

## 2024 State Auditor Training Program Update



The Department of Audits & Accounts is committed to providing valuable insights to local government and audit professionals. Each year, we curate a selection of presentations for attendees of the Governmental Accounting and Issues Seminar within the State Auditor Training Program.

Each year brings unique challenges and opportunities for our State Auditor Training Program and this year will be no exception. We are pleased to be able to once again offer the training opportunity with a choice of delivery methods. You may choose to attend in-person (*Group Live Delivery Method*) or to attend virtually (*Group Internet-Based Delivery Method*). We will be holding the in-person session in Tifton at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center. Two virtual sessions will be available as options for anyone who is not able to join us in Tifton.

The seminars aim to provide valuable insights and knowledge to participants from both local governments and auditors. We hope you take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your skills and stay updated on the latest developments in governmental accounting and reporting.

The State Auditor Training Program presenting the 2024 Governmental Accounting & Reporting Issues Seminar.

- Oct 16 & 17 (Tifton)
- Nov 6 & 7 (virtual)
- Nov 12 & 13 (virtual)

[Click Here to Register](#)

### Earn up to 16 CPE hours

**Scheduled presenters:** Georgia Department of Audits & Accounts (DOAA), Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA), Georgia Geospatial Information Office, and Crawford & Associates.

### Featured Topics:

- Focused discussions on reporting issues from the DOAA Local Government Desk Review Team
- Georgia Environmental Finance Authority: GEFA Funding – Finance 101
- Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Research Reporting Requirements
- DOAA – 100% Equalized Adjusted Property Tax Digest (also known as the Sales Ratio Study)
- Georgia Geospatial Information Office – Visualization technologies are indispensable in government services
- By leveraging geospatial tools this will enhance accountability, planning, decision-making, economic development, citizen services, and public safety
- GASB, AICPA and GAO updates
- Updates of Audit Standards, Single Audit, and AICPA Quality Management Standards
- General Governmental Accounting and Auditing topics

If you have any questions please contact [locgov@audits.ga.gov](mailto:locgov@audits.ga.gov).

## Annual Audit Report Submission

Audited financial statements for local governments should be submitted to the Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) within 180 days after the close of their fiscal year. Reporting requirements are in the provisions of **O.C.G.A. §36-81-7**.

Local governments are required to submit audited financial statements or agreed-upon procedures reports electronically using our Local Government Audit Report Collection System.

Fiscal Year	Due Date
Feb 29, 2024	Aug 31, 2024
Mar 31, 2024	Sep 30, 2024
Apr 30, 2024	Oct 31, 2024
May 31, 2024	Nov 30, 2024
June 30, 2024	Dec 31, 2024

### Request for Extensions for Report Submissions

Governments may request an extension of time for the submission of the annual audit reports. DOAA is authorized to grant extensions if requested by eligible local governments for an additional 180 days.

#### DOAA's authorization is limited to two consecutive years.

- Eligibility status for extensions is based on an analysis of the receipt (*or submission*) dates of the annual audit report for the preceding two fiscal years.
- DOAA is authorized to grant extensions not to exceed two consecutive fiscal years. Late submissions are considered as extensions.
- The report will be considered late if past the due date. (*For example, reports for fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, the due date is June 30, 2024.*)

Please note that late submissions are included in the eligibility determination. For more details on the Extension Process Procedures please access the DOAA website. Requests should be electronically submitted to [locgov@audits.ga.gov](mailto:locgov@audits.ga.gov).

