

2021 - 2022

ANNUAL LETTER



NEBRASKA BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

The Board is responsible for licensing and regulating Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) in Nebraska



NEBRASKA

State Board of Public Accountancy



2021 - 2022 Annual Letter

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR, MARCY LUTH, CPA

During the past eight years on the State Board, I have served with a talented group of dedicated professionals who all serve with a common goal – to protect the public. Our board is made up of eight members – six CPA's and two public (noncertified) members. While the composition of the board is ever evolving, I have been proud of the collective approach each board has taken when faced with issues that need to be addressed.

Rather than taking the easy route and resisting change, the board thoroughly explores issues and considers new ideas. Several issues have been addressed via joint task force efforts with the Nebraska Society of CPA's and through recommendations made by the Education Advisory Committee, a committee comprised of representatives from Nebraska colleges and universities.

After board members and staff put in the extra time and effort to help implement these changes, it is rewarding to see the impact of these new ideas on the public accounting profession. Some of the major changes that have occurred since 2013 during my tenure on the board include:

- Allowing private, academia, and other governmental experience to count towards requirements to obtain a permit to practice as a CPA
- The end of the Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) and the requirement for all firms conducting attest work to enroll in the Peer Review program
- ESOP legislation for firm ownership
- Changes to education requirements to be eligible to sit for the CPA exam as recommended by the Board's Education Advisory Council, including allowing candidates to sit for the exam within 120 days of completing their 150 credit hours
- A current year Legislative Bill seeks to assist small firms with succession issues by replacing the majority CPA physical headcount requirements with majority CPA

equity ownership for firms with non-CPA owners.

- The Board continues to provide input and monitor the CPA Evolution project being led by NASBA and the AICPA. The changes to the Uniform CPA Examination will be significant, and the Board will continue to address any regulations and changes in Nebraska needed to move this initiative forward.



Marcy Luth, CPA

Despite what seems to be a continuous state of change to the profession, one thing we can count on is the steady and capable support provided to the board, licensees, and the public by the committed staff of the Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy. Dan Sweetwood, Kristen VanWinkle, and Heather Myers do a fantastic job of providing our board with the information we need to make decisions and responding to the needs of the licensees and the public.

Entering the last six months of my second and final term as a board member, I am amazed how quickly my two terms on the board have gone. This is a sure sign that it was an enjoyable, rewarding experience. I would encourage you to consider serving on the State Board when the time is right for you. Not only will it help you understand the many issues impacting our profession, but it will allow you to establish state and national contacts with individuals from whom you will learn a great deal and with whom you will establish lifelong friendships. So please consider future board service – we all have a duty to pay it forward, as this profession cannot thrive unless you take an active role in its evolution and pass these ideals on to the next generation of CPAs.

Marcy Luth, CPA, Chairman



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: BOARD RESPONDS TO CPA FIRMS

Over the course of my long career with the Board, I have always been a strong proponent of keeping abreast of possible changes to the CPA profession. This includes being active on the national stage and participating on various NASBA and AICPA committees and task forces, reading various periodicals and accounting related articles, and initiating discussion within the Board’s committees and the Board itself at times. I also attempt to listen to those CPAs that take the time to send various thoughts and/or concerns via mail, email, or who just pick up the phone. Some of these discussions have led to initiatives to review current Board policies and regulations. A couple examples recently involve CPA firms including:

- After a small CPA firm in Central Nebraska reached out with concerns regarding their succession plan being impacted by Board requirements that at least a majority of CPAs had to own the firm, staff of the Board initiated discussions with the Nebraska Society of CPAs who later developed a Task Force of leadership to review the matter. After review and discussion, the Task Force recommended the requirement be changed to remove this requirement as long as the CPA(s) continued to own a majority of the firm. Research also revealed this aligned Nebraska with similar requirements of surrounding States and no significant harm to the public could be identified. Since this change required the Nebraska Public Accountancy Act (PAA) to be amended, the Society worked with Senator John Stinner, CPA (retired) to submit a Bill (LB 894) this year. The Bill has since been absorbed into LB 707 and it is anticipated that it will be passed.
- After a CPA sent several letters of concern noting more CPAs were associating and/or working within non-CPA firms, along with Board staff receiving inquiries from those CPAs, Board staff initiated discussion within the Board’s Licensing Committee regarding this matter. The goal was to attempt to mitigate current regulations without disrupting small business and/or accounting services provided to the public. As in many issues that come before the Board, the attempt is made to “hit middle ground” when possible. Using provisions within Board policy & guidelines under State law, the Board’s Licensing Committee led by Board member Ken Brauer recommended the Board adopt a formal policy regarding these arrangements. The policy is under current review by the Board and it is anticipated the final draft will be reviewed at their upcoming May 11, 2022 meeting and submitted for public comment and approval at their July 8,

2022 meeting. The proposed policy will be posted to the Board’s website following the May 11th meeting.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, would like to review the proposed guidelines or new law, or would like to discuss other areas of concern you might have regarding other Board regulations. The goal of the Board and the Governor’s Office that regulations remain current, viable, and do not interfere with the business of providing professional services to clients while providing protection to the public. Again, in my opinion, if we can hit middle ground on the development and administration of Board regulations, this is the best-case scenario!



