

Keep Learning with SAO



Office of the
Washington
State Auditor

September 2021

BARS Update webinars

Our annual Budgeting, Accounting, and Reporting System (BARS) Updates will be held virtually again this fall. These no-cost, two-hour sessions are worth two CPE credits.

SAO's Local Government Support Team will show you changes to the BARS GAAP and Cash Manuals, including important accounting and reporting updates, annual report filing changes, new BARS codes and more. We will have separate sessions for GAAP governments and Cash governments highlighting changes that only affect your government's basis of accounting.

Your government's audit liaison will receive an email from our Office by Oct. 1 when registration opens for these events. Additionally, you can watch for information on SAO's BARS and Annual Filing Training webpage: <https://sao.wa.gov/bars-annual-filing/filing-training-and-workshops/#BARS-Update>.

Webinar dates and times:

GAAP Sessions

Wednesday, October 20	9 – 11 a.m.
Tuesday, October 26	1 – 3 p.m.
Thursday, October 28	1 – 3 p.m.
Wednesday, November 3	1 – 3 p.m.
Wednesday, November 17	9 – 11 a.m.

Cash Sessions

Tuesday, October 19	9 – 11 a.m.
Thursday, October 21	9 – 11 a.m.
Wednesday, October 27	1 – 3 p.m.
Wednesday, November 3	9 am – 1 p.m.
Wednesday, November 17	1 – 3 p.m.

More training on BARS and annual filing

Bookmark our Training and Workshops page: <https://sao.wa.gov/bars-annual-filing/filing-training-and-workshops/#elearnings>

Here you'll find:

- Recordings of our August 2021 webinars on leases, which will be posted in October. Separate recordings will be available for GAAP and Cash governments.
- A new training video coming soon on the annual filing system.
- Several no-cost eLearnings, including Introduction to the BARS Manuals, SAO 2020 BARS Update, OPEB for Cash Basis Governments and more.

Online, on-demand, CPE-eligible training on internal controls

Cash handling internal controls are a vital process in your government. Strong policies, practices and well-trained employees make all the difference when safeguarding public resources and minimizing your risk for loss or misappropriation.

This fall, we'll launch a new way to learn about these controls: An online course you can take whenever you want, wherever you are, and you'll earn CPE in the process. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months!

#GoodGovernment practices now on-demand!

The Center for Government Innovation connects you with knowledge and resources to help your local government innovate and improve—at no cost to you. This year our annual fall outreach is taking on a new look: an online, on-demand format where you can learn at your own pace!

In this new on-demand format, our local government experts will share information about the Center's finance-related technical assistance, customizable LEAN process-improvement facilitations, team-building and leadership training, best-practices resource library and data analysis tools.

Keep an eye out this fall for links to our new presentation in SAO's Audit Connection blog and Weekly Digest! If we can provide assistance about any of these topics before the presentation is available, please send us an email at center@sao.wa.gov.

Brought to you by Local Government Support
and the Center for Government Innovation

