Brooke E. LiermanComptroller of Maryland



News Release

Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman Launches Maryland Accounting Academy

New comprehensive training available to state fiscal workforce

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AUGUST 1, 2025) — Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman announced today the launch of the Maryland Accounting Academy, a new program of the Comptroller's Office of State Financial Innovation (OSFI) to provide comprehensive finance and accounting training and support to Maryland's fiscal workforce.

The Maryland Accounting Academy's mission is to empower state fiscal staff across all agencies and branches of Maryland government with lifelong learning opportunities that enhance accountability, transparency, and efficiency in public finance. Initial courses, offered on demand through an online portal to the statewide workforce, cover state-specific accounting practices and related technical skills in Financial Management Information System (FMIS), the state's current accounting system, and Organizational Change Management. More courses are under development. Many new courses will be delivered live by classroom instructors and online.

"The MDAA was created to support our state finance and accounting staff with access to centralized training and tools to achieve a more equitable, resilient, and prosperous Maryland," Comptroller Lierman said. "In partnership with subject matter experts and leaders across the state, we want to ensure the training programs reduce confusion, speed up our processes, and streamline our operations. This program is built for everyone — whether you are new to state government or a seasoned professional. The trainings offered are expected to improve interactions with our partners in the business community, vendors, and nonprofits who work alongside us to respond to Marylanders' needs."

In 2023, the General Assembly passed the <u>Modernization of State Financial Systems - 21st Century Financial Systems Enterprise</u> legislation introduced by Comptroller Lierman, in partnership with the Treasurer and Secretary of Budget & Management, to implement a new general accounting system for the entire state government. With one of the county's oldest accounting and payment processing systems, Maryland needed an expedited process to guarantee continued service to vendors, businesses, and nonprofits for timely state agency payments and to balance the state's checkbooks each

year. The initiative also included modernizing and standardizing financial management across state agencies. A final report on the effort is due before January 1, 2027.

As a result of the legislation's passage, the Office of State Financial Innovation (OSFI) was charged with modernizing and transforming Maryland's financial infrastructure, processes, and technology. It focuses on enhancing data security, increasing operational efficiency, and fostering greater transparency for accountability in state financial systems. Under the OSFI, the FMIS Modernization Project and the MDAA work together to drive the transformation of Maryland's financial infrastructure.

Dr. Victoria Steeger, Chief Performance Officer for the OSFI, has spearheaded the academy's development.

A video about MDAA and more information may be found at https://marylandcomptroller.gov/mdaa.

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