

2026

DRAFT EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

MONDAY, JUNE 29

8:30am-12:00pm

- Basic CMO Core Course: Municipal Finance
- Basic CMO Core Course: Municipal Land Use
- Advanced CMO Core Course: Economic Development
- Professional Development CMO Core Course: The Balancing Act - Managing Public Service, Work, and Everything in Between (8:30am-11:30am)
- Municipal Stormwater and Wastewater Updates (8:30am-10:15am)
- Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (8:30am-10:15am)
- Protecting the Public Asset: The Fiscal Case for Pavement Preservation (10:30am-12:00pm)
- The Mississippi Rural Water Oversight Committee - What is This Legislation and What Does It Mean for My Water Utility? (10:30am-12:00pm)
- Social Media 911: What You Need to Know About Today's Online Activists, Public Records, and Comment Sections Chaos (10:30am-12:00pm)

MONDAY, JUNE 29

1:30pm - 5:00pm

- Basic CMO Core Course: Municipal Law
- Advanced CMO Core Course: Community Development
- Professional Development CMO Core Course: All You Need to Know (and More) About Municipal Employment Issues - A Practical Discussion for Navigating Personnel Issues (1:30pm - 4:30pm)
- Key Strategies to Improve Speed to Market for Your Community, Accelerate Growth, Launch Smarter, and Lead Your Community Forward (1:30pm-3:00pm)
- Mississippi Brownfield Program and Grant Workshop (1:30pm-3:30pm)
- Can We All Just Get Along? Practical Civility in Municipal Government (1:30pm-3:30pm)

Roundtable Discussions

1:30pm-4:00pm

- Grant and Loan Opportunities Through MDA's Community Incentives Division
- Outdoor Recreation Grant Opportunities with MDWFP
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program Update
- Arts and Culture Grants for Your City
- Drinking Water Financing and Funding
- Compliant Surplus Liquidation (Government Auctions)
- Mississippi Urban Deer Management and Avoidance
- Oral Health Care Updates – From Fluoride to Dental Insurance Reform
- Municipal Salary Surveys and the Classification and Compensation Laboratory at the Stennis Institute
- Planning and Development Districts Services
- Maximizing Revenues for Use of the Public Right of Way and Government Owned Facilities and Land
- New Dig Laws and Bringing Stakeholders Together
- Mississippi Tort Claims Board Updates
- MSU Extension Center for Government and Community Development
- Data Centers
- Last Call for a Free Arboretum!
- PFAS "Forever Chemicals": More Than a Lawsuit – Strategies for Municipal Leaders to Protect Your Water, Your Finances, Your Reputation, and Your People
- Travel, Legal Expenditures and Audit Reporting

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

1:30pm-5:00pm

- Basic CMO Core Course: Municipal Organization
- Advanced CMO Core Course: Economic & Community Development Case Study
- Professional Development CMO Core Course: Steady in the Storm – Crisis Communication & Risk Management for Public Leaders (1:30pm-4:30pm)
- Protecting Your City and Yourself: Risk Management for Municipal Officials (1:30pm-2:30pm)
- One Mission, Many Roles: The Work of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (1:30pm-2:30pm)
- Regulating City Rights of Ways (1:30pm-2:30pm)

- Municipal Finance 201 (1:30pm-2:30pm)
- What are Planning and Development Districts and How Can They Help My Municipality (1:30pm-2:30pm)
- Overview of Roundabouts as an Intersection Traffic Control Device (1:30pm-2:30pm)
- MML Legislative Update (1:30pm-2:30pm)
- Employment Law Family Feud (2:45pm-3:45pm)
- Mississippi Fire Service and the Mississippi State Rating Bureau (2:45pm-3:45pm)
- Preventing Injuries and Utility Damages (2:45pm-3:45pm)
- Law Update (2:45pm-3:45pm)
- Tools for Attainable Housing: Planning and Zoning Strategies, Land Banking, and Regional Lessons (2:45pm-3:45pm)
- Cybersecurity Basics for Cities and Towns: Reducing Risks Without Big Budgets (2:45pm-3:45pm)
- Prepare Now for a Request to the Mississippi Legislature and Congress in 2027 (2:45pm-3:45pm)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

9:00am - 10:00am

- AI Without the Hype: What Municipal Leaders Actually Need to Know
- On the Right Track: Permitting and Partnerships with Railroads
- From Engagement to Impact: The Mayor's Youth Council as a Leadership Pipeline
- Mississippi Reliable Energy Siting through Technical Engagement and Planning (R-STEP) Program
- Strengthening Communities Through Public Works: APWA Support for Municipal Infrastructure and Workforce Development
- Today's Planning and Tomorrow's Impact: How Basic Planning Principles Impact Your Community
- Municipal Police Updates
- Protecting Older Adults in Your Community: Understanding Mandatory Reporting and Supports for Older Adults
- Not All Parks & Recreation Systems Are the Same: Understanding Structure and Strengthening Performance
- Beyond the Fire Truck: Fire, Funding & Fortification Programs for Municipalities

Immediately following Awards Luncheon until 2:30pm

- Issues Facing Small Towns Under 500 Population
- Issues Facing Towns 500 to 2,000 Population
- Issues Facing Cities 2,000 to 5,000 Population
- Issues Facing Cities 5,000 to 10,000 Population
- Issues Facing Cities 10,000 to 20,000 Population
- Issues Facing Cities Over 20,000 Population