your plans are working documents to communicate and guide your chapter throughout the year. The plans can and should be flexible; they do not need to lock you in. In fact a plan should be reviewed regularly and changed whenever your chapter feels it is appropriate.

A. Meetings (identify if CPE/non-CPE meetings) Plan submitted to RVP, SVPRS (Senior Vice President of Regional Services) and National Office by July 15 – 200 credits

B. Education and Professional Development Plan submitted to RVP, SVPRS and National Office by July 15 – 200 credits

C. CGFM Plan submitted to RVP, SVPRS and National Office by July 15 – 200 credits

D. Community Service Plan submitted to RVP, SVPRS and National Office by July 15 – 200 credits

E. Membership Plan submitted to RVP, SVPRS and National Office by July 15 – 200 credits

F. Annual report of accomplishments and service to members within 90 days of chapter's year-end. The report should include, at a minimum, education provided (i.e., total number of CPEs provided), CGFM, membership, community service and young professional activities during the program year.

- i) Submitted to RVP, SVPRS, National Office and Chapter Executive Committee – 200 credits
- ii) Communicated to members via web, newsletter, etc. – additional 150 credits

Goal 2. Regional, sectional and national AGA participation

Each AGA Chapter is a part of the larger AGA structure, which includes the region, section and national AGA. While each chapter has its own strengths and unique structure, it is important for all of us to work together to accomplish AGA's mission.

Participation serves several purposes including the opportunity to network within the organization; communicating successes and challenges; identification of areas needing support or assistance; and actively maintaining a regional-based governance structure. While some of the following items are included in the CRP to facilitate data collection, others encourage overall participation for a well-rounded chapter.

A. Input quarterly chapter recognition credits via the Members Only Site. Notify your RVP and SVPRS that the information has been inputted - 100 credits each quarter

B. Participate in Sectional Leadership Meeting – 100 credits per Chapter Executive Committee member

C. Chapter members serve as regional officer or regional coordinator – 100 credits per officer (i.e., RVP, RVP-Elect, and Immediate Past RVP) or coordinator (i.e., CGFM, Chapter Development & Assistance, Education, Membership/Young Professionals.)

D. Chapter members serve as a national officer (i.e., National President, National Treasurer, SVP, etc.)- 200 credits each

Section II- EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – 4,000 Maximum Credits

Education and Professional Development are integral parts of the AGA mission and provide excellent opportunities within your chapter. The purpose of the Education and Professional Development section within the CRP is to encourage quality education and foster professional development to enable your members to achieve greater heights in their employment and meet certification requirements. Professional development encompasses many different educational opportunities. The important thing is to have an effective, quality educational program that meets the needs of your members, potential members and employers in your area.

Note: Goals 1 through 3 are listed to help you plan your chapter education to meet the needs of your members and the professional accountability community.

Goal 1. Education to help accountability professionals meet CPE requirements

Chapter members who hold professional certification must comply with CPE requirements. Your chapter can serve these members by providing high quality education. Typically, a CPE hour is granted for each 50 minutes (i.e. one hour) of participation in programs and activities that qualify. At conferences and conventions where individual presentations are less than and/or more than 50 minutes, the sum of the presentations should be considered as one total program (CPE hours equal the total content minutes divided by 50 for each day of the event).

The chapter's CPE records should include the following information for each CPE program or activity.

1. Sponsoring organization (your AGA chapter)
2. List of attendees
3. The location at which the program was given
4. The title of the program and a brief description of its contents (i.e., subject/topics covered)
5. The learning objectives and field of study for each program or session
6. The dates and length of the program
7. The number of CPE hours granted

In addition, it is important that your chapter retain:

1. CPE records (including a sign-in/sign-out sheet) for a minimum of three years (NASBA recommends 5 years)
2. Participant evaluations of each program and instructor(s)
3. An outline of each program that shows the name of the instructor, learning objectives and subjects and topics covered

Additional information regarding CPE requirements for the CGFM is [available on the AGA website](#).

