

# League Link

A Newsletter of [The Pennsylvania Municipal League](#)



**League Link**

January 2024



## Executive Director's Report

**THE DIGNITY INDEX**

Ease Divisions. Prevent Violence. Solve Problems.

- 8 "Each one of us is born with inherent worth, so we treat everyone with dignity—no matter what."
- 7 "We fully engage with the other side, discussing even values and interests we don't share, open to admitting mistakes or changing our minds."
- 6 "We always talk to the other side, searching for the values and interests we share."
- 5 "The other side has a right to be here and a right to be heard. It's their country too."
- 4 "We're better than those people. They don't really belong. They're not one of us."
- 3 "We're the good people and they're the bad people. It's us vs. them."
- 2 "Those people are evil and they're going to ruin our country if we let them. It's us or them."
- 1 "They're not even human. It's our moral duty to destroy them before they destroy us."

## Advocacy Action

### 2024 Bid Limits Announced

The PA Department of Labor and Industry has announced changes to the base amounts triggering the requirement for public bids, telephonic bids, or separate bids, for certain contracts. There is a 3.7%

change for this year, however, the increase is capped at 3%. Therefore, the base amount for public bids is \$23,200 and the base amount for written or telephonic bids is \$12,600, effective January 1, 2024. [Click here](#) for the complete list of base values.

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## Legislative Session Information

- **Governor's 2024/2025 Budget Address**  
February 6 at 12:30 p.m.
- **General Assembly's Budget Hearings**  
February 20 – March 7

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## League's Latest

Please welcome our newest members to The League – [Clifton Heights Borough in Delaware County](#), [Souderton Borough in Montgomery County](#), and [The Borough of Bradford Woods, in Allegheny County](#). Welcome aboard! That makes us 142 League members strong!

We have begun implementing our newly adopted and just released [2024-2026 Strategic Plan](#), which aims to be both ambitious and attainable. Rather than acting as an anchor, our plan is designed to function as a guiding rudder, helping us navigate challenges and capitalize on opportunities in the coming years. We have set our sights even higher as we look ahead to the next three years. It is now on our [website](#); please check it out!

**Municipal Reporter Topics for 2024** – We are excited to reveal our new topics for the 2024 *Municipal Reporter* publication schedule. We would love to feature your municipality in one of our upcoming editions! Below is our 2024 Publication Schedule and themes for each issue:

1. February – **Human Services**; copy due date **February 1**
2. April – **Diversity**; copy due date **March 10**
3. June – **Livable Communities**; copy due date **May 10**
4. August – **Leadership**; copy due date **July 10**
5. October – **Civility**; copy due date **September 10**
6. December – **Emergency Management**; copy due date **November 10**

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Debbie Bitting, Director of Communications, at [dbitting@pml.org](mailto:dbitting@pml.org).

**League Dues Reminder** – The 2024 League dues have been sent out. If anyone has questions relating to their dues for 2024 please direct them to Amanda Lane, Deputy Executive Director - Membership at [alane@pml.org](mailto:alane@pml.org).

Be sure to fill out our [ARPA Investment Tracker](#) so we can share the great ways you are using your ARPA dollars with all members. Thank you!

For more information, see our [News & Announcements and newsfeed](#) on our homepage.

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# Winter 2024

## PATH Classes



**January 23rd through 25th**

**Human Resources Basics**

9am - 12pm, both days, Virtual.

Roseann McGrath

**January 29th and 30th**

**Comprehensive Training for Elected Auditors**

9am - 12pm, both days, Virtual.

Sam Miller

**February 6th**

**The Basics of Tax Collection**

9am-12pm, Virtual.

Holli Liska

**February 15th**

**Purchasing and Bidding**

9am - 12pm, Virtual.

Greg Primm

**February 26th and 27th**

**Developing and Managing Your Municipal Budget**

9am - 12pm, both days, Virtual.

Sam Miller

**March 19th**

**Proper Planning to Prepare Successful Grant Applications**

9am - 12pm, both days, Virtual.

Greg Primm

**March 25th and 26th**

**Bookkeeping and Accounting Basics**

9am - 12pm, both days, Virtual.

Sam Miller

# Upcoming PCCA Schedule:

To see full class descriptions and prices, [CLICK HERE!!](#) 

## **January 22nd - 25th**

### **IPC 101: International Plumbing Code Essentials (24 CEUs)**

8:30am - 4pm, Virtual

## **January 29th**

### **Residential Moisture Management: The 4D's (4 CEUs)**

8:30am - 1pm, Virtual

## **February 1st**

### **BCO 101T: Building Code Officials Update (3 CEUs)**

8:30am - 12pm, Virtual

## **February 20th - 23rd**

### **Residential Building Academy (24 CEUs)**

8:30am - 9:30am, Virtual followed by self-instruction via recorded video lessons.

## **February 26th**

### **IMC 101: International Mechanical Code Essentials (12 CEUs)**

8:30am - 4pm, Virtual

## **February 28th**

### **IFGC 101: International Fuel Gas Code Essentials (6 CEUs)**

8:30am - 4pm, Virtual

## **March 1st**

### **New BCO Lunch and Learn (1 CEU)**

11am - 12pm, TWO Locations: Virtual and Macungie, PA

## **March 5th**

### **Residential Energy in PA (4 CEUs)**

8:30am - 1pm, Virtual

[www.PAConstructionCodesAcademy.org](http://www.PAConstructionCodesAcademy.org)



## Resource Roundup

[In Luzerne County, Governor Shapiro Focuses on Work to Cut Costs for Pennsylvanians Through Expanded Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program](#) – The expanded child and dependent care tax credit will put more money back into the pockets of nearly 210,000 working Pennsylvania families, while nearly 175,000 more Pennsylvanians will qualify for the PTRR program. In Luzerne County, more than 5,000 families will now receive a higher state childcare tax credit and more than 6,000 Pennsylvanians are now eligible for the expanded PTRR program.

[PA WalkWorks Active Transportation Planning Grant Round is Now Open!](#) – WalkWorks is pleased to announce its eighth round of assistance to advance policy development related to active transportation.

Grants and technical assistance will be offered to a limited number of municipalities and other governmental bodies to assist with the development of Active Transportation Plans during 2024 and 2025.

[USDA Offers Grants for Programs to Create High-Wage Jobs and New Businesses in Underserved Rural Communities](#) – On January 2, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that USDA is accepting grant applications for community-driven programs that will help create high-wage jobs and new businesses in underserved rural communities.

[State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Non-entitlement Units of Government Quick Reference Guide](#) – This reference guide offers resources that may assist non-entitlement units of local government (NEUs) recipients that received State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) from the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury).

Remember, you can access all archived editions of The League Link as well as other member publications, forms and resources in your [Member Dashboard](#).

### **Pennsylvania Municipal League**

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[PML.org](http://PML.org)

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