Dan Sweetwood

Never hesitate to reach out with your questions and/or concerns.

Take care of yourself during busy season!

Dan Sweetwood
Executive Director, Nebraska State Board of Public Accountancy

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NEW DATABASE ON THE WAY!

After struggling for many years to find a solution to replace the Board’s dated database, we have found one! Earlier this year, the Board entered into a three-year contract with Thentia Inc. to provide online and backend database platforms. Thentia specializes in providing IT services to governmental regulatory agencies throughout North America, including the State Board of Accountancy in Oklahoma. Several meetings were held with Thentia representatives, including demonstrations of their platform and capabilities to enhance Board operations and those touchpoints for Nebraska CPAs when renewing their permits and reporting CPE. Board Administrator Kristen VanWinkle commented, “We are excited after initially reviewing the capabilities of the Thentia platform and identified several benefits to staff and CPAs, including enhanced online renewals, gathering demographic information, and the ability to run many reports by staff without the need of assistance. This is just a start...”

Business Manager Heather Myers commented, “It will definitely assist us as staff in reporting information to the Board, State Government, and others as requested with the enhanced reporting systems. The CPE reporting capabilities for our CPAs will also be improved within the new system...”

Executive Director Dan Sweetwood continued, “This was long overdue and it was time to engage an IT provider to modernize our backend database while providing an enhanced experience for CPAs reporting their CPE and renewing their permits online. Other benefits include improved security and the ability of staff to work directly and modify the systems as needed. I also want to thank the Board’s Executive Committee for their review and input during this process. We are excited to join the Thentia team after many years of not being able to find a viable solution for our needs...”

Much more to come later this year on how this transition will affect CPAs and CPA firms in the future. It is anticipated the new system will be ready for license renewals in 2023!



ONLINE RENEWAL PORTAL WILL OPEN MAY 2ND

The Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy will open its online licensing portals MAY 2, 2022 and will close June 30th for biennial inactive registrants and active permit holders along with annual firm permit renewals.

Renewal reminders will be mailed out the first week in May. Our online renewal system can be accessed through our website at www.nbpa.nebraska.gov.

The permit and registration renewal process is very important to the State Board and allows for updating personal and firm information including addresses, employment, office locations, and other information. The goal of the online portals is to provide convenience and a relatively short timeframe to renew a registration or a permit to practice. It also streamlines the ability of State Board staff to process the renewals with less paper and checks to process. Although paper applications can still be submitted, permit holders are encouraged to submit renewals online.

If you have any questions concerning submitting your renewal documents, please contact the State Board office at (402) 471-3595 or email kristen.vanwinkle@nebraska.gov or heather.myers@nebraska.gov.

Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy

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THANK YOU BOARD MEMBERS, TOM PURCELL AND GLEN WALTEMATH, FOR YOUR EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE STATE BOARD



Pictured: Dr. Tom Purcell, CPA, Ms. Marcy Luth, CPA – Chair and Executive Director Dan Sweetwood



Pictured: Mr. Glen Waltemath, CPA, Ms. Marcy Luth, CPA – Chair and Executive Director Dan Sweetwood

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS SARAH BORCHERS AND DREW BLOSSOM!

Chair Luth swore in Members Borchers and Blossom at the Board’s January 2022 WebEx meeting.

Ms. Sarah Borchers, CPA is an assistant professor of accounting at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Before entering academia, she worked as an audit manager for several years, specializing in audits of governmental entities. She received her Doctorate of Business Administration from Creighton University in 2020. She also holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration – emphasis in accounting as well as a Masters of Business Administration- emphasis in accounting from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.



Sarah Borchers

She holds an active CPA permit in the State of Nebraska and currently serves and will continue to serve on the Education Advisory Committee of the Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy.

Mr. Andrew J. Blossom, CPA, Omaha, is the managing partner of KPMG LLP in Omaha and Lincoln and has been practicing public accounting since 1989. He has been a member of the Nebraska Society of CPAs since relocating to Nebraska in 2004. He has been a member of the AICPA State and Local Government Expert Panel and served as Chair of the AICPA State and Local Government Audit Guide Task Force. He is a graduate of the University of Kansas.



Drew Blossom

BOARD FEES

Active Permit to Practice	\$ 175
Inactive Registration	\$ 70
Reciprocal Certificate	\$ 200
Firm Permit: P.C.’s, LLC’s, LLP’s, Part.	\$ 50
Certificate of Registration: P.C.’s, LLC’s	\$ 25
Office Fee: All firms and S.P.s	\$ 25
CBT Examination Initial Admin. Fee	\$ 15





THE BOARD OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BOARD ATTORNEY MR. BOB GRIMIT AT THE NOVEMBER 2021 BOARD MEETING

Mr. Gritit served as Special Assistant Attorney General for the Nebraska State Board of Public Accountancy from 1993 to 2021, also while practicing as an attorney in the law firm of Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gritit & Witt, LLP.