Ultimately, your state board of accountancy has final say over whether to accept or reject any CPE hours. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY TO DETERMINE IF YOUR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES MEET THE REQUIREMENTS AND CPE STANDARDS FOR OTHER CERTIFICATIONS.

A. Register your chapter with your state board of accountancy as a sponsor of CPE qualified events OR join the National Registry of CPE Sponsors (NASBA). Identify sponsor number- 150 credits.

Goal 2. Education to help individuals attain the skills to pass the CGFM Exam and maintain their certification(s)

The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program is an integral part of AGA. The CGFM is recognized as the mark of excellence in government financial management, and is another excellent tool in the growth and development of a well-rounded chapter. Provide your members and potential members with the opportunity to gain the skills to meet the examination requirements of the CGFM. Credits are available in Section III - Certification.

Goal 3. Professional development to help all members and prospective members obtain additional skills

Obtaining additional skills enhances an individual's employment performance. Professional development assists in the goal of advancing government accountability through enhancing the knowledge and skills of accountability professionals. High quality professional development targeted toward the needs of your members and area employers is an important part of the AGA mission and will go far in the promotion, development, growth and foundation of your chapter.

Credits are awarded based upon the CPE credits available for the educational or professional development event. All CPE must at a minimum be in compliance with the CGFM CPE requirements. Many chapters provide CPE that also meets other certifications held by chapter members such as CPA, CIA, CFE, etc.

A. CPE credits provided or co-sponsored by your chapter (in accordance with CGFM CPE requirements):

- i) Monthly Meetings with Speaker – 150 credits per CPE hour

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ii) Seminars/Training – | 150 credits per CPE hour |
| iii) Conferences – | 150 credits per CPE hour |
| iv) Webinars – | 150 credits per CPE hour |

Note: Although credits are awarded by CPE hour provided, it is the quality of the professional development that matters most. Are your chapter events of a quality that you and AGA can be proud?

B. Submit contact information to the AGA Education Department of outstanding speakers used at your chapter event- 50 credits per speaker

Goal 4. Provide awareness and marketing of educational events

Education and Professional Development is one of the best ways to get the word out about AGA and your chapter. Many people become AGA members due to the high-caliber educational events. Help promote AGA and your chapter by showcasing your educational events and reaching out to potential new members. See Section IV Communications.

A. Market AGA and chapter educational events to the government accountability community, members and nonmembers - 50 credits each promotion

B. Partner with other AGA chapters, professional organizations or governmental entities on educational events - 75 credits each joint event

C. Publish and distribute a training calendar brochure to the membership (and/or post it to the chapter website) – 250 credits. Market the brochure to the government accountability community – additional 50 credits

D. Post chapter educational events to [AGA’s online Event Calendar](#) – 25 credits per event

SECTION III- CERTIFICATION – 4,000 Maximum Credits

Certification is a critical part of the AGA mission and a major focus of the organization. Chapter involvement and support of the CGFM Program is essential and necessary for the continued success of the program. We must work together at all levels to promote the value of the CGFM certification to candidates, employers and governmental entities. Together we can take the CGFM program to higher levels of recognition, desirability and overall acceptance.

Goal 1. Support current CGFMs

Our current CGFM members deserve the full support of every AGA chapter. Professional development should be designed to meet the CPE requirements for the CGFM as well as other member certifications whenever possible. Promoting CGFM, recognizing CGFMs’ achievements and providing networking opportunities for CGFM members assists in meeting the AGA mission, while serving the CGFM and the government accountability community.

A. Assist CGFMs in meeting 80 hours of CPE every two years. Possible assistance could include:

i) Providing courses that meet CGFM CPE requirements – 50 credits per CPE hour offered (in addition to credits earned under “Education and Professional Development” section)

ii) Identifying CPE opportunities that can be applicable towards CGFM CPE requirements from sources outside your chapter including local seminars, Internet courses, self-study and promoting either on chapter website or in newsletter – 25 credits each event.

iii) Promoting awareness of [CGFM CPE requirements](#) – maximum 100 credits per year if published in newsletter or on chapter website

B. Publish CGFM members’ achievements in newsletter and local newspapers – 25 credits each

C. Market chapter educational events that, at a minimum, meet the CGFM CPE requirements, to the government accountability community, members and nonmembers – 50 credits per event