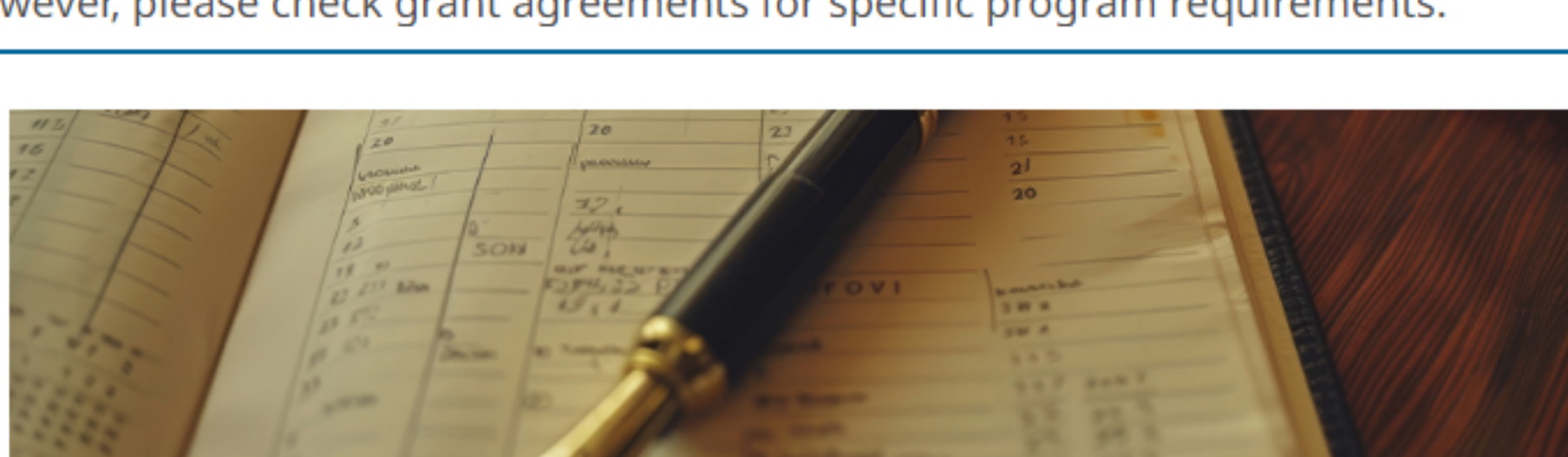
## Local Government Eligibility for State Grants



Noncompliance with audit reporting requirements could impact a local government's eligibility for state grant funds and could require previously awarded grant funds to be returned to the State. DOAA prepares and posts a noncompliance listing that includes the specific nature of the noncompliance noted.

**O.C.G.A. §36-81-7** requires that local governments forward a copy of their annual audit report to the State Auditor for review. This code section also requires local governments to correct deficiencies noted during this review. Subparagraph (d)(5) of this code section specifies that "no state agency shall make or transmit any state grant funds to any local government which has failed to provide all the audits required by law within the preceding five years".

**O.C.G.A. §36-81-7** refers to "any **state** grant funds". The provision to suspend state grants does not apply to grants made or transmitted by state agencies to local governments that are not considered state grants. For example, federal grant awards that state agencies pass through to local governments should not be withheld from noncompliant governments, even if the grant has state matching requirements. However, please check grant agreements for specific program requirements.



## Back to Basics

This section is dedicated to basic reminders of accounting and reporting issues.

**Reminder:** Audited financial statements or agreed-upon procedures reports should be submitted to the Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) within 180 days after the close of their fiscal year.

#### Three items to know before your reporting deadline:

1. Your organization's reporting deadline based on your fiscal year end date
2. Who from your organization is responsible for submitting the report
3. Where you should submit your reports

**Local governments are required to submit** audited financial statements or agreed-upon procedures reports electronically using our Local Government Audit Report Collection System. All documents associated with a reporting period should be electronically submitted. Hard copies are not required to be mailed to DOAA's office.

**DOAA should be notified in writing of changes in fiscal year ends.** Please note that audit reports or agreed-upon procedures reports covering more than 12 months can not be accepted. Two reports will be required in the year of change.

**American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** funds are subject to eligibility requirements. Any unspent funds should be reported as an unearned revenue liability at year end for governmental funds.

**GASB Statement 87** is effective for financial statements for periods beginning after June 15, 2021. Prior leases should be evaluated and reported in accordance with GASB Statement 87 including the required note disclosures. The term "financed purchase" should be used rather than "capital lease" in the financial statements.