During his service to the Board as Board Attorney, he joined during a time of unease and was a steadying force in bringing forth a stronger and more unified Board. He brought a common sense mentality to his legal analysis of Board enforcement cases. His ability to overview a case and come up with a solution to address the best way to move forward legally was outstanding. He always treated the individuals under complaint with dignity and respect with special emphasis on exercising their due process rights. He provided excellent counsel to the Board, the Executive Director, and staff along with some good humor. His impact and influence on protecting the public as Board Attorney will resonate for many years to come.



Pictured left to right: Dan Sweetwood, Executive Director, Kristen VanWinkle, Administrator, Bob Gritit, Board Attorney and Heather Myers, Business Manager

THE DANGEROUS PUSH TO DOWNGRADE PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

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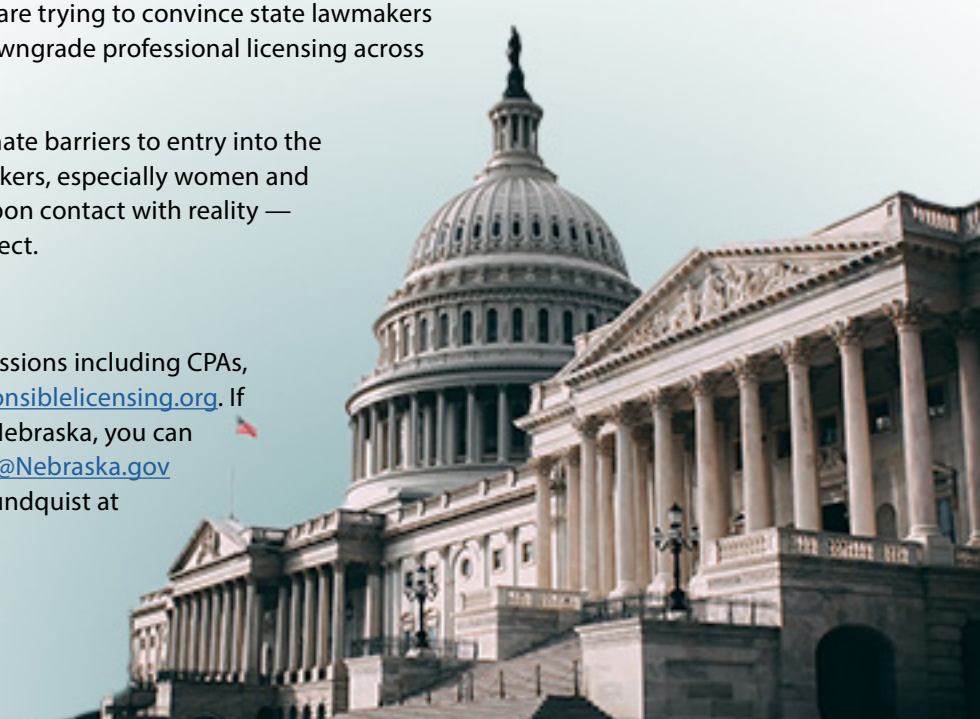
As governors and state legislators work to boost the economy in the face of inflation, supply-chain disruptions and lingering challenges from the coronavirus pandemic, the issue of licensing reform is once again coming to the fore.

It is disappointing, but not surprising, that some are trying to convince state lawmakers that the silver bullet for these challenges is to downgrade professional licensing across the board.

To hear them tell it, these proposals would eliminate barriers to entry into the workforce and provide an economic boon to workers, especially women and people of color. However, their pitch crumbles upon contact with reality — notably the latest economic research on the subject.

To read the full governing.com article, [click here](#).

If interested in ARPL and its activities for the professions including CPAs, engineers, architects, and others, visit info@responsiblelicensing.org. If you have any questions regarding legislation in Nebraska, you can reach out to Dan Sweetwood at Dan.Sweetwood@Nebraska.gov or Nebraska Society of CPAs President Ms. Joni Sundquist at joni@nescpa.org.





CPE RULES IN EFFECT

As an active CPA, it is your responsibility to remain compliant with CPE to maintain your competence to practice public accounting. All holders of an active permit to practice public accountancy are required to comply with the continuing education requirements.

- To renew your Active Permit to Practice, you must complete 80 hours of CPE (including 4 hours of ethics) within the two calendar years prior to renewal. CPE must be earned by December 31st of the year prior to renewal and must be reported by January 31st of your renewal year.
- The applicant for renewal of an active permit to practice shall, by January 31st of each year, provide a report of the continuing education in which he or she has participated in the preceding calendar year. If a permit holder has a valid reason they cannot report by January 31, they shall communicate the reason to the Board in writing before January 31.
- Sole responsibility for documenting the requirements rests with the permit holder and evidence to support fulfillment of those requirements must be retained for a period of six years after the completion of

educational courses.

Evidence of course completion must include one of the following:


- Certificate of completion from the course sponsor
- Copy of the sign in sheet
- Grade report or a transcript from an educational institution
- A signed statement of hours of attendance from the instructor
- For instructors, you need to provide a copy of the agenda or syllabus
- For publishers, you need to provide a copy of the article, book, etc.


***Please note that Course Approval letters from the Nebraska State Board do NOT count as a certificate of completion or attendance. ***


Inactive Registrants and "Inactive-Retired" registrants are not required to report continuing education.


