




Tompkins County Department of Administration

125 East Court Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Jason Molino

"Promoting excellence in County operations while respecting the needs of the people we serve."

To: Government Operations Committee
From: Jason Molino, County Administrator 
Date: March 27, 2018
Subject: Membership for International City/County Management Association (ICMA)

Background

Founded in 1914, ICMA, the International City/County Management Association, advances professional local government through leadership, management, innovation, and ethics. ICMA's vision is to be the leading professional association dedicated to creating and supporting thriving communities throughout the world.

ICMA's members are professional city, town, and county managers/administrators who are appointed by elected officials to oversee the day-to-day operation of communities. The association promotes and embraces diversity among its members, including a governing board that reflects ICMA's membership and the communities served.

ICMA provides member support; publications; data and information; peer and results-oriented assistance; and training and professional development to over 11,000 city, town, and county managers/administrators, their staffs, and other individuals and organizations throughout the world. The management decisions made by ICMA's members affect millions of individuals living in thousands of communities, from small villages and towns to large metropolitan areas.

ICMA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that offers a wide range of services to its members and the local government community. It also performs mission-driven grant and contract-funded work both in the U.S. and Internationally, which is supported by federal government agencies, foundations, and corporations.

ICMA's top organizational priority is to continue to build momentum for professionally managed local governments—to demonstrate and promote the "performance dividend" of professional management. Professional managers, much like executives running private sector corporations, bring together the leadership, vision, and focus on results needed to create better communities by:

- managing financial and human resources
- delivering services
- planning strategically for community development
- using performance metrics systems to drive continuous improvement
- committing to high ethical standards

Inclusion Through Diversity

Professional Credentialing Program

The ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program recognizes professional local government managers qualified by a combination of education and experience, adherence to high standards of integrity, and an assessed commitment to lifelong learning and professional development. Managers are recognized by ICMA through a peer review credentialing process, and this self-directed program offers an opportunity for interested ICMA members to quantify the unique expertise they bring to their communities.

The program also assists ICMA members in focusing and reflecting upon their lifelong professional development experience. Members who participate in the program may earn the designation of ICMA Credentialed Manager granted by the ICMA Executive Board. ICMA Credentialed Managers are viewed with growing distinction by local governing bodies and progressive, civically engaged communities.

ICMA's Credentialing Program requires a commitment of at least 40 hours of professional development every year.

Annual Conference

Each year, through its Annual Conference, ICMA offers an abundance of educational, information-sharing, and networking tools to help professional local government managers manage their community in today's complex environment.

In addition to daily keynote sessions, educational and Solutions Track sessions, roundtable discussions, ICMA University workshops and forums, field demonstrations, and numerous demonstrations of technology applications that you have come to expect, ICMA's Annual Conference offers opportunities to help fulfill local government manager's commitment to career-long learning as well as opportunities for professional and personal renewal and networking.

The location of the conference changes annually throughout the country and Canada. Please see the attached list of past and future conference locations.

Recommendation

As a member of ICMA for almost 15 years now and a Credentialed Manager for over 3 years, ICMA is the primary resource and organization that provides both the technical and professional development support dedicated to my position as County Administrator. Continued membership is beneficial to me as an employee in the performance of my official duties as well as increasing the efficiency of County Administration and County government. It is requested that ICMA be recognized as an official membership for the County and that funding be transferred from the Contingency Fund to County Administration Membership Dues and Travel/Training budget lines to cover my annual ICMA membership and annual conference costs as a target increase for future years.

Attachments: ICMA Code of Ethics; Future and Past ICMA Conferences