

NIGP
Official Chapter



Newsletter

STRIVES TO MAINTAIN THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF
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IN THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROFESSION.

cfcnigp.org

2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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VISION	To be the leading Chapter of NIGP: The Institute for Public Procurement by promoting the development of public procurement professionals throughout Central Florida.
MISSION	Provide our chapter members with opportunities for professional development and the exchange of best practices.
CORE VALUES	The Central Florida Chapter of NIGP shall adhere to the following core values: 1. Ethics 2. Integrity 3. Professionalism 4. Diversity 5. Education and Professional Growth 6. Service to Stakeholders



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Chapter Members,

It has been an honor to serve you as the **2022 – 2025 President**. Together we have achieved so much. Our Chapter was an **award finalist in 2022 for two (2) NIGP Outstanding Chapter Award Categories Advocacy and Outreach & Pro-D** and won **NIGP Outstanding Chapter Awards in 2023 for Pro-D, 2024 for Pro-D, and 2025 for Membership!** We maintained our **NIGP Platinum Seal**. *New ideas and programs were implemented* including hybrid meetings, Award Pro-D Opportunities Program, Committee Bootcamp, and Board reorganization which takes place January 2026! In 2024, our Reverse Trade Show venue was upgraded to a hotel and we initiated our **1st Reverse Trade Show and Trade Show** (for vendors)! We also continued our **robust Scholarship Participation program**, educational presentations and workshops, community outreach at local universities, and member special events. We also experienced **unanticipated rescheduling** of our **2022 Reverse Trade Show** from November to December due to **Hurricane Nicole** and **rescheduling** of our **2024 September Workshop** to December due to **Hurricane Helene**. **Thank you to my Board team** (Chris Coghill, Luis Aviles, Nick Canjar, Sean Hynes, Damaris Nazario, and Carrie Mathes), our **committee volunteers, Chapter members, and NIGP (national)** that have made my tenure unforgettable!

2026 Chapter Membership Meeting: Register for the Friday, January 23, 2026, Chapter Membership Meeting and presentation. Chapter meeting is in person and virtual. [January 23, 2026 Membership Meeting - Events - Central Florida Chapter of NIGP](#). **Your new Board of Directors for 2026-2027 will be inducted!** Price is \$15 in person, including lunch, and \$0.00 virtual attendance. The Chapter Membership Meeting and presentation is 12:00 PM (lunch in-person), 12:30 PM meeting, and Presentation at 1PM.

2026 Committee Boot Camp: The 3rd Chapter Committee Boot Camp on Friday, January 23, 2026, 10 AM, at the Renaissance Senior Center before the Chapter meeting (**In-Person Event**). Elevate your leadership! Join our Committee Leadership Bootcamp for impactful insights, growth, and collaborative excellence. Register for the Committee Boot Camp and attend the Chapter meeting in person and lunch is FREE! Call or email me to schedule you for the meeting after you register for the Committee Boot Camp. [Committee Bootcamp 2026 - Events - Central Florida Chapter of NIGP](#).

2025 Scholarship Application. The 2025 Scholarship Application is available on our website at [Scholarships - Central Florida Chapter of NIGP](#) Log in on the website. Go to Member Resources, select Scholarships, select the 2025 Scholarship Application. Download the application. **Note: BACKUP DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED** with the Scholarship Application. All [scholarship applications and backup documentation](#) must be submitted by [January 31st](#) annually in accordance with the application form.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Buyer/Manager of the Year Application. Do you have an amazing team member that you would like to acknowledge? Do you appreciate your work? This is your chance to nominate a team member or yourself for recognition! The Buyer of the Year and Manager of the Year Application is available on our website under Documents, Folder Member Awards, [Document Library - Central Florida Chapter of NIGP](#). (Remember to log in to the website first.) This Award recognizes contributions to the entity, profession, and Chapter during the period of January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025. It is a self-nomination or peer-nomination application. The due date is January 26, 2026 to president@cfcnigp.org.

Pro-D Opportunities Scholarships. The 2026 schedule is below. Please sign up for opportunities through the Survey section of our website. Remember to sign in to your account first! [Surveys - Central Florida Chapter of NIGP](#)

- Apr 14-15, 2026 Core Certificate: Foundations of Strategy and Policy VIRTUAL \$383 value
- Apr 28-29, 2026 Specialization Certificate: Cloud Procurement VIRTUAL \$383 value
- June 09-11, 2026 Specialization Certificate: Construction Procurement VIRTUAL \$536 value
- Jun 23-25, 2026 Core Certificate: Foundations of Sourcing and Contracting VIRTUAL \$536 value
- Other Pro-D opportunities may include NIGP VCON, Aug 2026 NIGP FORUM, and in person classes.

Pro-D Opportunities Scholarship Award Winners

- **Feb 10-11, 2026 Introduction to Public Procurement VIRTUAL \$383 value**
 - Charvelle McClendon-Adorkor
 - Karrisa Ott
 - Loni VanBenthuyzen
- **Mar 10-11, 2026 Core Certificate: Foundations of Planning and Analysis VIRTUAL \$383 value**
 - Audra Renee Rodriguez
- **Core Certificate Three (3) Course Bundle VIRTUAL \$1,302 value**
 - Melanie Lachmiller

2026 Membership Registration: The new membership year begins in 2026. Please add a “save the date” to your calendar to pay for your membership in January 2026. The cost is \$40 for Full and Associate Members.

2026 Meeting Location: We are pleased to announce, the 2026 meetings will be held virtually and in-person at the Renaissance Senior Center at South Econ Community Park, 3800 S Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando, FL 32829.

