

(03/10/26)



2026 INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED STATE INCOME TAX SCHOOL

May 17-21, 2026

Georgia Tech Conference Center

Atlanta, GA

Thanks to our sponsor.

BLANKROME



Sunday, May 17, 2026

6:00 – 8:00 Registration, Dinner and Evening Fun

Monday, May 18, 2026

7:10 – 8:10 Breakfast

8:10 – 8:25 **Welcome & Introduction**
Patrick Reynolds, COST President and Executive Director
Arthur Parham, Retired General Tax Advisor of Entergy Services LLC

8:30 – 11:00
8:30 – 9:45 Lecture
9:45 – 10:00 Refreshment Break/
Networking
10:00 – 11:00 Lecture
Jurisdictional Nexus and Constitutional Limitations
The ability of a state to impose a corporate income tax is limited in a number of different ways. This session will explore limits on state taxation imposed by the Due Process Clause, the Commerce Clause, P.L. 86-272, specific state statutory and constitutional restrictions and by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Wayfair*. Small group breakouts will reinforce the concepts learned in this session.
Instructors:
Michael Jacobs, Reed Smith*
TBD
TBD

11:00 – 12:30
Filing Methodologies
This session will cover the various income tax filing methodologies used by the states. Students will learn the differences between the methods and how to support favorable filing positions. Small group breakouts will reinforce the concepts learned in this session.
Instructors:
Dmitri Gabrielov, Baker McKenzie*
TBD

12:30 – 1:45 Lunch/Networking

1:45 – 4:10
1:45 – 3:15 Lecture
3:15 – 3:30 Refreshment Break/
Networking
3:30 – 4:10 Lecture
Deeper Dive into the Unitary Filing Method(s)
This session will explore the analysis used to determine whether a unitary reporting relationship exists. It will then review the alternative forms of unitary reporting used by unitary reporting states. Small group breakouts will reinforce the concepts learned in this session.
Instructors:
Kelly Smith, PwC*
TBD

4:15 – 5:15
Questions and Answers – Breakout to Review Today’s Concepts
The final session of the day will be a breakout and question and answer period for students to review and apply the concepts presented today.

6:30 – 8:30 **Vegas Night with COST – Sponsored by Blank Rome**

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 – 10:30
The Corporate Income Tax Base and Advanced Domestic State Adjustments
While most states start their taxable income computation with some reference to federal taxable income, every state requires adjustments. This session will explore the advanced nuances of state adjustments, including expense disallowance, depreciation, state taxes, tax- exempt income, net operating losses, and others. Small group breakouts will reinforce the concepts learned in this session.
Instructors:
Laurin McDonald, Eversheds Sutherland(US)*
Maria Todorova, Eversheds Sutherland(US)*

