ASBPA Update



YOUR EXPERTISE MATTERS

Feedback Requested on CPA Exam Practice Analysis

Maintaining the Relevance of the Uniform CPA Examination®:

An Exposure Draft and Invitation to Comment

While other groups are looking at what the future Uniform CPA Examination may be like, keeping the current Exam valid, reliable and relevant has also been a charge of the Board of Examiners and the AICPA Exam Team. The results of the AICPA's Practice Analysis were released in mid-December along with changes to be operational in the Uniform CPA Examination administered sometime in 2021. Comments on the exposure draft (https://www.aicpa.org/content/dam/aicpa/becomeacpa/cpaexam/downloadabledocuments/2019-practice-analysis-report.pdf) and the invitation to comment items requiring more

research are requested by April 30, 2020 and should be sent to practiceanalysis@aicpa.org. Revisions to the CPA Exam Blueprint would need to be approved no later than December 31, 2020.

The Practice Analysis identified three ways technology is impacting the competencies required of newly licensed CPAs:

- Understanding business processes from inception to completion including automated aspects, risk identification and internal control mapping.
- The need for a digital and data-driven mindset and the use of data analytics, and
- Increased reliance on System and Organization Controls for Service Organizations: Internal Control over Financial Reporting (SOC 1®) reports.

While the Practice Analysis found reliance on SOC 1 reports has dramatically increased, which has required auditors for even modestly -sized clients to obtain and evaluate multiple SOC 1 reports, the research did not support that a significant number of newly licensed CPAs were involved in performing the

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REMAINING 2020 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

April 17th
June 12th
August 14th
September 25th
November 13th

Meetings of the Board are open to the public, except some portions which may be closed under state law.



ASBPA OFFICE CLOSED

In accordance with the schedule adopted by the State of Arkansas, the Board office will be closed on the following dates:

February 17 May 25 July 3 Presidents Day Memorial Day Independence Day Observance



BOARD UPDATE

Shane Warrick appointed to Board by Governor Asa Hutchinson



SHANE WARRICK

Dr. Shane Warrick of Magnolia, AR was appointed to the Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy on October 11, 2019. Shane is an accounting professor at Southern Arkansas University. He received his BBA from SAU, an MBA from UALR and a doctorate from Jackson State University.

Dr. Warrick resides in Magnolia with his wife Amy and children.

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MIKE WATTS

Mike Watts completes term

The Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy thanks Mike Watts of Little Rock, AR for his five years of service on the Board. During his tenure he served as board president and CPE Committee chair. Mike is a retired tax professor (UALR) and the Board benefitted tremendously from his knowledge and expertise.

BOARD PROPOSES RULE CHANGES

The Board is proposing changes to its rules. The substantive changes include:

- CPA Exam would move from limiting candidates to one section per testing window to unlimited testing per window, as long as the score from the previous exam has been received for that particular section.
- **CPE Nano learning** would allow up to 4 hours of CPE credit (nano learning is CPE taken in 10 minute increments).
- CPE content requirement would reduce the requirement that 50% of CPE (20 hours per year) be met through courses in Accounting & Auditing, Tax, or Ethics to 40% for those working in public accounting and to 20% for those who do not work in public accounting.
- **CPE Group Study requirement** would reduce the group study requirement from 40% to 20% (16 hours to 8 hours per year).
- Quality review would update rules surrounding Quality review for impact of the Peer Review requirement that became effective January 1, 2019.
- Prelicensure Criminal Background Petition would create a process for individuals to petition the Board for a determination as to whether their criminal record would disqualify them from licensure or if they would be eligible to obtain a waiver from the Board.

Please review these rule changes on our website https://asbpa.arkansas.gov/proposed-rule-changes. Comments can be sent to us at asbpa@arkansas.gov through March 6, 2020. We welcome all feedback on these changes.

YOUR EXPERTISE MATTERS

Feedback Requested on CPA Exam Practice Analysis (Continued from page 1)

underlying procedures that support the issuance of a SOC 1 report. That is being done by specialists or those with significant experience. AICPA is continuing to monitor this area.

Another aim of the Practice Analysis was to identify existing Exam content that might be less important to the newly licensed CPA, so that the Exam could focus on those areas that are most critical to the new licensee's practice. This Practice Analysis does not anticipate major structural changes to the present four-section examination. The AICPA contracted with the American Institutes for Research to lead focus groups. Nearly 150 CPAs participated in virtual rating panels on what should be included in the Exam. Then confirmation panels were held for each of the four Examination sections, with nearly 60 CPAs participating in the virtual confirmation panels. Several topics are suggested for removal as: "The change is proposed to focus the CPA Exam on assessing the critical knowledge and skills needed by newly licensed CPAs." The exposure draft explains these topics would

ordinarily be beyond the scope of the newly licensed.