D. Partner with other professional organizations or governmental entities to promote the CGFM designation –100 credits each

E. Encouraging CGFM renewals through personal contact, letters, newsletters or websites – 25 credits per contact

F. Recognize local CGFMs by

i) Using the CGFM designation in chapter publications, name tags, etc. – 25 credits per event/publication.

ii) Publicizing new CGFMs in chapter and local publications – 100 credits per new CGFM

Goal 2. Market CGFM service mark locally

AGA has a commitment to furthering the CGFM designation, which will benefit chapters, employers, CGFM members and AGA. Your chapter can contribute to this national goal by marketing the CGFM locally. There are many great ideas for marketing CGFM including contacting area government employers, contacting university accounting/business departments, participation in career fairs, partnering with other professional organizations, etc. Additional suggestions and ideas are available through the CGFM National and Regional AGA Coordinators or create your own marketing initiatives. These are just ideas – naturally your chapter will want to choose the most appropriate goals and tasks each program year, perhaps focusing on a few different tasks each year. You can work with your Regional CGFM Coordinator and RVP on major initiatives for additional items or bonus credits. Make the program and goals work effectively for your chapter, members and governmental community.

A. Contacting area government accountability leaders to promote CGFM –

i) 50 credits per contact

ii) 250 credits per formal presentation. National Office has presentations for your use or develop your own and share it with other chapters.

B. Creating awareness of the value of the CGFM service mark in the general public –100 credits per publication or event

C. CGFM recognition - an employer in your chapter area changes policy to recognize CGFM – 700 credits per formal recognition. (Recognition must be submitted to National CGFM Coordinator.)

D. Endorsement of CGFM from area employer, elected official or principal – 500 credits each. Endorsement must be submitted to National CGFM Coordinator and published in local newsletter.

E. Requesting and obtaining a CGFM month proclamation in your state or local government

- i) 500 credits for a state proclamation
- ii) 250 credits for a local government proclamation

F. Publicizing the CGFM month proclamation in your chapter, state and/or on the national level –100 credits

Goal 3. Assist potential new CGFMs in attaining certification

The CGFM Examinations include a wide range of topics at the federal, state and local level. Most candidates will have experience in at least some of the topics, and need training in other areas. Identify the needs of the candidates in your chapter and community and design your chapter goals and tasks to meet those needs.

A. Offer CGFM courses through AGA national – 100 credits per CPE hour

B. Sponsor study groups – 200 credits per each study group

- i) Additional 50 credits per study group meeting with attendance of six or more members.
- ii) Additional 100 credits for establishing an online study group (i.e., “localgovernmentfinance” group on Yahoo!)

C. Develop or participate in other study options – 200 credits each

D. Chapter provides scholarships for obtaining CGFM or passing CGFM examinations – 200 credits per recipient per year. List recipient(s).

Goal 4. Designate a chapter resource to work with CGFM certification

The Chapter CGFM Coordinator is a member of the national network of CGFM Chapter Coordinators and has available resources such as the Regional and National CGFM Coordinator. With this level of commitment to the program the chapter CGFM Coordinator will have continued access to ideas, assistance, networking and support. This list is just a few ideas for the coordinator; a successful coordinator will identify specific goals and objectives to advance the CGFM in the chapter area.

A. Communicate with the chapter and governmental community promoting CGFM – 25 credits each. Get creative with this one – throw a celebration for a new CGFM at their office; submit articles to employer’s newsletters or interoffice communication on CGFM, submit articles to local paper recognizing new CGFMs, ask employers to include CGFM information and link to national CGFM site on their website, etc.

- i) Additional credits for posting suggestions that are implemented nationally – 100 credits each

B. Contribute items to chapter newsletter such as CGFM recognition, study suggestions, encouragement, technical requirements, tip of the month, etc. – 25 credits each

C. Meet chapter goals and objectives as outlined in the CGFM annual plan for CGFM retention (retention as of April 30 each year). Please note: these credits are added in by the National Staff after the close of the program year.