Engagement. I want to encourage members to evaluate talents and strengths and identify if there are any committees or task forces opportunities that you would be willing to volunteer for in 2026/2027. Committee chair, member, and RTS positions are available. We have a lot of work to do as a chapter this year and we can benefit from having active volunteers. Please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the other board members with any questions you might have. Let's make this year a fantastic year for your Chapter!

Thank you!

Tabatha Freedman, MBA, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB

2022-2025 President

president@cfcnigp.org

OFFICER MESSAGES

Happy New Year CFC Family!

I want to take a moment to sincerely thank everyone who supported me as I stepped into the Vice President role back in February. I truly feel blessed — thank you for your continued encouragement and support!

2025 was such an eventful year for the Chapter. From informative workshops, Forum, Pro-D training, and a record-breaking Reverse Trade Show, we accomplished so much together. Here's to another successful year ahead!

As a quick reminder, the 2025 Scholarship Application is now available on the Chapter website. Completed and signed applications, along with all required backup documentation, must be submitted to scholarship@cfcnigp.org by January 31, 2026. Unfortunately, late applications cannot be accepted, so please be sure to submit yours on time. Scholarship redemptions may be submitted beginning February 1, 2026, and awarded 2025 scholarship points will be posted to member accounts by March 2026.

We also hope you'll join us at our next Chapter meeting on January 23rd, where our new officers will be sworn in and we'll kick off the year with our 2026 Committee Boot Camp!

As always, if I can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out.



**Luis A Aviles, CPPO, CPPB
CFC NIGP Vice President**

Happy New Year CFC!!



**Sean Hynes, CPPO, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
CFC NIGP Treasurer**

The new year brings my time as Chapter Treasurer to a close. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve for the last four years. I'd like to thank the incredible current and past Board members for their constant encouragement during my term. Being a leader of the Chapter provided so many opportunities for growth, and leaders are required to keep us going. Don't hesitate to step up and volunteer for a committee and get on the track to be a board member of this wonderful organization.

Membership dues are now due for the 2025 calendar year. The Primary member for an entity must be the one to process renewals for all Secondary members linked to them. A slide deck with screenshots and additional information on renewing can be found in the website Document Library (Member Resources > Document Library > Website Knowledge). Also in this file directory is a slide deck to assist with scholarship application backup documentation. Take a moment to review while completing your application.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer and I look forward to the continued success of the Central Florida Chapter of NIGP!

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and is ready to embrace the opportunities that 2026 has to offer.

We have two important events scheduled for January 23rd. First, our 2026 Committee Bootcamp will take place from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Following that, we will hold our January Chapter Meeting, during which the 2026–2027 officers will be formally installed.

Another important date to note is January 31st, which is the deadline for scholarship applications. All applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM, and late submissions will not be accepted.

Also, please be sure to check out our Pro-D opportunities on the website! If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of the other officers!



**Nick Canjar, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB
CFC NIGP Secretary**

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE MESSAGE



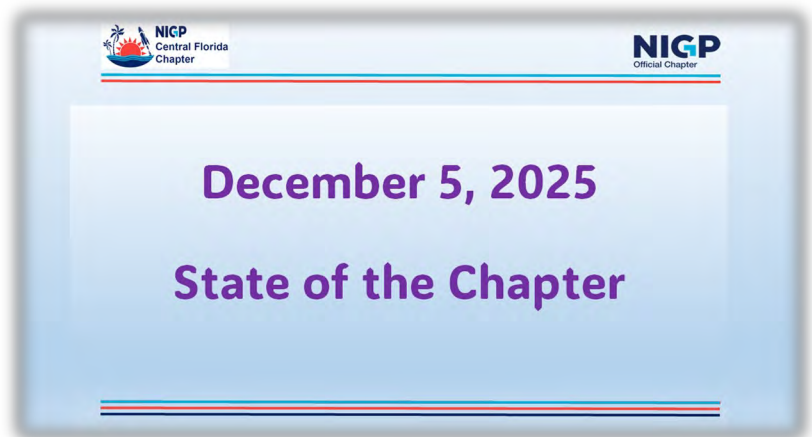
Day and Date	Times	Type	Event	Topic
Friday, January 23, 2026	10:00 - 11:30 12:00 - 2:00	In-person & virtual	Committee Boot Camp & Chapter Membership Meeting	Topic: Evaluation Teams/ Committees Panel
Friday, March 13, 2026	9:00 - 3:00	In-person & virtual	Spring Workshop	Guest Speaker: David Nash 2 Sessions: • Critical Thinking - A Critical Skill": How to solve problems by thinking critically. • Surely We Can Trust the Boss, Can't We?
Friday, May 22, 2026	12:00 - 2:00	In-person & virtual	Chapter Membership Meeting	Guest Speaker: Dr. Brian Robinson Topic: To Be Announced
Friday, July 17, 2026	12:00 - 2:00	In-person & virtual	Chapter Membership Meeting	Guest Speaker: Darin Matthews Topic: Procurement Fraud
Friday, September 18, 2026	9:00 - 3:00	In-person & virtual	Fall Workshop	Guest Speaker: Kirk Buffington Topic: To Be Announced
Wednesday, November 4, 2026	8:30 - 3:30	In-Person	Reverse Tradeshow	DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel at SeaWorld.
Friday, December 4, 2026	12:00 - 2:00	In-person & virtual	Chapter Membership Meeting	Guest Speaker: VP Nick Canjar Topic: State of the Chapter

