



American Society of Pension Actuaries

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ASPA AND THE IRS TO HOST EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONFERENCE

March 7, 2003 - (*Arlington, Va.*) – ASPA and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) have teamed up to present the 2003 Great Lakes Area Benefits Conference in Chicago, **May 1-2, 2003**. The Conference features interactive discussions on the latest employee benefits issues with local, regional, and national government and private sector experts. Designed for all pension professionals, the program will focus on exchanging information, advancing knowledge, and fostering sound principles, procedures, and practices.

Conference sessions will educate attendees on the government's current regulatory, legislative, and enforcement activities. Breakout sessions with IRS and DOL experts cover such topics as 403(b) and 457 Plans; Pension Accounting and Funding; Non-Qualified Plans; Recent Court Cases; 401(a)(9) Requirements; DB Plan Opportunities, Including Cash Balance Plans; and Preparing for and Handling IRS/DOL Audits. A general session will include a legislative, regulatory, and EPCRS update. Experts from the private sector will address issues such as 401(k) Investments, Cross-Testing, and Compensating Service Providers with Plan Assets.

According to Leslie A. Klein, Esq., APM, Co-chair of the Great Lakes Area Benefits Conference, "What makes the conference particularly valuable is that it draws more government speakers than any other event in the Midwest. Attendees are able to interact directly with the people responsible for forming, implementing, and enforcing government policy."

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*ASPA and IRS to host
employee benefits conference*

All employee benefits professionals are encouraged to attend including accountants; actuaries; attorneys; benefits directors; consultants; human resource personnel; investment professionals; paralegals; plan administrators; trust officers; and others. The conference offers up to 10.5 core and 10.5 noncore JBEA (Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries) credit hours and 15 hours of ASPA continuing education credit. CE credit is also available for attorneys and CPAs upon request.

For more information, including registration fees and early registration dates, visit <http://www.aspa.org/conf>. Interested participants can also contact ASPA's meetings department by calling (703) 516-9300.

ASPA is a national organization of retirement plan professionals dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the private pension system in the United States. ASPA offers education and professional credentials for actuaries (FSPA, MSPA), pension consultants (CPC), 401(k) administrators (QKA), pension administrators (QPA), and other benefits professionals (APM). Its 5,000 members provide consulting and administrative support to over half of the private retirement plans in the country.

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