Respondents to the Practice Analysis document are being asked:

- Do the findings of the Practice Analysis align with the changes you see impacting the newly licensed CPA's practice?
- 2. Do you agree with the proposed Exam changes?
- 3. Are there other areas affected by technology beyond the findings identified in the Practice Analysis?
- 4. Do you believe there is additional content that should be removed from the CPA Exam?
- 5. Requiring additional research for implementation not before 2022: A- Should the essay question be removed? B- Should accounting for state and local governments continue to be assessed in the CPA Exam?

NEW INDIVIDUAL CPA LICENSES

The following individual CPA licenses were approved from September 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020:

Mark Curtis Austin	Bentonville, AR	Roy Jetton	Ashdown, AR	Jennifer Louise Pitzer	Rocky Ford, CO
Timothy Barnes	Fayetteville, AR	Kailey Johnson	Conway, AR	Irvin J. Rodriguez-Lopez	Springdale, AR
Conrad William Boyd	Little Rock, AR	Benjamin Jones	Fayetteville, AR	Alexander Ross	Little Rock, AR
Seth Bushman	Bella Vista, AR	Gregory Wayne Justus	Little Rock, AR	Kallesta Aaron Rpberts	Vilonia, AR
Matthew Cable	Overland Park, KS	Joshua Katz	Springdale, AR	Quincy P. Scott	Baton Rouge, LA
Kimberly M. Carnahan	Rogers, AR	Collins Garrett Knight	Little Rock, AR	Katie Johnette Smith	Little Rock, AR
Sarah Allison Coles	Little Rock, AR	Preston Kordsmeier	Conway, AR	Heather Solano	Hensley, AR
Kendall Garrett Collier	Memphis, TN	Odysseus Mathedrial Lanier	Houston, TX	Elizabeth Stultz	Monroe, LA
Johnmark Coy	Cave Springs, AR	Han Le	Sachse, TX	Noah Wagner Styles	Bauxite, AR
Jane E. Nechtman Doug	as Little Rock, AR	Nathan Wade Loftin	Dallas, TX	Yolanda Alicia Szabo	Little Elm, TX
Brett Favano	Little Rock, AR	Lily Virginia Martz	Bella Vista, AR	Mark Preston Tackett II	Little Rock, AR
Robert Bruce Forrest	Springdale, AR	Megan Renae Mathews	Magazine, AR	Nicole Renae Taylor	Cave Springs, AR
Tanner F. French	Jonesboro, AR	Shanna Miller	Little Rock, AR	Alfred Charles Tennyson	Harrison, AR
Adam Freyaldenhoven	Conway, AR	Brooke Nicole Million	Little Rock, AR	Daniel Tu	Fort Smith, AR
Ryan Thomas Hackett	Rogers, AR	Joanna Lorene Moore	Fayetteville, AR	Andrew Reed Walsh	Little Rock, AR
Harry C. Hammond IV	Vidalia, LA	Jesse Dylan Moore	Bryant, AR	Christopher Ward	Little Rock, AR
Drew Souder Harlin	Little Rock, AR	Taylor Christine Moore	Little Rock, AR	Victoria Rose White	Little Rock, AR
Morgan Harrod	Little Rock, AR	Helen Margaret Page	Fayetteville, AR	Jontavis C. Willis	Dallas, TX
Lauren Hazard	Conway, AR	Ryan Panyard	Little Rock, AR	Michael Benjamin Worley	Little Rock, AR
Dakota Rachelle Hicks	Bentonville, AR	Adam Logan Peavler	Fayetteville, AR	Laura Jean Yates	Little Rock, AR
Jonathan David Hill	Magnolia, AR	Paxton Wayne Penny	Bismarck, AR		

CPA EXAMINATION OVERVIEW

Arkansas Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2019 Q3

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	105	76.5	66.7%
Re-exam	166	71.4	46.3%
AUD	82	<i>7</i> 4.1	51.2%
BEC	60	77.3	61.7%
FAR	<i>7</i> 8	70.4	50.0%
REG	51	70.3	51.0%

Overall Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2019 Q3

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	17,129	72.9	58.2%
Re-exam	39, <i>7</i> 96	73.0	54.1%
AUD	14,549	72.5	51.9%
BEC	12,355	76.9	63.0%
FAR	17,263	70.0	50.3%
REG	12,758	<i>7</i> 3.1	58.4%

