



Professional Standards Committee Highlights

WHITE PAPER – IMPLEMENTATION OF GASB 84



The California Committee on Municipal Accounting (CCMA) issued a White Paper on March 31, 2020 that provides suggested guidance on California-specific issues related to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities* (GASB 84), which is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018 (i.e. for the year ended June 30, 2020 for June 30 year-ends). However, it should be noted that in response to the coronavirus pandemic, GASB announced that it plans to issue for comment an exposure draft in April 2020 that would postpone the effective date of Statements and Implementation Guides that would otherwise have become effective for periods beginning July 1, 2018, or later.

GASB 84 provides criteria for state and local governments to use to identify whether an activity is fiduciary and should be reported as a fiduciary fund type in the basic financial statements. GASB 84 provides the criteria for three types of activities: 1) fiduciary component units, 2) pension and other postemployment benefit (OPEB) arrangements that are not component units, and 3) other fiduciary activities.

CCMA's White Paper includes questions and answers on the following:

- Successor Agency Assets Held by a City

- OPEB Plans
- Pension Plans
- Investment Trust Funds
- Other Fiduciary Activities

The White Paper can be found at <https://www.calcpa.org/members/technical-resources/gaa-white-papers>.

The recommendations outlined in this White Paper are opinions of the members of CCMA. As such, these recommendations are not authoritative but are provided as suggestive guidance to assist local governments in the application of generally accepted accounting principles. Other positions on these matters may be defended as appropriate applications of generally accepted accounting principles. Therefore, local governments and their auditors must apply their own professional judgment to determine if information in this White Paper is appropriate for their facts and circumstances and must ultimately draw their own conclusions as to the proper implementation of GASB 84.

If you have questions regarding this topic, contact Jason Al-Imam, Chair of the Professional Standards Committee at standards.chair@csmf.org.