December Workshop Recap Friday, December 5, 2025

The December 5th meeting began with the Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report were presented, followed by approval of the Consent Agenda, including minutes from the previous meeting and bank reconciliations. The Vice President's Report included programming and scholarship updates, including the Scholarship Deferment Survey and scholarship application process. The Vice President also presented the State of the Chapter presentation, which was well received by attendees. The Nominating Task Force presented Board-approved nominees for Council Chair positions and Treasurer, followed by member voting. Committee and task force chairs provided updates on Community Services, Legislative, Pro-D, Study Groups, and Internship/Externship/Mentoring, and members participated in an Open Floor discussion that included announcements, job postings, and recognition of new certifications. The meeting concluded with the President's Report, including updates on the Reverse Trade Show, budget vote, Pro-D scholarship awards, Buyer and Manager of the Year applications, and the upcoming Committee Bootcamp scheduled for January 23, 2026.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the meeting! We really appreciate your continued support of our awesome Chapter and look forward to bringing you great service and value in the upcoming year.

Luis A Aviles CPPO, CPPB, FCCM
CFC NIGP Vice President



JOIN US!

NIGP



**Central Florida
Chapter**

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP BOOTCAMP



REGISTER NOW

Elevate your leadership! Join our Committee Leadership Bootcamp for impactful insights, growth, and collaborative excellence.

10:00 AM Friday

23rd

Jan 2026

Renaissance Senior Center
3800 S. Econlockhatchee Trail Orlando, FL

FREE LUNCH & LEARN OPPORTUNITY!!



CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER JANUARY 2026 CHAPTER MEETING

Friday, January 23rd

Noon – 2:00 PM

EVALUATION COMMITTEE **DISCUSSION PANEL**

Join us for an in-depth discussion on Evaluation Team Best Practices!



Evaluation Strategies



Team Roles & Tips



Scoring & Selection

**ATTEND THE COMMITTEE BOOTCAMP IN THE MORNING &
ATTEND THE MEETING FREE!**

Committee Bootcamp: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

*Register for the Bootcamp and attend the chapter meeting at **NO COST!***



SIGN UP TODAY!

NIGP

Central Florida
Chapter

SPRING WORKSHOP

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER

DAVID NASH



DAVID NASH

**Friday, March 13, 2026
10:00am – 3:00pm**

Renaissance Senior Center

3800 S Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando, FL 32829

 **Critical Thinking –
A Critical Skill**

 **Surely We Can Trust
the Boss, Can't We?"**

**Worth
4 Contact
Hours!**

 **\$20 Per Person** In-Person and/or Virtual
• Lunch Included for **in-person**
Business Meeting at 9:00am

**REGISTER AT:
www.cfcnigp.org**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION MESSAGE

Hello Chapter Members,

Scholarship Application: A scholarship application is located on our website, Member Resources, Scholarships. This application for the 2025 years is for full members only, excluding administrative assistants. All [scholarship applications and backup documentation](#) must be submitted by [January 31st](#) annually in accordance with the application form. **LATE APPLICATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

YOU MUST SIGN THE FORM, INK OR ELECTRONICALLY, AND SUBMIT BACK UP DOCUMENTATION WITH THE APPLICATION.

Membership and Meeting Attendance: To provide your paid membership and meeting attendance, log in to the website. From the home page, select from your name, Profile. Select the tabs under Histories. Provide with your application. You may also provide the certificates emailed to you.

RTS Attendance: To provide your RTS attendance, log in to the website. Go to Member Resources, Scholarships. The 2025 RTS attendee list is available there. Provide the page with your name on it with your application.

Committee Lists: To provide your Committee engagement, log in to the website. Go to Member Resources, Committee List. Committee List for 2025, and the Internship/Externship and other episodic members are available there. Provide the page(s) with your name on it with your application.

Mentors and Mentees: Provide a copy of your signed application(s). The Committee Chair acknowledgement list will also be accepted.

New or Renewed Certifications: Provide a copy(ies) of your certification(s).

Study Group: Provide the Committee Chair attendance list.

Other: Provide backup documentation of attendance, payment, etc., or documentation as requested.

Scholarship Redemption Procedures: 1) Members shall complete a Scholarship Redemption Request and submit it to the Vice President in order to redeem scholarship funds. 2) Supporting documentation must be attached and may include course curriculum, registration form, travel request from member's entity, etc. 3) The completed a Scholarship Redemption Request must be submitted by December 1st of the current year.

The current Scholarship Log is posted on our website. Chapter members that have current scholarship funds are welcome to use them this year, until December 1st. After that, funds are available again on January 1st.

The Board of Directors appreciate all our Chapter members and welcome you to participate in the Central Florida Chapter of NIGP!

Please feel free to reach out to me or Luis Aviles at vicepresident@cfcnigp.org if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Tabatha Freedman

Tabatha Freedman, MBA, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB
President

President@cfcnigp.org

P: 386-822-5702



Investing in the Future of Tech Procurement

By Andrew Kokitus, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to the **Central Florida Chapter of NIGP** for awarding me a scholarship to attend the recent NIGP Core Certificate course: *Foundations of Technology Procurement*. This three-day virtual intensive was an incredible opportunity that provided both professional growth and the necessary credits toward my continued certification journey.

Professional Growth & Certification

As many of you know, staying current in our field is a full-time job in itself. This course provided me with **24 contact hours** which will be applied toward my **NIGP-CPP** re-certification, as well as maintaining my **CPPB** and **CPPO** designations.

The virtual format was particularly appreciated. Not only did it allow for a collaborative environment with peers from across the country, but it kept the overall costs reasonable, ensuring that scholarship funds could be used as efficiently as possible.

