



Professional Development

Providing Training for State Purchasing Professionals

“New” is the Word at SPD Training

New and exciting things are happening in the State Purchasing Division (SPD) training area, including a new name – Professional Development Business Unit.

In addition to a new Chief Learning Officer, new training positions open, and new training classes available, SPD recently opened a new training classroom and will release its new Introduction to State Purchasing online course. Check the following links for more details.

- A new [Chief Learning Manager](#) has been hired to lead the Professional Development Business Unit. Dr. Mirna Barker has been on board since May of this year.
- [New training courses available](#)
- [New training classroom](#)
- [Introduction to State Purchasing is being converted to an online course](#)

To register in any of our training events, send an email with your request to Training@doas.ga.gov. Check our [course schedules](#) to register for a class.



Dr. Mirna Barker has been on board since May of this year. Dr. Barker has extensive experience in the design, development and implementation of training and certification programs for internal and external clients. Her diverse background includes work in the development of documentation and training programs in the areas of retail, banking, and healthcare where she worked for diverse companies such as NCR, Alltel, and healthcare companies such as TDS Healthcare Systems and Eclipsys Corporation. She also has several years of experience implementing complex healthcare IT systems at large hospitals in the United States and abroad. Mirna holds a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, a Master's degree in Computer Science from Georgia Institute of Technology and a Doctorate degree in Education from the University of Georgia.

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New Courses

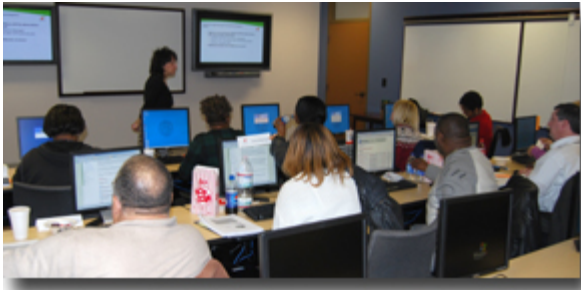
Two new training courses are now part of SPD training curriculum:

- [Writing Requests for Proposals](#) (RFPs).
- [Legal Issues](#).

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New Classroom Opens



In early November, a new SPD classroom opened in the West Tower of the Sloppy Floyd Building in Atlanta. The classroom is designed to provide a fully functional environment for videoconferencing that integrates various audio and video multimedia sources and full multimedia display functionality independent of videoconferencing usage. These multimedia sources are VCR's, DVD's,

CATV, PC's, and Laptops that are integrated into the sound and display systems. The classroom also has two 50" plasmas in the front and two 40" ceiling mounted plasmas mid way through the room capable of displaying all video signals. In addition, the classroom can support the ability to display/route any video source to any video destination, allowing the instructor to be able to view individual student's work and display it through any of the available displays in the classroom. Watch the next "Georgia Purchaser" for more information.

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Introduction to State Purchasing is being converted to an online course

The training course Introduction to State Purchasing will be available in an online format. What does this mean? You will be able to access the training course via the internet, at any time and complete the course at your own pace. The online version will include two training courses with the following topics:

Introduction to State Purchasing – Part A:

- Overview of Governmental Purchasing
- Setting Proper Standards
- Public Purchasing in the State of Georgia
- The 7 Step Process and The Purchasing Cycle

Introduction to State Purchasing – Part A:

- Methods of Purchasing
- The Solicitation Process
- Evaluating Bids and Making Awards
- Other State Purchasing Issues

These two courses will be available December.

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