COMMON ERRORS

Found in CPE Hours Submitted from In-House Program

 Using a NASBA approved program that was purchased and intended for one individual only and then sharing it with others/watching it as a group and calling it in-house CPE. To avoid this problem, you can purchase these from the provider as a group program and follow the provider's instructions to get individual certificates for each individual who attended.

 Using staff training/office procedure reviews as CPE.

 Rounding up your CPE hours.

 Including breaks and lunches in your calculated CPE hours. Be sure to denote all breaks and lunches on your agenda.



THE DOS AND DON'TS OF IN-HOUSE CPE

If a firm holds in-house CPE for employees, it is important to make sure the firm's training meets the Board's CPE guidelines.

Under the guidelines, CPE from any non-registered NASBA program must contain the following documentation:

- Program materials;
- Agenda with dates, times, and locations;
- Sign-in sheets / records of attendance;
- Number of CPE credits earned by participants;
- Name, contact information, and qualifications of the course instructor.

If you wish to provide in-house CPE training, it is highly recommended that you complete a Program Qualification form found on our website.



NEBRASKA CPA STATUS

Nebraska is a two-tiered state. In the first tier, a Certificate Number is issued permanently to the candidate after successful completion of the U.S. Uniform CPA Examination. This person is known as a Certificate Holder in Nebraska and must file an annual registration with the Board office. Although considered a Certificate Holder, they have no status as a CPA within Nebraska.

After completion of two years of public accounting experience within a CPA firm under the direction of a CPA (or three years in business, government, and academia) a Certificate Holder may file an application for issuance of an Active Permit to Practice that allows them to hold themselves out to the public as a CPA and practice public accountancy. A license number is issued with their Active Permit to Practice. The permit number is separate from their permanent Certificate number and changes every two years upon successful completion of 80 hours of required Continuing Professional Education.

If an Active Permit Holder decides to forgo the CPE requirement, they may elect to register with the Board as an Inactive Registrant and are issued a registration number. An Inactive Registrant cannot practice public accountancy within Nebraska.

Active CPAs can be verified on the Board's website: <http://www.nbpa.ne.gov/search/>.

Please keep the following status descriptions in mind:

Certificate Holder:

- "Passed the CPA Exam" for use on resumes only
- Cannot practice public accountancy
- Cannot hold out using the title CPA

Permit Holder:

- Use the title "CPA" (hold out)
- Practice public accountancy

Inactive registrant:

- Cannot practice public accountancy
- Cannot hold out as a CPA
- Must use the disclaimer: "CPA (Inactive Registrant)"



CPE AUDIT: ARE YOU READY?

What is a CPE audit?

The CPE audit ensures that CPAs are complying with continuing professional education rules. This, in turn, protects both the profession and the public it serves.

How are CPAs chosen for the CPE audit?

A percentage of our active CPAs are selected at random. CPAs selected for a CPE audit receive a letter from the Board via regular mail. They have until June 1st to submit the required material.

What do I need to submit to the Board?

Certificates of completion for each CPE course taken during the audit period.

What are some common errors to avoid?

The most efficient way to comply with a CPE audit is by providing the correct documentation in a timely manner. But, mistakes happen. Here are some common errors to watch for:

- Reporting undocumented learning activities
- Reporting CPE credits in the wrong year
- Failing to retain appropriate documentation
- Submitting documentation that does not meet our CPE requirements (i.e., certificates of completion, sign-in sheets, agendas)

What happens if I cannot provide appropriate documentation?

Failure to respond or provide appropriate CPE documentation will be dealt with by the enforcement committee.

Questions?

If you have questions regarding the CPE audit process or CPE reporting overall, please contact our CPE Coordinator, Heather Myers, at (402) 471-3595 or via email at heather.myers@nebraska.gov, or refer to the CPE Guidelines.



FAQ'S FOR NEBRASKA CPAS/CIVIL LITIGATION AND THE BOARD

I have been named in a civil lawsuit by a former client regarding my professional practice and working with my attorney on the matter. What are my obligations to the Board?

You will need to report this lawsuit on your next renewal application for your permit to practice. One of the application questions will ask if you and/or your firm has been named in a civil lawsuit since your last application. Make sure you check the box "yes" and provide a summary explanation of the matter. This could include the status of the lawsuit, where the litigation was filed, any pleadings filed with the court, and other pertinent information.

Why is the Board involved in civil litigation?

The Board's main responsibility is to ensure regulations within the Rules of Professional Conduct (within NAC Title 288, Chapter 5. https://www.nebraska.gov/rules-and-regs/regsearch/Rules/Board_of_Public_Accountancy/Title-288/Chapter-05.pdf) have not been violated in the matter. In the vast majority of cases, the Board will remain an interested third party and offer you and/or the firm a Litigation Monitoring Consent Order (LMCO) so the Board can get to the sidelines and allow you and your attorney to focus on the litigation. You will also receive a call from Board staff overviews any initial comments from the Board's Enforcement Committee (EC) and to answer any questions regarding the LMCO or other concerns.

I have agreed to settle the matter with my attorneys. What now?

Normally, the EC will request the settlement documents for review. Under Board regulations, the settlement remains confidential during the investigation. The settlement is reviewed by the Board Attorney and the EC to determine if any further information will be required from you and/or the firm. This might include any actions you and/or the firm has taken since the settlement to defer future problems.