Key Takeaways

While I have managed technology procurements in the past, I often felt I lacked a formal skillset tailored specifically to the nuances of IT. This class changed that by:

- **Building a Strong Foundation:** Providing a clear framework for navigating complex IT solicitations.
- **Reinforcing Best Practices:** Validating my existing knowledge while sharpening my approach to risk management and terms and conditions.
- **Identifying Growth Areas:** Helping me pinpoint specific technical areas where I can focus my future professional development.

A Recommendation for My Peers

Technology is no longer a "niche" category; it touches every single contract we touch, from public works to office supplies. Whether you are a seasoned veteran or new to the field, I believe this course is essential. It gave me the confidence I was looking for to handle high-level technology bids with precision.



CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Our Chapter generously donated to four (4) charities in 2025!

\$ 4,480.94 UCF School of Business (in memory of David Wheeler)
\$ 4,000.00 Second Harvest Food Bank
\$ 4,000.00 Habitat for Humanity Veterans Build
\$ 1,275.00 Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Florida (RMH)
\$13,755.94 TOTAL

\$4,480.94 was donated from David Wheeler's Scholarship funds.

\$8,000.00 was donated from Reverse Trade Show funds.

\$1,000.00 was in the 2025 budget.

\$275.00 came from Chapter Members Scholarship contributions.

WE ROCK!!!!

Thank you,

Tabatha Freedman

Tabatha Freedman, MBA, NIGP-CPP,
CPPO, CPPB
2022 - 2025 Chapter President



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

College of Business



**Habitat
for Humanity®**

Veterans Build

Volunteer, employment and
homeownership opportunities



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Central Florida



NIGP
Central Florida
Chapter

REVERSE TRADE SHOW RECAP & 2026 SAVE THE DATE

On **Friday, November 7, 2025, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM, at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Orlando at SeaWorld** the Chapter held its 26th Reverse Trade Show and 2nd Trade Show. The response from the vendor community, Central Florida area agencies, and our volunteers was fantastic! We had 12 Diamond Sponsors, 9 Gold Sponsor, and 34 Silver Sponsors for a grand total of 55 Sponsors! It was the **first time we created a Trade Show DIAMOND WAY for our Diamond Sponsors!** The event brought together approximately 400 vendor attendees and 110 agency attendees! Of these agency attendees, 26 have volunteered in various positions to make the event as smooth as possible. **Thank you to the vendor community, Central Florida area agencies, and our volunteers for your support of our Chapter! Special thanks to our Diamond Sponsors for supporting our 2nd Trade Show at the event!**

Mark your calendars for 2026 at same location!



Reverse Trade Show
Wednesday, November 4, 2026
#cfcnigpRTS2026

Thank you,

Tabatha Freedman

Tabatha Freedman, MBA, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB
2025 Reverse Trade Show Chairman



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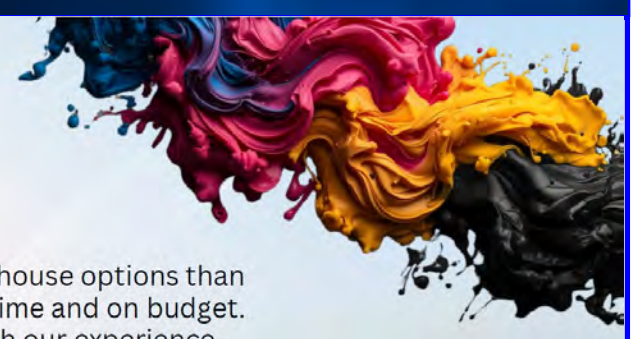
Integration Services:

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- ◆ Instrumentation & Panel Design
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- ◆ Industrial Networking & Cybersecurity
- ◆ Real-Time Energy & Process Optimization



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Our In-House Services

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| ✓ Specialty Coatings | ✓ Mail List & Inkjet Services |
| ✓ Stitching & Coiling | ✓ Inserting & Tabbings |
| ✓ Perfect Binding | ✓ Polybagging |
| ✓ Foil Stamping | ✓ Custom Packaging |
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A graphic with a dark blue, starry night sky background. The words 'Thank You' are written in a large, elegant, golden-yellow script font. Below them, the word 'SPONSORS' is written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. A bright, horizontal golden light streak with starburst effects runs across the bottom of the text.

Thank You
SPONSORS

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT UPDATE

Hello Chapter Members!

The chapter is always looking for ways to give back to the community.

If you have any service events or charities you'd like us to consider, please contact Arima Santana at santanaar@seminolestate.edu or (407) 708-2174.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Arima Santana

(407) 708-2174

santanaar@seminolestate.edu.



Donation Receipt

DONATION RECEIPT

(Please print clearly so form can be returned to you timely)

Donated by:		
Agency:		
Email:		
Donated to: (list charity)		
Type of donation:		
Value:		
** AREA BELOW FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS USE ONLY **		
COMMUNITY SERVICES CHAIR		
Approved by / Date		
SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR		
Accepted by / Logged / Date:		
<i>Not eligible for scholarship points unless signed by Community Services & Scholarship Chairs</i>		
Thank you for your generosity. We appreciate your support!		