Jurisdiction Ranking for Arkansas









Arkansas Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2019 Q4

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	80	<i>7</i> 0.1	50.0%
Re-exam	204	<i>7</i> 1.5	44.1%
AUD	82	<i>7</i> 1.3	45.1%
BEC	74	<i>7</i> 3.6	47.3%
FAR	84	67.3	35.7%
REG	44	<i>7</i> 3.9	63.6%

Overall Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2019 Q4

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	13,301	69.4	48.8%
Re-exam	38,403	<i>7</i> 1.8	50.4%
AUD	13,574	<i>7</i> 1.0	47.9%
BEC	11,518	<i>7</i> 5.5	58.6%
FAR	14,950	67.3	40.6%
REG	11,662	<i>7</i> 2.1	55.9%

Jurisdiction Ranking for Arkansas

38TH CANDIDATES







NOVEMBER BOARD DISCIPLINARY CASES

The following cases were closed at the November 15, 2019 Board Meeting:

Respondent: Michael Jones

License #: 3046

Violation: Failure to comply with requirements of a Board

order issued after a formal hearing

Action: Mr. Jones surrendered his license in lieu of further

disciplinary action.

Respondent: Charlotte Moore

License #: 9294

Violation: Failure to respond timely to the 2019 CPE Audit

Action: \$350 penalty

JANUARY BOARD DISCIPLINARY CASES

The following cases were closed at the January 10, 2020 Board Meeting:

Respondent: Carl Allen

License #: 3444

Violation: Failure to renew license

Action: A hearing was held and the license was revoked.

Respondent: Zach Feighert

License #: 9113R

Violation: Failure to respond timely to the 2019 CPE Audit

Action: \$200 penalty

Respondent: Charles Wigginton

License #: 7808

Violation: The licensee failed to respond timely to the 2019 CPE audit, submitted fabricated documents for the CPE audits and renewed his license based on CPE courses that were not actually taken.

Action: Mr. Wigginton's license was suspended until 100 hours of CPE have been taken and a \$10,000 penalty is paid. Another \$10,000 penalty is due December 31, 2020 and his CPE records will be audited for the next 5 years.

Respondent: Brian Breech

License #: 4954

Violation: The licensee failed to respond to the 2019 Practice Review survey as well as two certified letters from the

Board.

Action: A hearing was held and a penalty of \$1,128.70 was

assessed.

Respondent: Brenda Eldridge

License #: 7114

Violation: Failure to meet AR Ethics course requirement and

inaccurate reporting of dates of CPE taken

Action: \$350 penalty

Respondent: Orlando Todd

License #: 2678

Violation: Failure to meet AR Ethics course requirement and

inaccurate reporting of dates of CPE taken

Action: \$450 penalty

Respondent: Mary Holden

License #: 8707

Violation: Failure to respond to the 2019 Practice Review

Survey and to a certified letter from the Board

Action: A hearing was held and a penalty of \$643.60 was

assessed.

Respondent: Shawn Hickman

License #: 7232

Violation: Failure to respond to the 2019 Practice Review

survey and a certified letter from the Board

Action: A hearing was held and Mr. Hickman's license was

suspended until penalty of \$761 is paid.

Respondent: Jerry McCarty

License #: 3524

Violation: Unlicensed firm **Action:** \$110 penalty

Respondent: James Miller

License #: 8267R

Violation: Licensee was preparing tax returns on an

inactive license

Action: Mr. Miller surrendered his license in lieu of further

disciplinary action.

CPA EVOLUTION INITIATIVE

The CPA Evolution initiative, a joint effort of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), has been moving forward. The initiative aims to transform the CPA licensure model to recognize the rapidly changing skills and competencies the practice of accounting requires today and will continue to require in the future.

The leadership of NASBA and the AICPA are recommending a "core + disciplines" licensure model. The model starts with a robust core in accounting, auditing, tax and technology that all candidates would have to complete. Then, each candidate would choose a discipline in which to demonstrate deeper skills and knowledge. Regardless of a candidate's chosen discipline, this model leads to a full CPA license, with rights and privileges consistent with any other CPA. A discipline selected for testing would not mean the CPA is limited to that practice area.



The proposed disciplines reflect three pillars of the CPA profession:

- Business reporting and analysis,
- Information systems and controls, and
- Tax compliance and planning.

Reprinted with permission from the December 2019 NASBA State Board Report. To learn more about the CPA Evolution initiative, visit <u>evolutionofcpa.org</u>.