90 – 100% Retention	400 credits
80 – 89% Retention	300 credits
70 – 79% Retention	200 credits

SECTION IV- COMMUNICATIONS – 3,000 Maximum Credits

Effective communications is instrumental in the success of any organization. Even though AGA chapters differ in size and demographics, etc. effective communications is essential to successfully accomplishing your chapter's goals and objectives and AGA's overall mission. Today chapter communications takes place on a variety of mediums. Chapters need to choose the modes (print and/or electronic) that are most effective in your chapter and develop your plans accordingly.

Goal 1. Chapter meetings and member participation

Successful chapters provide opportunities for members to gather and exchange information, network and participate in the chapter's activities. Your chapter will need to identify the appropriate meeting frequency, time, location, etc. for your members. Some chapters meet every month while others choose to take the summer off from meetings; some partner with other professional organizations and others don't. Chapter meetings are required and provide a valuable service and benefit to your members. However, if your chapter members are unable to meet monthly, then get innovative and determine a meeting frequency that meets your members' needs. Work with your RVP to set your own chapter's meeting plan.

A. Regular chapter meeting – 100 credits each. Maximum 900 credits per year

- i) Government accountability topic and speaker – 50 credits each
- ii) CEC meeting – 50 credits each meeting at which a quorum is present

B. Special meetings or activities as follows:

- i) Awards and recognition – 50 credits each
- ii) Joint meeting with other professional organizations – 50 credits each
- iii) General membership business meeting – 50 credits each

C. Meeting attendance – Two credits for each full percentage of total chapter membership as of April 30 attending the meeting

D. Social event or activity – 50 credits each

E. Create and maintain a chapter social networking site (Facebook page, LinkedIn, etc.)- 100 credits/site

Goal 2. Communicate chapter business, events and other items of interest to members, employers and government accountability leaders

The content of your communication is typically more important than the mode; however, the mode used must meet your members' needs. Your members must have ready access to the material. Some chapters publish monthly printed newsletters, others e-mail the newsletter, and still others post the newsletter on a website. Some chapters have single web pages and others have fully integrated websites. Find the method(s) that works best for your chapter and make the most of it!

A. Newsletter – including a minimum of president’s message, upcoming meetings, events, etc. and CEC contact information

- i) Published (printed/e-mailed/website) – 100 credits per newsletter
- ii) Promote AGA – Publicize chapter, regional, sectional and national AGA activities and events – 25 credits each month

B. Website – including a minimum of president’s message, upcoming meetings, events, etc. and CEC contact information

- i) Maintained and updated monthly at a minimum – 100 credits each month
- ii) Promote AGA – Publicize chapter, regional, sectional and national AGA activities and events – 25 credits each month

C. Items communicated – The following items should be included in the monthly communication whether it be a newsletter, electronic communication, such as e-mail or listserves, or website:

- i) President’s message – 25 credits each month
- ii) Future meetings and events – 25 credits each month
- iii) Recap of past events – 25 credits each month
- iv) CEC minutes and contact information – 25 credits each month
- v) Promote AGA – Publicize local, regional, sectional and national AGA events – 25 per month

Accountability and financial management articles:

- vi) News article submitted by member – 200 credits (maximum 400 credits per year)
- vii) Previously published article – 25 credits each
- viii) Publicize award recipients and chapter member special achievements – 25 credits/month

Goal 3. Communicate within AGA

Communicate with other AGA chapters, RVPs, SVPRS and National Office – 25 credits per contact (maximum 100 credits per month). For example, responding to requests for comments, information, etc.

Section V- MEMBERSHIP – With a Focus on Young Professional and Student Members – 4,000 Maximum Credits

Membership is the lifeblood of AGA. Without members, we cease to exist. Therefore, to ensure a healthy, vigorous AGA, we need to continually seek new members, meet our members' needs, and strive to keep members and potential members interested and involved. And as members continue to retire, it becomes more critical for AGA to develop programs and services to attract young professionals to the organization.