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT UPDATE



★CFC NIGP
RONALD McDONALD HOUSE
SHARE-A-MEAL
12/6/25 COMMUNITY SERVICES

THANK YOU FOR PREPARING A HOME-COOKED MEAL FOR FAMILIES IN NEED



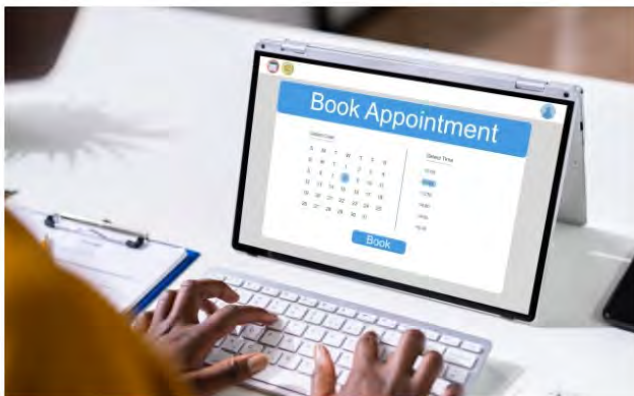
UPPCC CERTIFICATION

C P P B / C P P O S T U D Y G R O U P 2 0 2 6



UPCOMING EXAM SCHEDULE

The CPPO & CPPB certification exams are available twice a year on the months/days shown below, unless a specific date is listed. All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m. ET US on the dates specified.



May Testing Window: May 1-15

Application Opens:
Application Deadline:
Late Application Fee:
Schedule Exam By:

Nov 10
Mar 3
Mar 17
Mar 31

October Testing Window: October 17-31

Application Opens:
Application Deadline:
Late Application Fee:
Schedule Exam By:

May 25
Aug 20
Sept 3
Sept 17

The Study Group is currently on hiatus. Please check the chapter's website, www.cfcnigp.org, for the latest and greatest information!

If you have questions please contact Heather Beaudry at cfcstudy-group@cfcnigp.org.

CERTIFICATION SUPPORT



The David Nash Question of the Day is now powered by A Posteriori, LLC. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of David Nash, QOTD has been an essential tool for almost 8,000 procurement professionals as they journey toward certification. The QOTD team is thrilled to continue this mission with a new look: an automated emailed daily question that

<https://www.davidnashqotd.com/>

For those curious individuals, yes, David will continue supporting Question of the Day and be part of the 1:1 coaching!

MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES

Ready to Start or Continue Your CFC-NIGP Mentoring Journey in 2026?

Looking to grow your skills, expand your network, and give back to the public procurement community? The **CFC-NIGP Mentoring Program** is your opportunity to learn, connect, and make a meaningful impact in 2026.

Whether you're new to mentoring or returning for another year, this program offers a powerful two-way experience. Mentees gain guidance, confidence, and insight, while mentors strengthen leadership skills and help shape the next generation of procurement professionals.

As we prepare for the 2026 mentoring cycle, we invite you to participate as a **mentor, mentee, or both**.



Let's continue building connections and growing together in 2026!

Apply now and start your 2026 journey!

Contact Info: Fatima F Calkins at fatimacalkins@yahoo.com!

COURSE

Introduction to Public Procurement

DATE: 02/10/2026 - 02/11/2026

START TIME: 8:00 AM Eastern Time

END TIME: 5:00 PM Eastern Time

HOSTED BY: Central Florida Chapter of NIGP

INSTRUCTOR: Mr. John Lee Robinson, NIGP-CPP, CPPQ, CPSM, CPPB, C.P.M.

LEVEL: Foundation

FORMAT: Virtual Instructor-Led

CONTACT HOURS: 16

CEUS: 1.6

FOCUS AREAS:

Business Principles

Mastering compliance, ethical standards, and risk mitigation is crucial for organizational success and professional growth. NIGP's Introduction to Public Procurement is a comprehensive learning experience focused on these essential skills, emphasizing efficient procurement methods and stakeholder partnerships. This course equips you with practical insights to navigate the dynamic world of public procurement confidently. Elevate your expertise, embrace continuous professional development, and thrive in the challenging landscape of public procurement.

Pricing: ?

Introduction to Public Procurement

(Member: Early) \$383.00

Introduction to Public Procurement (Non

Member: Standard) \$579.00

(prices valid until Dec 12, 2025)

REGISTER YOURSELF

REGISTER OTHERS

[Download Print & Fax Form](#)

Local Contact

Name: Lisa Kesecker

Phone: **407-870-4622 Ext: 65518**

Fax: 407-870-4616

Email: Lisa.Kesecker@OsceolaSchools.net

For more information, [click here](#)

COURSE

Core Certificate: Foundations of Planning and Analysis

DATE: 03/10/2026 - 03/11/2026

START TIME: 8:00 AM Eastern Time

END TIME: 5:00 PM Eastern Time

HOSTED BY: Central Florida Chapter of NIGP

INSTRUCTOR: [Mrs. Rashpal U.](#)

LEVEL: Foundation

FORMAT: Virtual Instructor-Led

CONTACT HOURS: 16

CEUS: 1.6

FOCUS AREAS:

Core Certificate: Foundations of Planning and Analysis

Designated Public Procurement Associate

Planning and Analysis

Cost, Price, and Value Analysis

Requirements Planning and Understanding

Standardization

Strategic thinking and proactive planning are crucial for procurement professionals to drive successful outcomes. NIGP's Core Certificate: Foundations of Planning and Analysis is a comprehensive activity-based learning experience that equips novice professionals with essential skills in stakeholder engagement, risk management, and strategic analysis. This course will enhance your ability to identify and articulate procurement goals effectively, ensuring sustainable strategies and beneficial outcomes. Acquiring these skills will not only boost your procurement career but also enable you to deliver value to stakeholders and communities through informed decision-making.

Pricing: ?