SURRENDERS

The following licenses were surrendered from September 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020:

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Joana Bach	Bentonville, AR	Daniel Cherry CPA PLLC	Fayetteville, AR
Cort Cacicio	Spring, TX	Deborah K. Wright, CPA, PLLC	Benton, AR
Cassandra Chun	Powell, OH	Dorsey & Company CPAS, LLC	Little Rock, AR
Kenneth Cunningham	Pittsburg, KS	Frazee Fox & Dodge	Little Rock, AR
Nancy Halbrook	Jonesboro, AR	GBB & Company, LLP	Allentown, PA
Daniel McCarthy	Plano, TX	Jonesboro CPA, Inc	Jonesboro, AR
Lester McKeever	Chicago, IL	Langley, Williams & Company, LLC	Lake Charles, LA
James Miller	Rogers, AR	Manning & Associates CPAs, Inc.	Dayton, OH
Mary Pendley	Selinsgrove, PA	Pickering, Burchfield, Griffin, & Haney	Little Rock, AR
Brett Powell	Arkadelphia, AR	Susan G Rogers CPA PLLC	Little Rock, AR
Kerry Roybal	Baton Rouge, LA	Tronconi Segarra & Associates LLP	Williamsville, NY
H.M. Wilson	Raymore, MO	Washington, Pittman & McKeever, LLC	Chicago, IL
Custom Accounting Solutions Co	Little Rock, AR	William H. Eldridge, C.P.A., P.A.	Little Rock, AR
Cynthia R Sunthimer, PC	Camden, AR		

NEW FIRMS

The following firm CPA licenses were approved from September 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020:

KirkpatrickPrice Inc.	Nashville, TN	Armanino LLP	San Ramon, CA
Jerry A McCarty, CPA	Greers Ferry, AR	MLP & Associates CPAs	Fayetteville, AR
GBB & Company, LLP	Allentown, PA	Bender CFO & Tax Services	PLLC Rogers, AR
Dennis L. Sisson, CPA, PLLC	Fayetteville, AR	Outsourced Controllership and Tax Services, LLC	Centerton, AR
Burton Eddington JR. CPA, INC	Heber Springs, AR	G & G Accounting Services, PLLC	Little Rock, AR
Synced Accounting, LLC	Hot Springs, AR	Shane Diamant CPA PLLC	Sherwood, AR
McConnoll & Jones IIP	Houston TY		

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

The following firm licenses were issued from September 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019:

Katlyn Allred	Paragould, AR	Morgan Hurley	Fayetteville, AR	Beverly Sanford	Gurdon, AR
Arthur Beard	Maumelle, AR	Christopher Johnson	. Rogers, AR	Sifan Śhen	Conway, AR
Elizabeth Bennett	Little Rock, AR	Charles Johnson	White Hall, AR	Emma Shortes	Fort Smith, AR
Matthew Cable	Overland Park, KS	Collins Knight	Little Rock, AR	Zachary Siebenmann	Little Rock, AR
Kendall Collier	Memphis, TN	Preston Kordsmeier	Conway, AR	Quinn Stangeland	Cave Springs, AR
Megan Cook	Maumelle, AR	Taylor Moore	Little Rock, AR	Keiryn Swenson	Wichita, KS
Virginia Cruse	Batesville, AR	Ryan Panyard	Little Rock, AR	Scottie Taylor	Little Rock, AR
Henry Dunn	Fayetteville, AR	Mary Perdue	Conway, AR	Ronald Tran	Little Rock, AR
Brett Favano	Little Rock, AR	Oddey Posey	Little Rock, AR	Aleesha Walker	Conway, AR
Piper Finley	Little Rock, AR	Vivek Ranka	Jonesboro, AR	Brittany Williams	Malvern, AR
Bradley Hall	Hot Springs, AR	Erin Rheinberger	Shawnee, KS	Courtney Wilson	Springdale, AR
Ryan Heidrick	Prosper, TX	Clayton Riding	Dallas, TX	Juan Yan	Springdale, AR
Jonathan Hill	Magnolia, AR	Kallesta Roberts	Vilonia, AR	Laura Yates	Little Rock, AR

INACTIVE

The following licensees converted from active to inactive status from September 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020:

Meagan Adams	McRae, AR	Jane Gresham	Clarksville, AR	Vanessa Ramirez	Charlotte, NC
Adam Argo	Longmont, CO	Callie Hoyt	Little Rock, AR	Russell Randolph	Fayetteville, AR
Mayowa Awopetu	San Francisco, CA	Keri Ishman	Winter Garden, FL	Myles Robinson	Bentonville, AR
Barbara Barron	Bryant, AR	Rhonda Jones	Atlanta, TX	Andrea Savage	Conway, AR
Annette Blake	Siloam Springs, AR	April Kappler	Ward, AR	Jeffery Scaccia	Clinton, SC
Charles Blaschke	Lavaca, AR	Katherine Kolberg	Fayetteville, AR	Robbie Senty	Bentonville, AR
Crystal Bohannon	Hot Springs, AR	Shirley Manning	Maumelle, AR	James Shackelford	Fayetteville, AR
Ping Bu	Richardson, TX	Peter Marks	Little Rock, AR	Paula Storment	Fayetteville, AR
Susan Burks	Eureka Springs, AR	Molly Minton	Lewisville, TX	Sushil Subedi	Bryant, AR
Brent Corbitt	Little Rock, AR	Alisa Moore	Bryant, AR	Monica Taylor	Baton Rouge, LA
Alison Curtis	Fort Myers, FL	David Mosley	Fayetteville, AR	Andrew Vaden	Alexander, AR
Seth Elkins	Plano, TX	Bonita Norwood	North Little Rock, AR	Steven Warren	Little Rock, AR
William Franz	Thayer, MO	David Norwood	Bentonville, AR	Bryan Webster Jr.	Bentonville, AR
Nicole Frey	Fayetteville, AR	Jordan Owens	Springdale, AR	Vicki White	Paragould, AR
Ashley Fuggitt	Fayetteville, AR	Marcus Parsons	Springdale, AR	Laura Yates	Little Rock, AR
Neal Goodwin	Fort Smith, AR	Joseph Price	Greenbrier, AR	James Yates	Harrison, AR

RETIRED

The following licensees were approved for retired status September 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020:

Martha Anderson	Farmington, AR	Michael Emerson	Searcy, AR	Bobby Perry	Sherwood, AR
Donald Applegarth	Montgomery, AJ	Nathan Evers	El Dorado, AR	David Pyle	Benton, AR
James Askeland	Jonesboro, AR	Carvill Fitzhugh	Helena, AR	Richard Quattlebaum	Harrison, AR
Daniel Asmus	San Marcos, CA	Jacki Fliss	Conway, AR	Leveta Ray	Bryant, AR
Sherri Billings	Harrison, AR	Kristina Gauthier	Enola, AR	Michael Reagan	Greensboro, GA
James Birch	Little Rock, AR	Wayne Gregory	Conway, AR	Emily Richesin	Little Rock, AR
Sharon Blaylock	Durango, CO	Carol Jones	Pine Bluff, AR	Harry Simmons	Blytheville, AR
Cheryl Browder	Little Rock, AR	Elizabeth Jones	Hendersonville, NC	Jack Talkington	Baton Rouge, LA
Rebecca Carr	State University, AR	Jerry Kopf	Radford, VA	Lonnie Taylor	West Memphis, AR
Jeanette Clardy	Tulsa, OK	James Leigh	Kansas City, AR	Robert Theodore	Pelzer, SC
Frank Conner	Harrison, AR	Michael Leonard	Irving, TX	Eric Thompson	Bentonville, AR
Debra Cornwell	Conway, AR	Ronald Mitchell	Mabelvale, AR	Colleen Vollman	Little Rock, AR
Wanda Crawford	Alexander, AR	Jon Moore	Conway, AR	Richard Wagner	Denver, CO
Elizabeth Curtis	San Angelo, TX	Henry Neely	Plano, TX	Marilyn Weaver	Sherwood, AR
Judith Doing	Tucson, AZ	Deborah Newell	Conway, AR	Larry Wilson	Bella Vista, AR
Doyle Echols	Hensley, AR	Dean Nyitrai	Trumann, AR	Deborah Wright	Benton, AR
William Eldridge	Little Rock, AR	Janeen O'Neal	Columbia, MO		

STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY BOARD MEMBERS



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Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy 101 East Capitol, Suite 450 Little Rock, AR 72201

Moving? Please Notify the Board Office of You	ır New Address
The rules and regulations require all licensees to notify the ASBPA of all such charby sending a change of address form to the office. Please include a street address facilitate any express mail deliveries. Click here to change your address, or compland mail in the form below:	ss to
Name:	
Employer:	_ License#:
Old Address: New Address:	

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please Mail to: Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy 101 East Capitol, Suite 450, Little Rock, AR 72201