Outstanding Chapter Professional Development Award

How does your chapter go above and beyond providing educational resources and other opportunities to your membership?

The Central Florida Chapter’s mission is to “provide our chapter members with opportunities for professional development and the exchange of best practices” through the following:

- Scholarship opportunities
- Spring and Fall Workshops
- Guest Speaker presentations
- Hosting NIGP Face-to-Face Courses
- Mentorship Program
- Professional Development (Pro-D) Committee
- Student and Retired Memberships
- NIGP Chapter Academy
- Social Media Blasts on current events
- Free Forum registration giveaway
- Newsletter Articles on Legislative updates impacting our agencies
- Certification Corner Articles and Resources including Certification Study Groups
- Information on other educational opportunities such as FAPPO, NAEP, Design-Build, and Forum

For consideration of Outstanding Chapter Professional Development Award, we will highlight how we provide a comprehensive educational experience to support professional development and career advancement.

HOW DO WE PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

In order to support the educational advancements of Procurement professionals in Central Florida, our chapter focuses on providing diverse learning opportunities specific to our membership. We often conduct membership needs analysis surveys to gauge our membership’s professional development needs.

The Central Florida Chapter of NIGP understands that everyone learns differently. Therefore, we provide various educational opportunities for all members through different platforms.

- Whether you’re a Student membership or new professional, taking advantage of our Mentorship Program is a must. Through this program, members are paired with seasoned professionals thereby promoting the transfer of information and expertise.
· Our Pro-D committee is consistently promoting how to host a seminar. Hosting any event can be overwhelming. Therefore, we make available a step by step guide of how to host a seminar. This document provides direction on Scheduling and Registration, Important do’s and don’ts, Confirmation expectations, Class Registration & (chapter provided) Snack Money Receipts, how to prep before the class and what to do after holding the class. We are happy to provide a detailed copy of our program at your request via President@cfcnigp.org.

· Our Pro-D chair makes numerous efforts to inform our members what classes are available through verbal and print formats during meetings, online postings, email blasts, and newsletter articles. Our chapter has developed a running matrix for all classes sponsored by our chapter. However, it is important to find a healthy balance when distributing information to avoid communication overload.

· Each year, we hold one chapter meeting with roundtable discussions. A seasoned professional leads a table discussion with a specific topic and a group focused discussion occurs. The key to a successful roundtable discussion is having key words or ideas listed in case members need help to brainstorm ideas.

· For every class that we support, our chapter reaches out to NIGP or the UPPCC for certification or recertification points to support professional credentialing.

· To assist in funding our member’s professional development, we also provide scholarship accruals which transfer year to year and occasional free class registration giveaways.

Through the years countless chapter members have advanced in their careers through the support of our chapter. For example, our current President became a member in 2016 and since then, through the support of our chapter programs, she has been able to achieve college degrees, procurement certification, and is now able to give back to the membership through mentoring.

The Central Florida Chapter also actively seeks speaking engagements with a focus on **topics current to our profession**. In 2019, we held workshops covering topics such as Federal Grants, Ethics, Sustainability, ADA compliance, Insurance and Indemnification, Advocating for our Profession and improving your Critical Thinking Skills. During each event, members had opportunities to ask questions and form a support system by sharing experiences, expertise, and information.

**WHERE DO EDUCATION AND INNOVATION MEET?**

While the Central Florida Chapter has a steady flow educational and networking opportunities two of the standout innovative educational opportunities for the Central Florida Chapter of NIGP are our **Social Media Platforms and Speaker Workshops**.

Our social media is consistently being updated with information and news articles of current events. Members are able to engage in discussions online and have been known to continue to conversation at the next chapter meeting or workshop.

The Central Florida Chapter of NIGP also suggests utilizing social media platforms, such as LinkedIn, to recruit presenters. We understand the importance of integrity in the delivery of information. Therefore, we strive to make the greatest efforts in booking speakers with substantial knowledge and experience in the field they are presenting.