Core Certificate: Foundations of Planning and Analysis (Member: Early) \$383.00

Core Certificate: Foundations of Planning and Analysis (Non-Member: Standard) \$579.00

(prices valid until Jan 9, 2026)

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Local Contact

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Fax: 407-870-4616

Email: Lisa.Kesecker@OsceolaSchools.net

For more information, [click here](#)

COURSE

Core Certificate: Foundations of Strategy and Policy

DATE: 04/14/2026 - 04/15/2026

START TIME: 8:00 AM Eastern Time

END TIME: 5:00 PM Eastern Time

HOSTED BY: Central Florida Chapter of NIGP

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Denise E. Badillo, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB

LEVEL: Foundation

FORMAT: Virtual Instructor-Led

CONTACT HOURS: 17

CEUS: 1.7

FOCUS AREAS:

Core Certificate: Foundations of Strategy and Policy

Designated Public Procurement Associate

Enabling Regulations and Compliance

Ethics, Integrity and Transparency

Legislation & Legal Environment

Strategy

Mission and Public Benefit

Stakeholder engagement and strategic value demonstration are crucial skills for procurement professionals, fostering trust and success in their roles. NIGP's Core Certificate: Foundations of Strategy and Policy is a comprehensive activity-based learning experience focusing on legal, ethical, and strategic aspects of public procurement. This course equips learners with the necessary tools to navigate governmental entities effectively, enhancing their procurement functions. By mastering these skills, professionals boost their career growth, gaining confidence in executing procurement tasks aligned with legal and ethical standards.

Pricing: ?

Core Certificate: Foundations of Strategy and Policy (Member: Early) \$383.00

Core Certificate: Foundations of Strategy and Policy (Non-Member: Standard) \$579.00

(prices valid until Feb 13, 2026)

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COURSE

Specialization Certificate: Cloud Procurement

DATE: 04/28/2026 - 04/29/2026

START TIME: 8:00 AM Eastern Time

END TIME: 5:00 PM Eastern Time

HOSTED BY: Central Florida Chapter of NIGP

INSTRUCTOR: [Danny Mays](#), NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPSM, CPSP, CPPB

LEVEL: Advanced Practitioner

FORMAT: Virtual Instructor-Led

CONTACT HOURS: 16

CEUS: 1.6

FOCUS AREAS:

[Specializations](#)

[Specialization Certificate: Cloud Procurement](#)

Understanding the challenges of cloud technology and mastering skills in procurement is crucial for personal growth. NIGP's Specialization Certificate: Cloud Procurement is a practical learning experience focusing on cost savings, risk assessment, and effective negotiation strategies in cloud services. This course equips professionals with the knowledge to navigate the complexities of cloud procurement, enhancing their ability to advise, procure, and negotiate successfully. Acquiring these advanced skills is vital for career growth in the rapidly evolving field of technology procurement.

Pricing: ?

Specialization Certificate: Cloud Procurement (Member: Early) \$383.00

Specialization Certificate: Cloud Procurement (Non-Member: Standard) \$579.00

(prices valid until Feb 27, 2026)

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Email: Lisa.Kesecker@OsceolaSchools.net

For more information, [click here](#)

COURSE

Specialization Certificate: Construction Procurement

DATE: 06/09/2026 - 06/11/2026

START TIME: 8:00 AM Eastern Time

END TIME: 5:00 PM Eastern Time

HOSTED BY: Central Florida Chapter of NIGP

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Carolyn L. Everett, CPPO, CPPB

LEVEL: Advanced Practitioner

FORMAT: Virtual Instructor-Led

CONTACT HOURS: 24

CEUS: 2.4

FOCUS AREAS:

Specializations

Specialization Certificate: Construction Procurement

Developing expertise in procurement of architect and engineering services and construction is crucial for navigating the complexities of public procurement. NIGP's Specialization Certificate: Construction Procurement is a comprehensive, activity-based learning experience that delves into the unique challenges of procuring professional design and construction services. This course equips professionals with essential skills in compliance, procurement best practices, and contract administration. By mastering advanced procurement techniques, participants can enhance their career prospects and become valuable assets in the field of public procurement.

Pricing: ?

Specialization Certificate: Construction

Procurement (Member: Early) \$536.00

Specialization Certificate: Construction

Procurement (Non-Member: Standard)

\$770.00

(prices valid until Apr 10, 2026)

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For more information, [click here](#)

COURSE

Core Certificate: Foundations of Sourcing and Contracting

DATE: 06/23/2026 - 06/25/2026

START TIME: 8:00 AM Eastern Time

END TIME: 5:00 PM Eastern Time

HOSTED BY: Central Florida Chapter of NIGP

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Bobbie Tolston, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB

LEVEL: Foundation

FORMAT: Virtual Instructor-Led

CONTACT HOURS: 24

CEUS: 2.4

FOCUS AREAS:

Core Certificate: Foundations of Sourcing and Contracting

Designated Public Procurement Associate

Sourcing and Solicitation

Evaluation Methods

Negotiations

Sourcing and Contracting Methods

Specification Development

Skills in sourcing, contracting, and negotiation are crucial for procurement professionals to excel and drive organizational success. NIGP's Core Certificate: Foundations of Sourcing and Contracting is a comprehensive, activity-based learning experience designed to equip entry-level professionals with the essential tools and strategies. This course enhances decision-making abilities, promotes best practices in procurement, and cultivates a deeper understanding of sourcing and contracting methodologies. By mastering these skills, professionals can elevate their career prospects, contribute effectively to their organizations, and become valuable assets in the procurement field.

Pricing: ?

Core Certificate: Foundations of Sourcing and Contracting (Member: Early) \$536.00

Core Certificate: Foundations of Sourcing and Contracting (Non-Member: Standard) \$770.00

(prices valid until Apr 24, 2026)

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For more information, [click here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Webinar - NIGP Member Orientation

人 Level: Foundation

🕒 0 Contact Hours

📅 01/13/2026



Webinar - Request for Proposal (RFP) Learning L...