Goal 1: Actively Recruit New Members

A. Make One on One Contact – Personally invite prospective members to chapter events – 100 credits/month

B. Create Incentive Program and/or Emulate the National Super Recruiter program. Incentives can include free monthly meals for sponsoring members, cash rewards, logo merchandise and gift cards – 300 credits per campaign.

C. Mailings or other recruitment of CGFM nonmembers, former members, and/or nonmembers that attended national, regional or local conferences and events in your chapter geographic area (National is able to provide contact information) – 200 credits per recruitment effort.

D. Involve Government Leaders. Send a special invitation to the heads of federal, state and local accounting and auditing offices to become members and/or speak at chapter events – 100 credits per outreach.

E. Play the AGA Video at a chapter meeting – 50 credits per meeting

F. Other recruitment activities– 100 credits per activity. Please describe recruitment activity in the drop down menu so that ideas can be shared with other chapters.

G. Be sure to have someone assigned to 'man' a chapter table at each event/meeting – have membership recruitment materials displayed (order these from National) – 100 credits per meeting/event.

H. Chapter experiences an overall growth for the program year (this is calculated by using the May 1st balance and the ending year April 30th balance found on the monthly Chapter Statistical Report in Members Only) – 300 credits.

I. Email recruitment best practices to agamembers@agacgfm.org – 100 credits per submission

Goal 2: Retain Current Members

A. Develop and implement an annual or biennial chapter membership satisfaction survey – 200 credits

i) Share results with Regional Membership Coordinator, RVP, SVPRS and National Office – 100 additional credits

B. Contact members at annual renewal time and encourage their renewal. Get ½ or more of the chapter's April 1st balance of members who have not yet renewed to renew before May 31st (be mindful of first and second year members – they have the highest drop off rate) – 200 credits.

C. Chapter members make personal calls to suspended members (25 credits per re-instatement)

D. Monthly welcome letters/emails or calls to new members – tell them dates and times of chapter events, welcome aboard, etc. – 100 credits/month contact(s) are made

E. Provide information about current chapter members, especially new members, people love to see their name in print – 100 credits per month published

F. Conduct a New Member Orientation prior to a regularly scheduled meeting a couple of times a year – be sure to convey the benefits of membership and how to get involved – 100 credits per meeting

G. Be sure to have chapter officers welcome all participants at each meeting/event (recognize new members with special ribbons) – 100 credits per meeting/event

H. Hold at least one free event each year – could be an annual holiday party or host a webinar – 100 credits per event

GOAL 3. Make Young Professional and Student Members a priority

A. Young Professional plan submitted to RVP, SVPRS and National Office by July 15 – 200 credits

B. Attend local conferences, college and university fairs, and seminars to market and promote membership in AGA – 200 credits per event

C. Chapter member speaking at local academic accounting class/club- 50 credits per event

D. Invite local college/high school students to chapter meetings free of charge- 25 credits per attendee

E. Submit professor names to National to receive complimentary one year electronic memberships – 50 per professor. Complimentary electronic memberships may be given to professors that are not currently a member of AGA.

F. Setup a chapter Facebook/Twitter/LinkedIn page and actively post to it to engage Young Professionals – 300 credits/year

G. Set up a mentor program- 300 credits

H. Hold a “Job Shadow” day- 100 credits per participant

GOAL 4. Support the growing career of your Young Professional and Student members. Get them involved in all aspects of chapter, regional and national activities. Helping your Young Professional and Student members make connections and learn how to network are invaluable lessons they will use throughout their career.

A. Young Professional member attends regional conferences - 25 credits per attendee

B. Chapter sends a Young Professional or Student member to AGA's National PDT- 100 credits per attendee

C. Young Professional/Student member volunteers with planning/hosting conferences:

- i) Local- 25 credits per member/event
- ii) Regional- 50 credits per member/event
- iii) National- 100 credits per member/event

D. Young Professional member serves as part of the Chapter Executive Committee- 50 credits/member

E. Student member serves as part of the Chapter Executive Committee- 50 credits/member

F. Young Professional member submits an article to the chapter newsletter- 25 credits/submission

G. Student prepares a CCR for a government agency/organization – 25 credits/submission

GOAL 5. Offer educational opportunities for Young Professional and Student members

A. Chapter sponsors CGFM certification for a Young Professional member- 50 credits per certification

B. Academic scholarships offered by the chapter:

- i) Undergraduate level- 100 credits/scholarship
- ii) Graduate level- 150 credits/scholarship

SECTION VI - ACCOUNTABILITY- 2,000 Maximum Credits

AGA remains dedicated to improving performance and accountability of federal, state and local governments for the benefit of the American people. Through various accountability initiatives, AGA helps governments produce more effective performance reports.

