

Friday, April 14

9:00 am –
9:10 am

Introduction and Welcome

Speaker: Rob Burk, President, MDGFOA

9:10 am –
10:50 am

Attracting and Retaining Great People in Today's Ever-Changing Workplace

Speaker: Alex Theis – Business Learning Institute, AICPA

Today's workplace is incredibly competitive. You need to be innovative in your hiring methods and working environments. This course will help you improve your talent acquisition and interview processes, effectively manage a productive remote work setting, increase employee morale and retention, and creatively find ways to stay attractive to current and prospective employees.

10:50 am –
11:10 am

Break

11:10 am –
12:00 pm

Attracting and Retaining Great People in Today's Ever-Changing Workplace (Continued)

12:00 pm –
12:30 pm

Networking Event

12:30 pm –
1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 pm –
2:20 pm

Are your Employee Benefit plans sustainable?

Speaker: Hunter Hawes, Employee Benefit Consultant/Practice Leader for MD, Truist Bank

This session will include discussion on, preparing for the future, managing your financial liability, mitigating your risk, and OPEB retiree liability.

2:20 pm –
2:40 pm

Break

2:40 pm –
3:30 pm

Rating Agency Update

Speaker: Nicole Serrano, Moody's

Speaker: Evette Caze, Fitch

Speaker: Kaiti Vartholomaios, Standard & Poor's (S&P)

Ratings agencies are increasingly considering environmental, social, and governance (ESG) risks in assigning bond ratings for local governments and municipalities. This session will provide updates on what the rating agencies are looking for and how local governments can improve their ESG scores. In addition, this session will also provide an update on new rating methodologies.

3:30 pm –
4:20 pm

Maryland General Assembly Update

Speaker: Michael Sanderson, Maryland Association of Counties

This session will provide a recap of the 2023 legislative session of the General Assembly of Maryland and how it will impact government finance officers.



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