THE UNIVERSITY
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at **CHAPEL HILL**

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**The Center for Public Technology
at the UNC School of Government**

Founded in 2000, the UNC School of Government's Center for Public Technology (CPT) is focused on responding to the needs of information technology professionals working in local and state government. CPT works closely with the North Carolina Local Government Information Systems Association (NCLGISA) to provide collaborative educational opportunities for government IT officials, with the common goal of strengthening North Carolina communities through the appropriate use of information technology.

Objectives of the Center include:
- Providing education and training for public sector leaders, managers and staff professionals on the strategic use of technology and its application to the business of government.
- Facilitating technical assistance on technology-related matters in the public sector.
- Fostering an environment that uses technology to support innovation, change and leadership.
- Working on applied research projects that help public sector entities develop strong local economies and make the best use of information technology investments.
- Supporting close working partnerships among units of government, state and local and the North Carolina University system.

In order to accomplish its objectives, the Center focuses on three dimensions: education and training, advising and technical assistance, and research and publishing.

Education and Training

Our educational offerings are centered on technology-enabled government and include programs for information technology professionals, department heads, senior administration, and elected officials.   In addition to standard education and training opportunities, we offer assessment and evaluation, guidelines, and best practices for engaging in technology-enabled government, along with a host of other services. The major educational offerings of the Center for Public Technology include the **Certified Government Chief Information Officers** (CGCIO) program (local government, state agency, and national offerings), the newly created **Certified Educational Chief Technology Officers** (CeCTO) program, **North Carolina Local Government Information Systems Association** (NCLGISA) conferences, specialized training on topical areas of interest, and other integrated course offerings provided in conjunction with a variety of UNC School of Government training opportunities.

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Certified Government Chief Information Officer (CGCIO) Programs

Public sector CIOs and IT directors are facing increasing challenges and responsibilities in the era of new governance. As the lines between traditional functional services and departments begin to blur, the IT leadership is charged with 1) managing the constantly expanding role for IT within your government, 2) protecting your government against ever-increasing security threats, and 3) keeping up with the feverish pace of new technology.

The CGCIO Certification Program is a ten-month course that lays the foundation for assessing and addressing some of the most critical issues facing IT leadership in the public sector. The purpose of this program is to equip leaders with the requisite tools to manage and improve their organizational technology assets. During the course of the program, we address major topics, including strategic IT investment planning, IT governance, project/risk management, legal and regulatory issues, and leadership in a change environment. Each broad topic examines specific local government issues and draws on participant experience to provide both theoretical and practical applied knowledge to the challenges.

We have successfully graduated over **300** public sector IT professional from local, state, and federal government agencies from across the country since the program's inception in 2005. We offer a variety of content delivery methods, including monthly face-to-face sessions at the UNC School of Government, monthly synchronous and asynchronous online sessions, and customized programs in other states, as demonstrated by our program in South Carolina.

Certified Educational Chief Technology Officer Program

We have entered a new transformational era of education that requires new models of teaching and content delivery. In light of these myriad changes, we are excited to announce a new program to help guide educators through this challenging and exciting era. The single program will feature two components, one for superintendents and one for technology directors. The program will be the first of its kind in the country, as were the local government and state agency CGCIO programs.

The technology directors' portion of the certification program, entitled "**Certified Educational Chief Technology Officers Program**", is a ten-month course that lays the foundation for assessing and addressing some of the most critical issues facing IT leadership in school systems. The purpose of this program is to equip leaders with the requisite tools to manage and improve their organizational technology assets. During the course of the program, we will address major topics, including organizational

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transformation, IT governance, leveraging the network, and legal and regulatory issues. Each broad topic will examine specific LEA issues and draw on participant experience to provide both theoretical and practical applied knowledge to the challenges. This program will use a variety of instructional methodologies, including face-to-face sessions, synchronous online sessions, and asynchronous online sessions, to help technology directors evaluate various instructional technologies.

The superintendents will participate in a certification program entitled "**Leaders for the 21st Century**." This portion of the program will involve one day-long session at the UNC School of Government, in which superintendents and their technology directors will discuss the role of transformational leadership in the schools. Then, the superintendents will attend two additional sessions, offered either regional or in conjunction with other superintendents' meetings. A final session will occur at the conclusion of the technology directors' program/graduation and will highlight best practice projects created by the technology directors during their course of study.

The **CeCTO** and **Leaders for the 21st Century** programs will be launched in February 2010.

Technical Assistance and Advising

CPT faculty and staff provide hands-on service and assistance to North Carolina local governments on a variety of technology issues. Typical assistance and advising work includes strategic information technology planning, management audits, requirements gathering and analysis, neutral vendor evaluation, and request for proposal development and evaluation.

Applied Research and Publishing

The Center for Public Technology produces a variety of reports, articles, and inventories that address issues, opportunities, and challenges in information technology management that are specific to public sector entities. Typical publications include evaluation efforts; emerging issues and best practices identification; technology asset inventories; books; book chapters; peer-reviewed journal articles; the Digital Government Bulletin series; and, monographs on special topics.