The programs establish high standards for producing reports by conducting peer reviews of the documents, and formally recognizing those deemed most effective. The programs also improve performance reporting by providing training for the individuals responsible for producing the reports and the individuals who evaluate the reports.

Quality reporting is a critical part of the performance management effort. It improves communication with internal and external stakeholders, leads to better decision making and, ultimately, improves performance.

GOAL 1. Make Accountability Outreach a priority for both your chapter and chapter members.

A. Establish a Chapter Accountability Outreach Coordinator – 50 credits

B. Chapter member serves as the Regional Accountability Outreach Coordinator – additional 50 credits

- C. Prepare a chapter Citizen Centric Report (CCR) – 500 credits by September 30, 2015; after September 30, 2015 – 350 credits
- D. Prepare Chapter Citizen Centric Report for the second year – 200 credits; third year and following – 100 credits
- E. Post the chapter CCR to Chapter website – 50 credits
- F. Submit chapter CCR to AGA’s Certificate of Excellence Review Program – 250 credits
- G. Chapter AOC attends AGA National Training Event (NLT, PDT, SLM, etc.) – 50 credits

GOAL 2. Establish a Chapter Accountability Outreach Plan

- A. Contact four governments/agencies and encourage them to produce a CCR – 50 credits each
- B. Prepare a CCR for at least two governments/agencies – 500 credits each
- C. Assist a government/agency to prepare a CCR – 500 credits
- D. Government/Agency CCR in chapter area submits to AGA Certificate of Excellence for review – 250 credits
- E. Government/Agency prepares 2nd consecutive CCR for distribution to public– 500 credits; subsequent consecutive years – 250 credits/year

GOAL 3. Promote Accountability in chapter events.

- A. AOC presents CCR presentation at chapter or regional event – 100 credits
- B. AGA National staff/officer presents CCR presentation at chapter/regional event – 100 credits
- C. AOC arranges for government/agency to make presentation on their CEAR/CCR at chapter or regional event – 100 credits
- D. AOC arranges government/agency to make presentation on their CEAR report at chapter or regional event – 100 credits

GOAL 4. Participation in AGA’s Performance Accountability programs.

- A. Chapter member participates as a CEAR reviewer – 100 credits/member
- B. Chapter member participates as a CCR reviewer – 100 credits/member
- C. Submit a nomination for the Accountability and Transparency award – 250 credits

SECTION VII- COMMUNITY SERVICE – 2,000 Maximum Credits

Community service events should provide the local chapters with the means of making a positive social impact on their local communities. Chapters are encouraged to focus these events around the community and utilize their membership's professional skills, whenever possible. Here are some suggestions for community service events:

Goal 1. Participate in Community Service

VITA/TAX-Aide – Voluntary Income Tax Assistance/Tax Assistance (VITA) for the Elderly for those without the financial means to have their taxes prepared professionally.

Food bank – collecting food and money to be donated to a local food bank. Many chapters focus this effort around the holiday seasons, however, this can be done at any time of the year as food banks are always in need of assistance.

Adopt-A-Family – typically done around the Thanksgiving or Christmas holidays. Local women's shelters and youth homes can provide your chapter with the name of a family in need of assistance.

Toys-For-Tots – run by the U.S. Marine Corps, but a local chapter can get involved and find out how to help, either by collecting and donating toys and money, or volunteering, as a group, at a collection site.

Career Day – designed to provide information to junior and senior high school students with information on various career options. Obviously, our thrust would be to inform these young adults about our chosen profession – governmental accounting and auditing. Some chapters have done this in concert with the state association of CPAs, which provides some financial support for a booth and literature about the accounting profession.

