

This Month's Event:

## Technology in Accounting

Date:

Thursday, March 13th

Time:

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Location:

DePaul Center Rm. 11013  
1. E. Jackson Blvd  
Chicago, IL 60604

Professor Ed Doyle at DePaul University will be speaking on the ever-changing technology for those working in the Accounting and Finance profession.

For more information please visit our [website](#) or see page 3.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear IMA Chicago Chapter Members:

Just when the weather was starting to look better, we get hit with more snow. It seems as though we are stuck in a perpetual winter. We can only hope for some warmer weather to head our way and melt all of this snow. Even with all of this cold weather, your IMA Chicago is hard at work on numerous efforts. We are in the midst of putting together next years Board of Directors as well as planning our remaining two events. Therefore, venture out of this weather and get involved!

Recently the IMA Chicago sent notifications regarding our 2014-2015 year and our need for greater involvement on the Board of Directors. While the deadline to submit interest for the Board of Directors did pass, we are still considering candidates with a desire to serve their fellow members. If any of our many members are interested in serving on the IMA Chicago I urge you to visit our [website](#) to view our open positions. Should one of the open positions align with your talents please submit your candidacy immediately by completing our survey and submitting your resume to me at [President.Chicago.IMA@gmail.com](mailto:President.Chicago.IMA@gmail.com).

This month we are pleased to welcome Professor Ed Doyle of DePaul University's School of Accountancy and Management Information Systems who will speak at our March event. Professor Doyle will be speaking to the chapter on the ever-changing technology relating to accounting and finance. His vast knowledge on the subject is sure to leave our members with greater insight into such technologies.

The "Technology in Accounting" event will be held at DePaul University's Loop Campus on March 13th from 6:00-8:00pm. Be sure to RSVP and pay early for a reduced ticket price. Beverages and small plates will be served at the event as well. For further event information and to purchase tickets please visit our website at [chicago.imanet.org](http://chicago.imanet.org) and select events.

Should any member have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me directly at the information below or any one of our Board of Directors whose information is located on the Board of Directors page.

Regards,

Chase A. Thompson, CAPM  
IMA Chicago Chapter, President & Webmaster  
Phone: (616) 460-6462  
[president.chicago.ima@gmail.com](mailto:president.chicago.ima@gmail.com)

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As event details are finalized, hyperlinks will be added to the event titles. Click each event to be taken to details including further event descriptions, date and time, location, cost, and CPE offered.

# CHICAGO PROGRAM

Only two events are left for this year. Make sure not to miss them!  
Be on the lookout for communication about these upcoming events.

## MARCH | Technology for Management Accounts

In an ever-increasing technological world it's imperative to stay up-to-date on tools available to leverage, making daily tasks as productive as possible.

## MAY | Young Professionals Event

Calling all Young Professionals for IMA Chicago's first-ever event created for Young Professionals and their unique needs.

**NOTE:** This year IMA Chicago has enabled payment through our website and is currently offering discounts to those who pay early. Should you chose to pay at the time event no discount will be given. At the event location we will be able to process cash, credit, and checks.



IMA Chicago &  
IMA DePaul Present:



Join IMA Chicago and the IMA DePaul Student Chapter at this joint event. Professor Ed Doyle from DePaul University will discuss technology in the accounting profession. Increase your knowledge, or gain new insight into powerful tools that can impact your work and profession.

**6:00-8:00PM**  
**March 13th**

**DePaul Center**  
**1 E. Jackson Blvd**  
**Rm. 11013**  
**CPE: 1.5**

For more information and to RSVP visit  
<http://chicago.imanet.org/event/technology-in-accounting/>

## CERTIFIED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

### CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Certified Management Accountant (CMA) credential offers the vital knowledge and expertise needed to compete in today's business world. More than 30,000 professionals worldwide hold the CMA designation and can deliver the critical accounting and financial management skills demanded by top global employers.

Northwestern's CMA program provides comprehensive, instructor-led CMA exam preparation. The program's two courses — Financial Decision Making and Financial Planning, Performance and Control — mirror the CMA exam and provide students with the knowledge and tools needed to advance their accounting and financial management careers.

Classes begin in September — learn in the Chicago Loop and online.  
[scs.northwestern.edu/cma](http://scs.northwestern.edu/cma) • 312-503-0714



SCHOOL OF  
CONTINUING  
STUDIES

## Mid-America Council Leadership Training Seminar

April 24-25, 2014

NIU Rockford

Meeting & Conference Center  
8500 E. State St., Rockford, IL

<http://midamerica.imanet.org/events.htm>

## UPCOMING CPE

### Proven Techniques for Optimizing Your Financial Planning & Analysis Process

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

1 p.m. to 2 p.m. (EST) (UTC -5)

CPE: 1.0

In this webinar you'll learn best practices for optimizing the planning process, including how to adopt a driver-based model, efficiently manage rolling forecasts, embrace "what if" scenario modeling, and provide more meaningful reporting and analysis to impact decision making.

To view webinar [click here](#)

### CFO Insights from the IBM Global C-Suite Study

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

1 p.m. to 2 p.m. (EST) (UTC -5)

CPE: 1.0

Over the past five years, global economic volatility has put the CFO at center stage, playing a much broader role in the enterprise than before. With volatility, uncertainty, and risk unlikely to diminish any time soon, this shift may very well be permanent. But are CFOs and their finance organizations equipped for an expanded and elevated set of responsibilities? How are they helping their enterprises better anticipate and act on risks and opportunities? What does a successful finance organization look like?