人 Level: Foundation

🕒 0 Contact Hours

📅 01/14/2026

CARE

CARE Internship Program

A strategic opportunity for government agencies to shape the future of public service.

The CARE Internship Program is more than just hosting interns—it's an opportunity shape the pipeline of professionals who will carry procurement forward. By mentoring emerging talent, agencies not only get project support today but also help cultivate the workforce that will safeguard ethical, innovative, and effective public service tomorrow.

Call for Academic Research Proposals

LEARN MORE

Sponsor CARE Research

LEARN MORE

For more information, visit: [NIGP Center for the Advancement of Research and Excellence \(CARE\)](#)

NIGP RESOURCES & MORE!

Leadership Summit 2026

Three programs—one destination for growth.

[Learn more about Summit 2026](#)



Impact

For Experience Leaders

[Learn more](#)



Academy

For Newly Elected Chapter Leaders

[Learn more](#)



Edge

For Emerging Leaders

[Learn more](#)

NIGP Forum

The largest North American educational conference exclusively for individuals in public procurement.

[Learn more](#)

NIGP VCON

Engaging Content Tailored to Your Needs

[Learn more](#)

[NIGP Leadership Summit](#) ~ [NIGP Annual Forum & Products Exposition](#) ~ [NIGP VCON | Tech and Innovation](#)

GAIN CONTACT HOURS BY VIEWING PAST RECORDINGS

Webinar Recordings

Webinars and Webinar recordings are FREE to members AND
You earn 1 contact hour!

<https://www.nigp.org/learning/all-courses/webinars>

NIGP
RADIO

Check it out at <https://www.nigp.org/events/radio-nigp>.

STEP UP TO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CERTIFICATION

NIGP Certified Procurement Professional (NIGP-CPP)



WHY ATTAIN YOUR NIGP-CPP

2,100+ approved NIGP-CPP candidates and counting....

When NIGP launched the NIGP Certified Procurement Professional (NIGP-CPP) certification, we knew from research that a competency-based certification for procurement leaders was need and wanted. And, we are very happy with the success of this certification. This is in no small part to the amazing group of professionals, volunteers, and subject matter experts who worked hard to elevate the work that each of you do by building a whole new way to get recognized for your competencies, skills, and abilities.

WHY EARN THE NIGP-CPP

NIGP-CPP is one of several ways a procurement professional can be publicly recognized for the achievement of competencies. The program is offered by NIGP - the leading public procurement association that serves as a trusted advisor to more than 2,600+ public agencies and 17,300 public procurement professionals throughout North America.

TOOLS TO HELP YOU PREPARE



Test Your Procurement Knowledge

Access the Personalized NIGP-CPP Assessment Tool

\$49 [Register Today >](#)



Purchase the Prep Guides

Available for Modules A and B in digital and print formats.

\$35 digital **\$45** hardcopy [Purchase >](#)



Take an Exam Prep Course

Register for a NIGP-CPP Exam Prep Course

\$195 [Register Today >](#)



Prep Community on NSite

Join the NIGP-CPP Prep Community to study with colleagues.

\$0 to Members [Join the NSite Community >](#)

For more information please visit: <https://www.nigp.org/certification/why-the-nigp-cpp>.

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PROCUREMENT U

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Introducing the Procurement Professionals Alliance

A new community for all procurement professionals



Discover how it impacts your
Procurement U experience

LEARN MORE
& JOIN FREE



Procurement Professionals Alliance



Introducing the Procurement Professionals Alliance

A new community for procurement professionals across all sectors.

Procurement U access is changing **January 1, 2026**. Learn what it means for you & new benefits available.

Free membership for two years if you join before January 1, 2026!

Learn More & Join Free →

VISIT **Procurement U**

For more information please visit: <https://procurementu.myabsorb.com/#/login>

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES



Membership Meeting Friday, December 5, 2025

Start: 12:31 PM

Ended: 1:21 PM

Welcome – President Tabatha Freedman

Welcome Guests

- Cindy Norton, Area 5 Chapter Ambassador
- Devon Peterson, Senior Procurement Specialist, Orange County Sheriff's Office, New Member
- Renee Goergen, Buyer, City of Groveland, New Member
- Jason Meinert, City of Palm Bay, First Meeting
- Esaie Alexandre, Orange County Public Schools, First Meeting
- Robert Rosenstein, Director, Osceola County BOCC, First Meeting

Old Business

Secretary's Report and Approval of Previous Minutes

Presented by Tabatha Freedman on behalf of Nick Canjar

- Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2025, membership meeting were provided via e-mail and in the December 2025 newsletter.
- Approval of Previous Minutes from September 19, 2025, Membership Meeting:
 - Motion to approve by Angela Thomas; Seconded by Maria Green.
 - No Discussion
 - Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report – Sean Hynes

- September 2025 & October 2025 reconciliations were provided via e-mail.
- Approval of September 2025 & October 2025 Reconciliations
 - Motion to approve by Robert Rosenstein; Seconded by John Schmidt
 - No Discussion
 - Motion Passed
- Membership 2025, available January 1, 2026, only the prime member will receive the renewal email, better if a secondary member is not added, reach out to Sean with any questions/issues, there will be a future email highlighting members with missing information.

Vice President's Report—by Luis Aviles

Scholarship Updates

- Scholarship Updates: Scholarship Redemption deadline is 12/15/2025; Scholarship Log is up to date.
- Scholarship Deferment Survey: Deadline is 12/15/2025.

