AWARD: The Government Finance Professional Development Scholarship is available for award to four students enrolled in part-time graduate study that are employees of a state or local government and are preparing to continue their career in state and local government finance.

AMOUNT: $8,000 (for each award)

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: February 19, 2016

AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT: April 29, 2016

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:
- Employed at least two years by one or more state or local governments.
- Recommendation by your employer.
- Currently a part-time student in a graduate program in public administration, (governmental) accounting, finance, economics, or business administration that prepares students for careers in state and local government finance and expecting to be enrolled in the spring 2016 semester (including spring 2016 graduates).
- Baccalaureate degree or its equivalent.
- Citizen or permanent resident of the United States or Canada.
- Recommendation by your academic advisor or dean of the graduate program.
- Student has not been a past winner of a scholarship program administered by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:
- Statement of proposed career plan in state and local government finance and proposed plan of graduate study.
- Plans to pursue a career in state or local government finance.
- Past academic record and work experience.
- Strength of past coursework and present plan of study as it relates to a career in the public sector.
- Letters of recommendation from your employer, your academic advisor or dean of the graduate program, and others.
- Undergraduate and graduate grade point averages.

APPLICATION:
Applicants must submit the following documents for consideration by the scholarship selection committee:
- Application form.
- Statement describing your experience working for a state, local government, or other special-purpose government entity, your proposed plan of study and how it will help your career in the public sector.
- Undergraduate and graduate grade transcripts.
- Résumé.
- Employer’s letter of recommendation.
- Academic advisor’s or dean’s letter of recommendation, other letters of recommendation (optional).

All of the above items are to be submitted in a single envelope, postmarked no later than February 19, 2016, to:

Government Finance Officers Association, Scholarship Committee,
203 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2700, Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210

The Government Finance Officers Association’s Scholarship Committee will review all applications and make the awards if it determines that four candidates have met all of the criteria. Applicants will be notified in writing on or before April 29, 2016, of the committee’s final decision.

The winners, if selected, will be invited to attend the Government Finance Officers Association’s annual conference in Toronto, Ontario, May 22-25, 2016, where the awards will be presented. The winners will receive a complimentary annual conference registration and transportation costs to Toronto. Hotel accommodations will be provided by GFOA. For additional information, e-mail Robert Kotchen at the Government Finance Officers Association, rkotchen@gfoa.org, or call 312/977-9700.
GOVERNMENT FINANCE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

Name ________________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip Code __________________________________________________

Telephone ____________________________________________________________

E-mail ________________________________________________________________

Country of Citizenship or Permanent Residence __________________________

Employer _____________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________

Contact/Telephone _____________________________________________________

Position/Length of Employment __________________________________________

Graduate School ______________________________________________________

School’s Location _____________________________________________________

Degree Sought _________________________________________________________

Graduate Grade Point Average __________________________________________

Anticipated Graduation Date ____________________________________________

Undergraduate School(s) ______________________________________________

School’s Location _____________________________________________________

Major/Minor __________________________________________________________

Degree Obtained and Date ______________________________________________

Overall Undergraduate Grade Point Average _______________________________
List all of the accounting and government finance courses you have completed since you began your current program. For each course, record the grade you received, including the plus (+) or minus (-) grades.

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(Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)

List all the courses you plan to take to complete your course of study.

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(Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)

List any major papers, theses, or internships you have completed or are working on that relate to your graduate program or state and local government finance career choice.

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(Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.)

Attach a statement (not to exceed two pages typed, double spaced) describing your proposed plan of graduate study and your state and local government finance career plans. Be specific about the type of government career you plan to pursue and why you chose it. Also, describe any work experience, including internships and volunteer work on projects, relative to your graduate plan of study or state and local government finance career choice.