Gifts to charities or non-for profit organizations – cash and non-cash gifts from the chapter such as to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), or local women's shelters, youth homes, etc.

Scholarships – for students pursuing a career in accounting and auditing, preferably governmental accounting and auditing. This can be established with a local college or community college, through a community foundation, or the chapter can administer the scholarship on its own.

Sponsor a blood drive – contact your local chapter of the American Red Cross for details. Your AGA chapter can sponsor a mobile site and provide volunteers to assist with donor intake, refreshment hosts, etc.

Public television fundraisers – work as a group on the phone bank fielding calls from monetary donors.

Soup kitchen – Volunteer as a group at a local soup kitchen.

Walk-a-thons – March of Dimes, etc. As a group, get friends, family, co-workers to pledge financial support.

Special Olympics – As a group, assist with your local Special Olympics games, or act as chaperones for your local Olympians at the statewide Special Olympics games.

Goal 2. Promote community service and AGA

Get creative – Have FUN! Find events that will excite your members.

Community service often includes volunteering service hours for organizations. Some chapters have also found success emulating the National Community Service Raffle & Silent Auction at the local level and donating the funds. Perhaps your chapter has other innovative ideas for fundraisers.

A. Community service event – List event and date

- i) Technical event, e.g., VITA, career day, etc. – 300 credits each
- ii) Non-technical event, e.g., food bank, soup kitchen, Toys-for-Tots, etc. – 200 credits each

B. Monetary community service donation – 100 credits each. List charity or nonprofit organization and amount, e.g., National Community Service Fund (NCSF) donations, GASB \$1,000; City Homeless Shelter \$1,000. – 500 maximum credits per year.

C. Chapter fundraiser for charitable donations – 200 credits each. List charity or nonprofit organization and amount raised, e.g., American Heart Association \$1,000; Make A Wish Foundation \$2,500, city homeless shelter \$1,000.00. – 500 maximum credits per year.

D. Member participation in chapter-sponsored community service event. The chapter may claim 25 credits per hour for each member who participates in a chapter community service program/event. Yearly maximum credits – 600 maximum credits per program or event and 1,000 maximum credits per year.

SECTION VIII- AWARDS – 1,000 Maximum Credits

Awards are an opportunity to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of individuals and groups, promote AGA and encourage each other. In considering ideas for basic awards, consider your chapter goals and objectives and identify the awards that will work best for your chapter.

Goal 1. Recognize the Association and the people who make it up

Blow our horn! Cheer on the great achievements of AGA members and others. Celebrate and acknowledge the successes. Find creative and fun ways to encourage others, have a special awards presentation; announce the awards everywhere you can. Make someone's day!

A. Chapter awards program for chapter members:

- i) Chapter service – 200 credits each. Plus 150 bonus credits if also nominated for National Chapter Service Award.
- ii) Recognition for chapter officers – 200 credits/year (Describe the type of recognition and date)
- iii) Advancing government accountability – 200 credits each
- iv) Recognition for professional accomplishments – 200 credits each

B. Chapter recognition of others outside of AGA

- i) Scholarships – 300 credits each
- ii) Nonmember contributions to advancing government accountability – 200 credits each

D. Participation in AGA national awards program – 100 credits/nomination submitted

E. Submit nomination for chapter Accountability and Transparency award – 250 credits

F. Submit chapter newsletter for annual AGA contest– 200 credits

G. Submit chapter website for annual AGA contest – 200 credits

Goal 2. Promote the advancement of government financial management to the community and employers.

Speak up, announce and invite nominations throughout your chapter area. Recognize the award recipient's further by publicizing the award in as many places as possible. Getting the word out with a positive message promotes AGA, the award recipient, the chapter and the award recipient's employer – so toot those horns all you can.

A. Award recipients published outside AGA

- i) Newspaper of general circulation- 100 credits each
- ii) Non-AGA newsletters or websites- 100 credits each
- iii) Trade journals - 100 credits each
- iv) Television- 100 credits each

Good Luck and Have A Successful Chapter Year!