The court dismissed the matter for lack of evidence or ruled in my and/or the firm's favor. What now?

In most cases, the Board will then close the matter.

The court and/or jury ruled in favor of the Plaintiff. What now?

As agreed within the LMCO, it is your and/or the firm's responsibility to keep the Board office apprised of the actions of the court. Call or email the Board office with the results of the matter. Normally, the Board Attorney and the EC will review the pleadings in the case to determine if further action should be taken. This could include an additional response to the EC by you and/or the firm to clarify any matters that could be considered a possible violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct as noted within the pleadings.

Should I prepare for disciplinary proceedings before the Board?

Normally not, but it is possible if you and/or the firm:

- Do not cooperate with the Board's requests for information.
- Have Prima Facie or direct evidence in the pleadings and/or judgement of the court involving violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

If any disciplinary proceedings are taken you and/or the firm will have every opportunity to defend your actions before the Board as outlined within Board regulations in NAC/Title 288/Chapter 4.

Never hesitate to contact the Board office with any questions regarding enforcement and/or disciplinary proceedings at (402) 471-3595 or at Dan.Sweetwood@Nebraska.gov.



TRANSITION POLICY ANNOUNCED FOR 2024 CPA EXAM

Have you heard of the CPA Evolution initiative? Are you aware that the Uniform CPA Examination (CPA Exam) is changing significantly in January 2024? It is important that you learn about this initiative and the upcoming changes to the CPA Exam to fully understand how it might impact your journey to CPA licensure. If you pass and retain credit for all four CPA Exam sections by December 31, 2023, the changes to the CPA Exam will NOT impact your journey. If you will still be working your way through the CPA Exam in January 2024 and beyond, then the information about the CPA Evolution-aligned CPA Exam (the 2024 CPA Exam) and transition policy are most important to understand.

It's never been a more exciting time to pursue the CPA license. The role of today's CPA has evolved, and newly licensed CPAs are taking on increased responsibilities that were traditionally assigned to more experienced staff. Becoming a CPA means you'll need greater skill sets and competencies, and a greater knowledge of emerging technologies. That is why the CPA Evolution initiative is underway. It is a joint effort of the National Association of

State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

The new CPA licensure and CPA Exam model is a Core + Discipline model. The model starts with a robust core in accounting, auditing, and tax that all candidates will have to complete. Then, each candidate must choose a Discipline section in which to demonstrate greater skills and knowledge. Technology knowledge and skills will be tested in all sections, as it pertains to each section. Regardless of a candidate's chosen discipline, this model leads to a full CPA license, with rights and privileges consistent with any other CPA. The Discipline section selected for testing does not mean the CPA is limited to that practice area.

The new Disciplines reflect three pillars of the CPA profession:

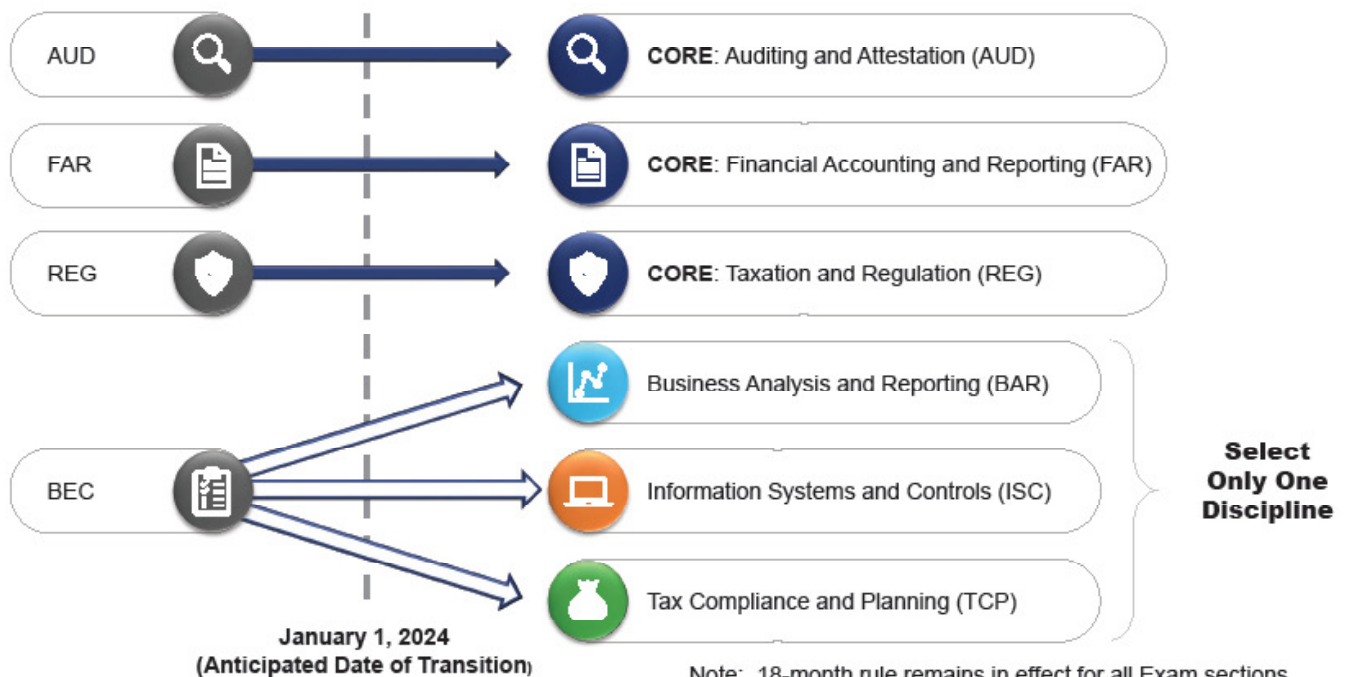
- Business analysis and reporting (BAR)
- Information systems and controls (ISC)
- Tax compliance and planning (TCP)