To view webinar [click here](#)

### Essential Team Skills

Thursday, March 20, 2014

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. (EST) (UTC -5)

CPE: 1.5

Team building is an extremely important part of organizational leadership and is critical to both an individual's and organization's success.

To view webinar [click here](#)

# Survey Shows Work Experience in College Critical to Future Job Prospects in Accounting and Finance

FEB 18, 2014

College students take note: Pursuing relevant work experience now is pivotal to landing a job later, according to a new survey from Accountemps. Eighty-three percent of chief financial officers (CFOs) interviewed said it is important for students to gain work experience in the field during their college years if they are hoping to compete for entry-level accounting and finance positions upon graduation.

The survey was developed by Accountemps, the world's first and largest specialized staffing service for temporary accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals. It was conducted by an independent research firm and is based on interviews with more than 2,100 CFOs from a stratified random sample of companies in more than 20 of the largest U.S. metro areas.

CFOs were asked, "How important is it for entry-level accounting and finance professionals to have gained work experience in the field while in college?" Their responses:

Very important	40%
Somewhat important	43%
Somewhat unimportant	12%
Not at all important	4%
Don't know	1%
	100%

"There is strong demand at all levels for skilled -- and experienced -- accounting and finance professionals today," said Max Messmer, chairman of Accountemps and author of *Managing Your Career For Dummies*® (John Wiley & Sons, Inc.). "While good grades used to be enough to land your first job, professional work experience has become increasingly critical for entry-level applicants in a competitive hiring environment." Accountemps offers six tips to college students on gaining industry experience -- and making the most of those opportunities:

1. Seek internships. In addition to connecting with your college's career center, research employers of interest, and tap mentors and professors for internship leads. Scour the big-name job boards, but also check niche career websites geared specifically toward accounting professionals or internship seekers.

2. Think beyond the dollar signs. While paid internships are no doubt appealing, don't let money drive your search. Look for opportunities that will provide maximum exposure to a range of projects, experiences and connections.

3. Be a volunteer. Many organizations -- from nonprofits to industry associations -- need helping hands. Consider, for example, reaching out to community programs in your area that offer free income tax assistance to the needy or

elderly. Seek volunteer opportunities that will give you a chance to strengthen skills most likely to boost your marketability.

4. Explore all your options. Temporary assignments enable you to gain real-world experience, get your foot in the door and demonstrate your potential. Some interim accounting and finance assignments lead to full-time job offers. Connect with a staffing firm in your area to learn more.

5. Take opportunities seriously. Don't view yourself as "just an intern," "volunteer" or "temp." Treat each opportunity like a real job by adopting the mindset of a full-time employee. Closely observe how staff members interact and adapt your work style and behavior accordingly.

6. Stay in touch. After an internship or temporary assignment wraps up, be sure to write thank-you notes to anyone who helped or mentored you. Then, keep in close contact for the remainder of your schooling to better your odds of securing job leads, recommendations or even an employment offer.

Source: Robert Half Management Resources. For original article [click here](#)

# CMA NEWS

The CMA (Certified Management Accountant) is the advanced professional certification specifically designed to measure the accounting and financial management skills that drive business performance. The CMA is tailor-made for finance professionals at all levels, for those that want to enhance their value to a current organization or expand career potential.

Earning the CMA will make you part of a network of over 20,000 credentialed peers worldwide. To participate in the CMA program, candidates must be members of the IMA.



Congratulations to our new CMA's

There are no new CMA's this month

## WELCOME NEW IMA CHICAGO MEMBERS

There are no new IMA Chicago members this month.



Your Chicago IMA has partnered with Gleim to ensure your success on the CMA exam! They will provide you the necessary study tools to prepare for this difficult exam.

Gleim has been the trusted name in preparing candidates for success with their extensive self-study course for the CMA exam for over 30 years. The Gleim Review System enables you to identify your weak areas so you know where to focus your efforts to pass each exam part the first time.

As a member of the chapter, you are eligible for significant discounts on any of Gleim's CMA materials, as well as Gleim CPE. To take advantage of the reduced prices, please contact our chapter representative, Melissa Leonard.

By phone: (800) 874-5346, Ext. 131  
By email: [melissa.leonard@gleim.com](mailto:melissa.leonard@gleim.com)  
By fax: (888) 375-6940, attn: Melissa Leonard

Please visit [www.gleim.com/IMACHapter](http://www.gleim.com/IMACHapter) for more information on the CMA and Gleim.



## Volunteer Opportunities for 2014-2015 Year

Your IMA Chicago board is looking for individuals who want to join our Board of Directors. If you have a passion for leadership and want to do more for your community to help spread the message of IMA consider joining.

All information, including positions available and descriptions of duties can be found on our [website](#).

If you are interested please visit our [website](#). Fill out the form and then send your resume to our President, Chase Thompson, at [president.chicago.ima@gmail.com](mailto:president.chicago.ima@gmail.com)

Click here to visit the webpage: <http://chicago.imanet.org/membership/volunteer-opportunities/>

Your IMA Chicago Board of Directors is made of dedicated volunteers who constantly strive to add value to your membership. Feel free to contact any board member with questions, comments, or suggestions to help us improve our chapter.

### President & Webmaster

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