President's Report - President Tabatha Freedman

Reverse Trade Show (RTS)

- RTS: \$86K in revenue, same venue but will be reorganizing the space for next year, need volunteers for next year.

Budget

- Budget: \$30K to professional development scholarships; first time in-person Forum scholarships, 1 x under 40 and 1 x over 40; \$42K to scholarship dollars
- Approval of Budget
 - Motion: Maria Green; Second: Fatima Calkins

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

CFC NIGP
Membership Meeting Minutes
Page 2 of 3

- No Discussion
- Motion Passed

In Memory of David Wheeler

- Balance of David Wheeler's scholarship dollars to be donated to the UCF College of Business scholarship fund
- Approval of Donation
 - Motion: John Schmidt; Second: Katrina Ponzini
 - No Discussion
 - Motion Passed

Community Donations

- \$4K each to Second Harvest Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity Veterans Build
- Approval of Donation
 - Motion: Angela Thomas; Second: Will Henzmann
 - No Discussion
 - Motion Passed

Pro-D Scholarship Awards

- Class Drawing Schedule sent via email on 12/03/2025, watch for surveys.

Award Applications

- Buyer of the Year and Manager of the Year applications were sent via email on 12/03/2025
- Applications are due by 01/26/2026

Committee Bootcamp

- Will take place on 01/23/2026 at 10:00 AM.
- Free lunch at the January Chapter meeting
- Please register online

New Business

Nominating Task Force

- Presentation of Board of Directors' approved nominees for Council Chair Positions & Voting – Nominating Task Force
- Due to unforeseen circumstances, Ramandeep Mann, previously elected as Treasurer on 09/19/2025, had to step down.
- Treasurer Angela Thomas
 - Motion to approve by: Tracie Brown; Seconded by Fatima Calkins
 - No Discussion
 - Motion Passed
- Member Council Chair Milli Medina
 - Motion to approve by: Fatima Calkins; Seconded by Melissa Vergara
 - No Discussion
 - Motion Passed
- Fundraising Council Chair Damaris Nazario
 - Motion to approve by: Cathy Baca; Seconded by Angela Thomas

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

CFC NIGP
Membership Meeting Minutes
Page 3 of 3

- No Discussion
- Motion Passed
- Talent Council Chair Katrina Ponzini
 - Motion to approve by: John Schmidt; Seconded by Kelly Gutierrez
 - No Discussion
 - Motion Passed

Committee/Task Force Updates

Community Services

- Share-A-Meal at Ronald McDonald House, 12/06/2025, 3:30 PM – 7:00 PM
- Please let Arima Santana know if you have any suggestions for future opportunities.

Internship/Externship

- Career Fair opportunities in the future; Shoutout to current committee members.
- If interested in participating in any of these events, please reach out to John at john.schmidt@ocfl.net.

Open Floor

New Certifications

- Katrina Ponzini, CPPO and FCCM
- Arima Santana, CPPO, FCCM, and FCCN
- Susan Ziegler, FCCM
- Kelly Gutierrez, NIGP PPA and FCCM
- Luis Aviles, FCCM
- Maria Green, FCCM
- Gladys Marrozos, FCCM
- Suzanna Shaw, FCCM
- Fatima Calkins, CPP Modules C/D and FCCM
- Debra Feingold, FCCM
- Esaie Alexandre, FCCM
- Susan Perry, FCCM
- Corie Cummings, NIGP-CPP
- Alvin Borges, CPPB
- Viviana Sandoval, NIGP-CPP
- Gladinnette Cabrera Vazquez, FCCM
- Milli Medina, NIGP PPA.

Chapter Meeting Is Adjourned at 1:21 PM

- Motion to approve by Ted Phillips, Seconded by Maria Green
- No Discussion
- Motion Passed

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA



Membership Meeting Agenda Friday, January 23, 2026 12:00 PM—2:00 PM

10:00 AM Committee Bootcamp
11:45 AM Registration
12:00 PM Lunch
12:30 PM Chapter Business Meeting (Virtual Attendees join the meeting at this time)
1:00 PM Presentation

Welcome – Tabatha Freedman, President

Introductions, Welcome Guests & Recognition of New Members

Installation of 2026-27 Officers and Council Chair Positions by Tabatha Freedman, 2022-2025 President

Old Business

Secretary's Report and Approval of Previous Minutes – Yanique Reddick

Treasurer's Report and Approval – Angela Thomas
Membership 2026

Consent Agenda

Item 1: Minutes from Previous Meeting
Item 2: Bank Reconciliations

Vice President's Report – Nick Canjar
Programming Updates
Scholarship Updates
Application
Log

President's Report – Luis Aviles
Buyer of the Year and Manager of the Year applications
Pro-D Scholarship Awards
Community Service
Committees
Award

New Business

Committee/Task Force(s) – Updates from Chairs
Community Service
Pro-D
Study Groups
Internship/Externship/Mentoring
Legislation
Mentoring
Open Floor
Recognition of New Certifications
Job Postings, Announcements, New Positions, Purchasing News
Other New Business

Chapter Meeting Is Adjourned

Meeting
LUNCH MENU

Hot Lunch

2026 **CHAPTER DATES**

Committee Bootcamp
(Tentative)
&
Membership Meeting
January 23rd

Spring Workshop
March 13th

Membership Meeting
May 22nd

Membership Meeting
July 17th

Fall Workshop
September 18th

Reverse Trade Show
(RTS)
November 4th
(Wednesday)

Membership Meeting
&
State of the Chapter
December 4th