Continued on page 11

CPA EXAM TRANSITION POLICY CHART

Current Exam Section Not Yet Passed or Where Credit has Expired

Section to Take on 2024 CPA Exam





TRANSITION POLICY ANNOUNCED FOR 2024 CPA EXAM

Continued from page 10

If you anticipate continuing your CPA Exam journey into 2024 and beyond, the much-anticipated transition policy is important news. This policy lays out how CPA Exam sections passed under the current CPA Exam map to credit under the 2024 CPA Exam. Transition policies like this have been necessary at other times when significant changes were made to the CPA Exam, such as when it was computerized in April 2004.

The policy was recommended to the Boards of Accountancy by the NASBA CBT Administration Committee after development and much deliberation by a task force with state board representatives from the AICPA Board of Examiners, sitting state board members and executive directors from multiple states. Because of the significant differences in the current and 2024 CPA Exams and the overall CPA licensure model, a perfect transition is not possible. The Boards of Accountancy have agreed this transition policy best serves the candidates, the state boards and the public interest.

The transition policy is quite simple. Candidates who have credit for AUD, FAR or REG on the current CPA Exam will not need to take the corresponding new core section of AUD, FAR or REG on the 2024 CPA Exam. Candidates who have credit for BEC on the current CPA Exam will not need to take any of the

three discipline sections.

If, however, a candidate loses credit for AUD, FAR or REG after December 31, 2023, they then must take the corresponding new Core section of AUD, FAR or REG. A candidate who loses credit for BEC after December 31, 2023, must select one of the three Discipline sections to be tested. It is important to note that none of the sections of the current CPA Exam will be available for testing after December 31, 2023. There is a hard cutover from the current CPA Exam sections to the 2024 CPA Exam sections on the January 2024 launch.

The CPA profession is at an exciting juncture as it moves to the CPA Evolution model. To prepare for the 2024 CPA Exam launch, the Exposure Draft of the 2024 CPA Exam, which includes the draft Blueprints, will be released by the AICPA on July 1, 2022, and will outline the content and skills proposed for each section of the 2024 CPA Exam. The 2024 CPA Exam Final Report, which will include the final Blueprints, is scheduled to be released in January 2023, a year before the 2024 CPA Exam launches.

For more information on becoming a CPA, please visit [This Way to CPA](#).

LICENSING STATISTICS 2021

Reports on permits/registrations issued from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021:

Prior years' statistics are given for comparison purposes.

Cumulative Totals:								
Individuals	13-15	14-16	15-17	16-18	17-19	18-20	19-21	20-22
CPA Permits	1202	1355	1180	1243	1313	1290	1274	1275
CPA Inactive Registrations	732	721	790	653	595	657	529	578
Total Individuals	1934	2076	1970	1896	1908	1947	1803	1853
Firms	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-19	18-20	19-21	20-22
Partnerships	17	14	11	9	9	8	10	10
Professional Corporations	232	250	217	216	211	200	186	177
Limited Liability Companies	88	93	97	103	108	107	109	109
Limited Liability Partnerships	57	61	49	56	57	53	60	57
Sole Proprietorships	315	292	228	224	193	186	183	164
Total Firms	709	710	602	608	578	554	548	517



