



We've got a new name!

Welcome to the January 2021 edition of ***The Connection!*** We made some New Year's Resolutions for 2021, and one of them is to more closely CONNECT with our members, associates and professional organizations. We hope you will *connect* with us in the coming year by tuning into our social media, newsletters, the Pension Plan Data Center, our online learning platform, video library and so much more.



We're back! CPPT Program is Resuming


We've been plotting and planning for months and we are confident we have the solution to resuming our CPPT program in a way that will provide you with a solid education and keep us all safe until we can get back to meeting on-site.

The Education Committee, under Peter Hapgood's direction, has helped us develop programs for both CPPT and CEU. These two standard educational offerings will both happen this winter/spring online.

And we're adding a new program, ***Pension Fundamentals for New Trustees***, that can be viewed remotely.

The curriculum for CPPT will meet our high standards and testing will take place, even though a bit differently. The new online learning platform allows us to exploit technology to deliver great programs and gives everyone flexibility. We can't wait to meet in-person again, but we're going to help you make the grade until then.


So, please review the menu of programs below to learn about our winter/spring education schedule for certification and credits. All are conveniently linked to a registration page, where all details and costs are posted.



**Pension
Fundamentals
for New
Trustees**

**Wednesday,
March 10th**

This one-day program is a '*must do*' preview and a new requirement for trustees who wish to enroll in the CPPT program. In three 90-minute modules you'll learn the framework of being a trustee. With this prerequisite behind you, you will enter the CPPT program familiar with basic requirements of the job, commonly used language and some context for the learning to come.



CPPT Program

Tuesday April 6th –
Friday, April 9th

Basic, Intermediate and Advanced

We're putting a new twist on our oldest education program. Each of the three class programs will meet for **one full day of four, 90-minute modules**. Basic will be held on Monday; Intermediate will be on Tuesday; Advanced will be held on Wednesday. Each class will include a review and there will be testing the following day, after the class.



Continuing Education Units

Tuesday, May 4th and
Wednesday, May 5th

Attend six, 90-minute modules over two days to help you stay up to speed in a rapidly shifting economic environment. Municipal revenues, economic shifts, legislative updates, along with the topics of asset, actuarial and investment management will give our more experienced trustee members something worthwhile to bring back to their pension boards and sponsors.

All streaming events and online programs are listed in detail on FPPTA's website and will be updated with registration information as it becomes available.

[Program Descriptions](#)



News stories from across the State of Florida during December 2020.

by Fred Nesbitt, PhD, Media Consultant

In the news last month: PEW reviewed the average pension funding ratio – the market value of a pension fund as a share of the total benefits owed to current or retired public employees – for all 50 states as of 2018 with data from non-governmental organization, The Pew Charitable Trusts. **FRS ranked #32** for states.

In other news, NIRS published a paper looking at innovative funding strategies: [Beyond the ARC: Innovative Funding Strategies from the Public Sector](#) contains some interesting strategies for pension plans to consider.

Also: How COVID-19 is putting the squeeze on pensions; the hardships of negative real rates; Congressional consideration for abolishing this 401(k) provision, plus more.

[Read Pension News Clips](#)



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