

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF STATE AUDITORS

October 2021
Volume 23



President's Message



Happy Fall CASA members...although it still feels like summer! We were so hopeful to return to in-person training courses this fall. However, CASA values health and safety first and foremost, and therefore made the difficult decision to continue with on-line training through December 2021. We recognize the on-line courses provide flexibility but we miss the networking opportunities, and the great lunches, from the in-person classes. Speaking of on-line opportunities, or if you are in need of CPE to meet CPA or Government Auditing Standards training requirements, please join us for our upcoming Coffee with CASA, and our two exciting 8-hour courses available in October and November. Further, if you are interested in participating on a Peer Review team, please contact our Peer Review coordinators. It is such a great opportunity! Keep reading for additional information regarding training and Peer Review opportunities.

Take Care,
~Cheryl



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CASA Team

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- Leanna Sinibaldi
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- Laura Langston
Treasurer
- Sara Sheikholislam
Secretary
- Shanah McKnight
Executive Director
- Chris Prasad
Training Coordinator
- Mary Camacho
Peer Review
- Lisa Negri
Peer Review
- Jennifer Whitaker
Immediate Past
President

CASA TRAINING

Your safety is the utmost importance to CASA. We're pressing the pause button on in-person training. Please check out the variety of online training available!



In-person training is returning after January 2022. Stay tuned for more updates!

OCTOBER COURSE

Accepting Registration Now!

Living, Working, and Leading in Chaotic Times

Instructor: Larry Liberty

Location: Online via Zoom

8 CPE Cost \$230

October 11, 2021, 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. and

October 12, 2021, 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

The chaos and crises of the last year has been the ultimate test and challenge test and challenge of our ability to lead and of our resilience. This workshop will provide us much needed insights into what we have been through, where we're headed, and how to get there elegantly. It is our time to slow down, to breathe, and to reflect upon what we have learned and who and how we have changed and been changed by world events. Now is a time for us to reflect and care for ourselves.

Register by email CASAuditors@gmail.com

TRAINING

NOVEMBER COURSE

Ask Better Questions for Better Outcomes

Instructor: Rob Berry

Location: Online via Zoom

November 1, 2021 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. and

November 2, 2021 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

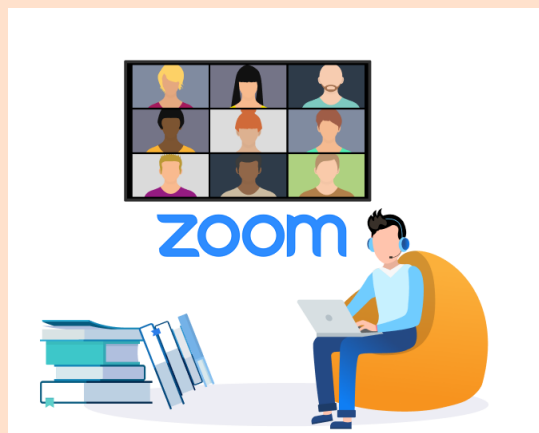
Cost \$230

Curiosity is the cornerstone of internal auditing. Curiosity requires auditors to ask a lot of questions. Do you struggle with asking clients the right questions? The ability to ask appropriate questions is powerful. Continuously questioning clients is difficult. This course provides the tools you need to effectively ask questions. Often auditors know what to ask, but many struggle with how to ask and how to listen.

By the end of this course, attendees will be able to:

- Identify and discuss the five elements of effective questions
- Understand the power of questions
- Identify and understand client personalities
- Describe and avoid the barriers to asking good questions
- Utilize a five step approach to ASK better questions, GET better answers, PERFORM better audits

[Register by email CASAuditors@gmail.com](mailto:CASAuditors@gmail.com)



TRAINING

COFFEE WITH CASA
October 20, 2021
8:30 a.m. Online via Zoom



CPE: 1

GUEST SPEAKER: MICHELE SAUNDERS
from the CALIFORNIA STATE AUDITOR

Please join us to hear Michele Saunders from the California State Auditor (CSA). CSA conducted several audits of the California Employment Development Department (EDD) and its ability to deliver unemployment benefits while preventing fraud and maintain privacy. The reports provide recommendations to increase accountability, help prevent fraud, and improve operations. Michelle will be discussing the results from the EDD audits.



Michelle Sanders is a Senior Auditor Evaluator with the California State Auditor where she has worked for the past ten years. She has supervised performance audits covering a wide variety of programs and policy issues, including audits related to affordable housing, information privacy, unemployment insurance fraud, public university systems, state medical programs, and school district operations. Michelle holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with concentrations in Finance, and Risk Management and Insurance from California State University, Sacramento. [Register by email CASAuditors@gmail.com](mailto:CASAuditors@gmail.com)

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EARNING CPE IN REMOTE TRAINING

CASA has a responsibility to monitor individual attendance to assign the correct number of CPE credits.

- For online courses, participants are required to log on with their personally issued link and engage in the designated interactivity elements for attendance (a minimum of 3 times per hour to receive the full credit). A participant's self-certification of attendance alone is not sufficient.
- We are unable to grant CPE in cases where technical difficulties and operational requirements are not met. Participants that do not receive the video conferencing link information, or are experiencing any issues, should email CASAuditors@gmail.com.
- Late arrivals, early departures, or missed course instruction time will result in a proration of CPE credits. Once the first 50-minute hour of CPE has been completed, the participants will receive .5 hour credit for each 25-minute segment.
- If participants anticipate missing any of the course, they should see the course monitor at a live course or email CASAuditors@gmail.com as soon as possible.

TRAINING

MEMBERSHIP

CONTACT INFO

Got questions?
Contact us via email at

CASAuditors@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all
auditors, accountants,
and state employees.

No membership fees!

RECRUITMENT

Do you have a position you want to advertise? Let us know and we will advertise to the CASA membership. Please email us at CASAuditors@gmail.com





VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Participating in a peer review is a great opportunity for leaders within the State of California audit community to exchange ideas about best practices and to learn from each other, while helping audit units meet their external assessment requirement.

If you are highly motivated and meet the desired qualifications, we encourage you to apply by submitting a completed nomination form located at [www.casa1.org./review nomination](http://www.casa1.org./review-nomination) to the peer review coordinators.

Apply Now!

Management and licensed professionals (CPA, CIA, CGAP etc.) are strongly encouraged to apply



INVALUABLE
EXPERIENCE!

GREAT INSIGHT
INTO THE BEST
PRACTICES OF THE
AUDITING FIELD!

LEARN HOW TO
IMPROVE YOUR
QUALITY
CONTROL
PRACTICES!

MEET OTHER
ENTHUSIASTIC
AUDIT
PROFESSIONALS!

WANT TO KNOW
MORE? VISIT
WWW.CASA1.ORG/FAQS

HAVE QUESTIONS?
CONTACT OUR CASA
PEER REVIEW
COORDINATORS:

mary.camacho@dof.ca.gov or
lisa.negri@energy.ca.gov