FAQ'S/TIDBITS

- 1. Check for the current NBPA application form:** Be sure to check the NBPA website for the most current application forms as fees could have been changed for some applications. As a state agency, the Board cannot accept checks for the wrong amount. The application and incorrect fee check must be returned to the applicant, delaying the application process. Please be aware that CPA Certificate and Initial Permit applications can take 4-6 weeks for processing and mailing.
- 2. Changes to the Rules and Regulations!** During the year issues may arise that result in revisions to the Board's Title 288 Rules and Regulations. Please be aware that "things change." The Board office will attempt to inform you of changes through the annual letter, the Nebraska Society of CPAs newsletter, or other means.
- 3. How many hours do I need to renew my permit?** CPE hours required for renewal of your permit to practice equal 80 hours over TWO years, including 4 hours of ethics. Do not confuse the required 80 hours over two years with other derivatives such as 40 hours per year, or with 20 hours of self study. Ethics hours may be taken in small increments, not all in one four-hour block. CPE must be reported by January 31 each year. **CPE reporting is available throughout the year** by using the "CPE Online Reporting" on the home page of NBPA: <http://www.nbpa.nebraska.gov>. Please refer to the most recent edition of the CPE Guidelines on the Board's website for specific requirements.
- 4. How do I go from inactive registration status to active permit holder?** There is a reinstatement application for this process. The application should be submitted to our office when all required hours are completed. Reinstatement from inactive registrant to active permit holder requires communication with the Board office. Based on your birth year, your licensing period does NOT change, and effects the years for CPE reinstatement reporting. Reinstatement requires careful timing, and Board staff will be happy to assist you through the process. Please do not try to submit CPE hours online if you are "inactive." You must keep track of those hours to submit with your reinstatement application.
- 5. Reminder:** Title 288 Rules Chapter 5 007.06 state that "Each certificate holder shall notify the Board in writing (or via the Board's website) within 30 days of any **change of address or change of employment.**"
- 6. How do I report problems or issues experienced with CPA Exam Services (CPAES) in the CPA exam process?** Please contact the Board office if you have serious complaints during the exam process that have not been resolved through the Candidate Care service.
- 7. There is a difference:** The Nebraska **STATE BOARD of Public Accountancy** is a regulatory agency – think "permits." The **Nebraska SOCIETY** is a membership organization – think "CPE." Often people change their contact information. **Please be sure to change your information with BOTH entities! Not all individuals are connected to BOTH organizations.**



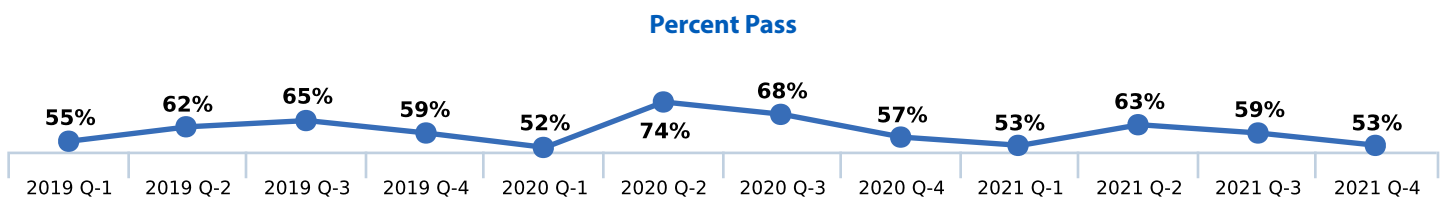
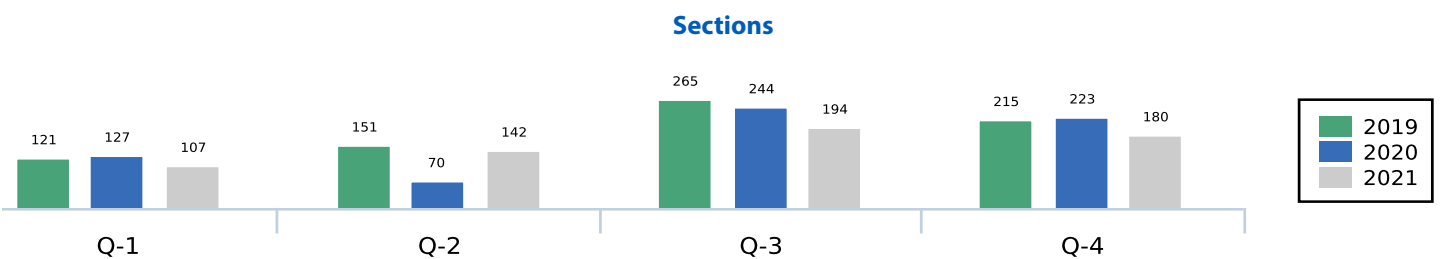
2021 CPA EXAM PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: NEBRASKA

Section Performance: Q1			
	Sections	Score	% Pass
First Time	28	71.64	57.14%
Re-Exam	79	72.63	51.90%
AUD	31	73.06	61.29%
BEC	25	79.04	64.00%
FAR	33	615.70	36.36%
REG	18	74.17	55.56%

Section Performance: Q2			
	Sections	Score	% Pass
First Time	44	78.34	70.45%
Re-Exam	96	73.18	60.42%
AUD	55	72.75	63.64%
BEC	41	78.17	63.41%
FAR	27	74.22	66.67%
REG	19	73.63	52.63%

Section Performance: Q3			
	Sections	Score	% Pass
First Time	71	76.51	69.01%
Re-Exam	122	73.63	53.28%
AUD	42	72.67	52.38%
BEC	32	77.13	65.63%
FAR	66	72.76	50.00%
REG	54	77.15	70.37%

Section Performance: Q4			
	Sections	Score	% Pass
First Time	45	70.24	57.78%
Re-Exam	135	73.53	51.85%
AUD	40	70.73	45.00%
BEC	43	77.77	62.79%
FAR	57	67.77	43.86%
REG	40	76.28	65.00%



