

# Georgia Council of Court Administrators



## Program Fact Sheet

*Answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about GCCA.*

### **What is GCCA?**

The mission of the Georgia Council of Court Administrators is to provide a statewide forum to assist court administrators in the development of a more just, effective, and efficient system of justice by:

- Assisting court administrators and managers throughout the state in the execution of their duties;
- Promoting and assisting in the training of court administrators, managers, and support personnel;
- Identifying and studying goals and developing standards relating to the administration of justice;
- Providing an effective network for the exchange of information, ideas, and methods;
- Facilitating cooperation, consultation, and exchange of information among organizations concerned with court administration; and
- Establishing and maintaining an organization that is open, participatory, and responsive.

### **What are the benefits of GCCA membership?**

- Sharing of ideas and programs with other courts;
- Awards for innovative programs, outstanding managers, and distinguished non-managers who promote ideals of court administration;
- Updating members on new laws and changes impacting court administration;
- Mentoring to strengthen management skills;
- Identifying resources support from other courts and court-related agencies;
- Training on the Core Competencies curriculum developed by the National Association for Court Management (NACM) and the Institute for Court Management (ICM);
- Networking with fellow court professionals;
- Creating a spirit of pride and professionalism with court managers in Georgia and the nation;
- Developing transferable leadership skills;
- Promoting a greater understanding and appreciation of the different roles and responsibilities of court administration and the judiciary; and
- Creating synergy between the judicial functions and administrative functions advancing effective court governance.

### **Learn the Secrets of Getting Needed Resources:**

Governmental funding authorities are requiring courts to discover new ways of delivering quality justice with fewer allocations. More than ever, courts now must demonstrate that they are well managed in order to be well funded. Various social sciences are increasingly included in justice solutions and dispute alternatives. By being involved in GCCA, you will learn how to be an effective leader, knowledgeable of current justice trends, and an irreplaceable member of your court's executive leadership team.

### **Can membership in GCCA help you?**

*“Absolutely—and it did for me. I cannot describe the wonderful feeling that came over me when I attended my first GCCA meeting. The immediate acceptance and friendliness of all the members made me feel right at home, and I knew that I was now part of a new and exciting profession with people who would listen and help. The encouragement that I get from other members reinforces my ability to be an effective member of our court’s executive leadership team. To me, that alone is worth the small membership fee—everything else is a bonus!”*

-Bob Bray, Administrative Office of the Courts

### **What is the Certificate Program?**

Established in 2009, the certificate program was established to assist members to enhance their training and education in judicial administration. The program provides guidance in obtaining a comprehensive educational program and assisting members in receiving recognition for their knowledge and achievement. A 40-hour certification is available, as well as a 100-hour Master’s level of certification.

### **What are the goals of the Certificate Program?**

The certificate program:

- Will be available to all members;
- Costs of completion will remain reasonable;
- Time of completion should normally take no more than two years; and
- Will be comprised of educational content designed to improve the participants’ effectiveness as court professionals.

### **Participation Requirements:**

To be eligible for participation in the certificate program you must:

- Complete the educational program requirements; and
- Submit the application for certification along with proof of attendance at each training.

### **Program Requirements:**

To be certified by the Georgia Council of Court Administrators, you must successfully complete the educational requirements within five years. To maintain the certification, you must complete a minimum of 16 hours of approved training every two years.

### **Certification Process:**

The Executive Committee of GCCA will be available to members to answer questions, interpret policy, and generally assist members in completing the program. Documentation of completion of course in the program should be submitted as soon after the program as possible. It is the applicant’s responsibility to turn in course completion forms (if required).

### **Educational Partnership with the Institute for Court Management (ICM):**

Until now, ICM courses were only taught by ICM’s faculty or online. Now, qualified court staff from Georgia are certified to teach ICM courses locally. Using this licensing system, participants can obtain the first level of the nationally recognized ICM certification, the [Certified Court Manager](#).

### **More Information:**

If you would like additional information about the Georgia Council of Court Administrators, please visit our website at [www.GCCAonline.org](http://www.GCCAonline.org) or email us at [MyGCCA@gmail.com](mailto:MyGCCA@gmail.com).