10:30 – 10:45 Refreshment Break/Networking

10:45 – 11:45	Advanced State Taxation Related to Foreign Income This session will further explore state adjustments with a focus on adjustments related to foreign operations and transactions. Instructors: Weezie Finlay, EY* Karl Frieden, COST Eugene Gibilaro, Blank Rome*
11:45 – 12:45	Lunch/Networking – The Dining Room
12:45 – 2:15	Special Issues in Apportionment and Allocation States have adopted a variety of different apportionment rules and, as a result, there is little uniformity in state tax apportionment. This session will guide students through the maze of different apportionment schemes, with an emphasis on market-based sourcing and its iterations, so that the students learn how to best apply the rules to their companies and clients. Small group breakouts will reinforce the concepts learned in this session. Instructors: Lynn Gandhi, Foley & Lardner* TBD
2:15 - 2:30	Refreshment Break/ Networking
2:30 – 3:30	Pass-Through Entities and Their Corporate Owners Multistate businesses routinely utilize pass-through entities in their corporate structures. Pass-through entities and their owners are subject to a number of unique tax base, apportionment, and withholding rules that will be thoroughly discussed in this session. Instructors: Brian Myers, Crowe* TBD
3:30 – 4:30	Gross Receipts Taxes/Modified Gross Receipts Taxes A trend in state taxation is the imposition of tax based on gross receipts or modified gross receipts. This session will cover the various types of gross receipts taxes and identify planning opportunities to minimize these taxes. Instructors: Nikki Dobay, Greenberg Traurig* Bill Nolan, EY* Curtis Osterloh, Scott Douglass & McConnico*
4:30 – 5:30	Questions and Answers – Breakout to Review Today’s Concepts The final session of the day will be a breakout and question and answer period for students to review and apply the concepts presented today.
6:00 – 9:00	Trivia Night with COST (optional)
Wednesday, May 20, 2026	
7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast
8:00 – 12:00 8:00 – 10:00 Lecture 10:00 – 10:15 Refreshment Break/ Networking 10:15 – 11:00 Facilitated Breakout 11:00 – 12:00 Lecture	Mergers and Acquisitions (Part 1) Mergers and Acquisitions, including internal restructurings, create numerous state tax traps and opportunities. This session will examine the numerous state tax complications that arise from M&A activity and offer possible solutions. Students will test and build on key concepts learned in this session by breaking into small groups to discuss a case study. Instructors: TBD
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch/Networking
2:00 – 2:45	Legislative Activism (a/k/a Break Time!) This session will focus on how state tax professionals can work to proactively achieve legislative and tax policy success rather than simply react to legislative change imposed by others. Instructors: Mo Bell-Jacobs, RSM* Aziza Farooki, COST TBD
1:45– 5:00 1:45 – 3:15 Lecture 3:15 – 3:30 Refreshment Break/ Networking 3:30 – 4:30 Facilitated Breakout 4:30 – 5:00 Lecture 5:00 – 5:30 Q&A	Mergers and Acquisitions (Part 2)
5:45 – 8:15	Evening Out

Thursday, May 21, 2026

7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast
8:00 – 9:00	<p>Introduction to AI in SALT - (Joint Session with the Sales Tax School) This session examines how artificial intelligence is transforming state and local tax administration, compliance, and policy. Attendees will learn about emerging AI tools, practical use cases, and the legal and ethical considerations that tax professionals must navigate as these technologies evolve. Instructors: Cara Campbell, Amazon Eugina Lim, Amazon</p>
9:00 – 10:15	<p>Preparing for Audit Challenge and Controversy - (Joint Session with the Sales Tax School) Successful handling of a state tax audit requires that a taxpayer both understand substantive state tax law and develop winning audit strategies. This session will prepare students for state tax audits by offering helpful tips to efficiently and successfully deal with difficult audits. Instructors: Brent Beissel, Reed Smith* Jennifer White, KPMG* TBD</p>
10:15 – 11:15	<p>Emerging Issues Associated with Unclaimed Property- (Joint Session with the Sales Tax School) States are very aggressive in the unclaimed property area. They are shortening dormancy periods, asserting claims to new types of obligations, and hiring contingent fee auditors. Some states consider unclaimed property a source of revenue rather than acting as trustee for the true owners. While unclaimed property is not a tax, a company’s tax function frequently handles the audit. Just when you thought dealing with a state income or transactional tax audit can be burdensome, wait until you wrestle with an unclaimed property audit with no statute of limitations or uniform procedures, limited protest rights, and very little guidance. This session will provide an overview of the states’ unclaimed property practices and cover recent unclaimed property legislation and litigation. The session will bring you up to date on the latest unclaimed property issues. Instructors: Michael Giovannini, Alston & Bird* TBD</p>
11:15 – 11:30	Refreshment Break/Networking & Check Out
11:30 – 12:30	<p>A Taste of COST and Ask the Experts - (Joint Session with the Sales Tax School) The speakers in this session will discuss and demonstrate the Audit Sessions that are a unique feature of COST’s conferences, the Forums available on the COST website, and how gray areas of state taxation provide opportunities for tax planners. The session will close with an Ask the Experts session to enable attendees to request guidance from COST Practitioners on timely state tax issues. Instructors: Doug Lindholm, COST Arthur Parham, Retired General Tax Advisor of Entergy Services LLC Pat Reynolds, COST TBD</p>
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch/Networking
1:30	School Adjourns

* Denotes COST Practitioner Member