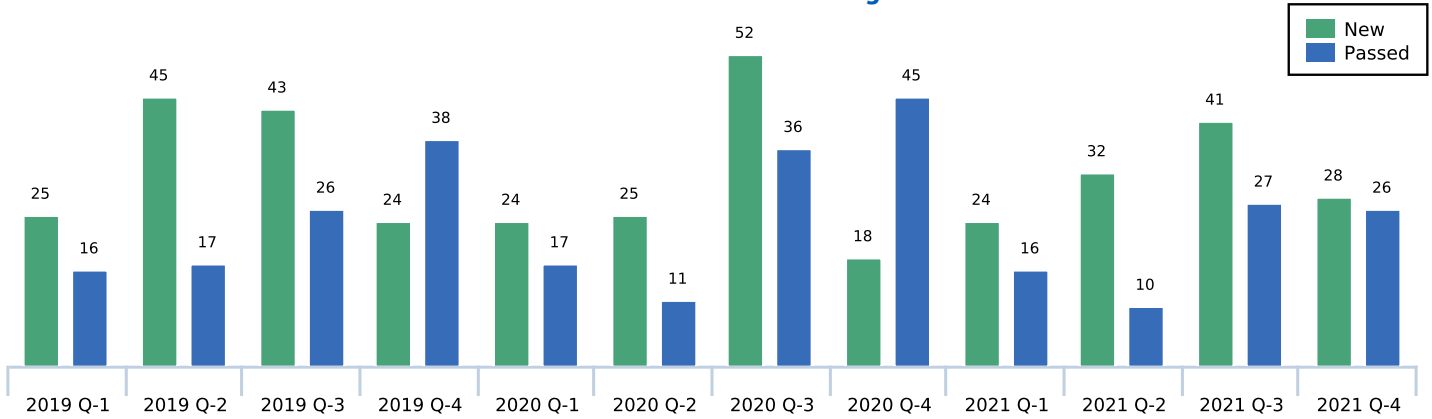


2021 CPA EXAM PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: NEBRASKA

Jurisdiction Rankings

2021 Q1		2021 Q2		2021 Q3		2021 Q4	
Candidates	45	Candidates	43	Candidates	42	Candidates	42
Sections	46	Sections	43	Sections	41	Sections	42
Pass Rate	24	Pass Rate	4	Pass Rate	7	Pass Rate	10
Average Score	22	Average Score	4	Average Score	6	Average Score	5

New Candidates vs. Candidates Passing 4th Section



Candidate Demographics



MALE CANDIDATES
2021 TOTAL: 204
PERCENTAGE: 48.5%



FEMALE CANDIDATES
2021 TOTAL: 217
PERCENTAGE: 51.5%

AVERAGE AGE
27.0

2021 Q1

DEGREE TYPE	Candidate Count	DEGREE TYPE	% of Candidates
Bachelor's Degree	61	Bachelor's Degree	67.0%
Advanced Degree	24	Advanced Degree	26.4%
Enrolled / Other	6	Enrolled / Other	6.6%

2021 Q2

DEGREE TYPE	Candidate Count	DEGREE TYPE	% of Candidates
Bachelor's Degree	74	Bachelor's Degree	64.9%
Advanced Degree	27	Advanced Degree	23.7%
Enrolled / Other	13	Enrolled / Other	11.4%

2021 Q3

DEGREE TYPE	Candidate Count	DEGREE TYPE	% of Candidates
Bachelor's Degree	92	Bachelor's Degree	63.9%
Advanced Degree	35	Advanced Degree	24.3%
Enrolled / Other	17	Enrolled / Other	11.8%

2021 Q4

DEGREE TYPE	Candidate Count	DEGREE TYPE	% of Candidates
Bachelor's Degree	93	Bachelor's Degree	66.4%
Advanced Degree	33	Advanced Degree	23.6%
Enrolled / Other	14	Enrolled / Other	10.0%



Certificates/ Permits/ Status Changes in July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021



Enforcement Cases (2020)



DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN LICENSURE

As 2022 legislative sessions are now in full swing, legislatures continue to question the value of occupational and professional licensure. Perhaps Valuing Professional Licensing, a recent report issued by the Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL) — in partnership with the internationally recognized research firm Oxford Economics — can and should be employed to show the value of licensure beyond public protection.

That report found professional licensing is associated with higher wages across all professions and occupations. Women and minorities in particular benefit as a license narrows the gender-driven wage gap by about one-third and the race-driven wage gap by about half. Licensing helps level the playing field by setting a clear, evenly applied level of qualification and removing subjectivity. Licensure is also an important tool that helps build pay equity.

BOARD MEMBERS

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- Melissa Ruff, CPA - Vice-Chair - Lincoln, NE
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- Drew Blossom, CPA - Omaha, NE
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- Dan Sweetwood, Executive Director
- Kristen VanWinkle, Administrator
- Heather Myers, Business Manager

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Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy
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Lincoln, NE 68509



2022 BOARD MEETINGS

January 3 at 8:30am (via virtual WebEx
online)

March 11 at 8:30 am

May 11 at 8:30am

July 8 at 8:30 am

September 9 at 8:30 am

November 10 at 8:30 am

*Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are held at
1526 K Street – 4th Floor – Lancaster Hearing Room
– Lincoln, NE. Board Meetings are open to the public.
Do not hesitate to contact the Board office if you
would like to participate in a future meeting.*

**The Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy office
is located across the street from the State Capitol.
Our address is 1526 K Street, Suite 410.**