

**THE STATE TREASURER'S
GOVERNMENTAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ACCOUNTING AND
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

The purpose of the State Treasurer's Governmental Award for Excellence in Accounting and Financial Management Program is to encourage all units of local government in North Carolina to upgrade their accounting and financial management programs, systems, methods, and procedures or improve transparency of financial operations or records.

Rules

1. All counties, municipalities, school units, special districts, and public authorities are eligible.
2. Multiple entries are allowed from each eligible unit.
3. Each entry shall contain a clear and concise statement of the unit's accomplishments, including the following:
 - a. A brief statement of the improvements in accounting or financial management programs, systems, methods, or procedures, or creation of or improvements in transparency of financial operations or records that were implemented during the 2010-11 fiscal year or initially implemented in the prior fiscal year if the implementation period continued during the 2010-11 fiscal year.
 - b. An explanation of the accounting or financial management programs, systems, methods, or procedures, or processes to create transparency of financial operations or records, if any, that were in use prior to the improvement. Supporting exhibits should be supplied where possible.
 - c. A detailed explanation of the improved accounting or financial management programs, systems, methods, or procedures, or processes to create or improve transparency of financial operations or records, accompanied by exhibits that are logically assembled for presentation.
 - d. An explanation of how the changes in accounting or financial management programs, systems, methods, or procedures, or changes in process to create or improve transparency of financial operations or records, were accomplished, whether by use of equipment or of employees, and the training and time required to implement the improvements.
 - e. A statement of the effectiveness of the improvement in terms of beneficial accounting, internal control, improved financial management results, or creation or improvement of transparency of financial operations or records including a comparison of actual or estimated costs of the improved procedures with those of the former procedures. Also, a statement of the total number of employees of the unit and the number

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employed in the accounting and financial management functions should be included.

4. The accounting, financial management, or transparency changes must have been accomplished during the 2010-11 fiscal year. The changes may have been initially implemented in the prior fiscal year; if the implementation period continued during the 2010-11 fiscal year, and the full benefit of the changes were not determined until the 2010-11 fiscal year. An entry may be submitted for only one fiscal year.
5. The data submitted for the evaluation, including the supporting exhibits, must be submitted in duplicate along with the application form enclosed.
6. Applications for the awards must be submitted by February 15, 2012.
7. The entries will be evaluated by the Governmental Accounting and Auditing Committee of the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants and must be submitted to:

The Governmental Accounting and Auditing Committee
The North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants
P. O. Box 80188
Raleigh, North Carolina 27623

8. The envelope must be clearly marked "Entry for the State Treasurer's Governmental Accounting/Financial Management Awards Program."
9. The awards will be considered for the following categories:
 - a. Municipalities (population 25,000 and over)
 - b. Municipalities (population 7,500 and over but under 25,000)
 - c. Municipalities (population under 7,500)
 - d. Counties (population 50,000 and over)
 - e. Counties (population under 50,000)
 - f. School Units (ADM 12,000 and over)
 - g. School Units [ADM 6,000 and over but under 12,000]
 - h. School Units (ADM under 6,000)
 - i. Special Districts and Public Authorities
10. Awards for each category will be made only when there are worthy applications. Honorable mention awards also may be made.
11. The State Treasurer (or nominee) will announce the awards at the Spring 2012 NCGFOA Conference. The State Treasurer (or nominee) and a member of the Governmental Accounting and Auditing Committee will present the awards at an appropriate meeting of each honoree's unit of local government.