

ASBPA Update



BOARD APPROVED RULE CHANGES

The Board recently received legislative approval for rule changes, and they are now in effect. The substantive changes include:

- **CPA Exam** – moves 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** – we now allow up to 4 hours of nano learning CPE credit (nano learning is CPE taken in ten- minute increments).
- **CPE Content Requirement** – we have reduced 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** – we have reduced the group study requirement from 40% to 20% (16 hours to 8 hours per year). (this rule was relaxed to zero hours for 2020 due to Covid 19)
- **Quality Review** – we updated rules surrounding Quality review for impact of the Peer Review requirement that became effective January 1, 2019.
- **Prelicensure Criminal Background Petition** – created 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.

All of the rule changes are available on our website <https://www.asbpa.arkansas.gov/laws-and-rules/proposed-rule-changes/>.

Board Removes Group Study Requirement for 2020 Due to Covid-19

After receiving several requests from licensees, the Board voted on August 14th to remove the 8-hour group study requirement for 2020, in order to give CPAs more flexibility in meeting their CPE requirements for this year.

IN THIS ISSUE

Board Approves Rule Changes.....	1
Board Removes Group Study Requirement.....	1
Board Update	2
We Have Moved!.....	2
CPA Exam Year-Round Testing.....	2
CPA Examination Overview	3
Board Disciplinary Cases	4
New Individual CPA Licenses.....	5
New Firms	5
Successful Candidates	5
Inactive	5
Surrenders.....	6
Retired	6
CPA Evolution Initiative	6
State Board of Accountancy Board Members	7
State Board of Accountancy Staff	7



REMAINING 2020 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

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	Presidents Day
May 25	Memorial Day
July 3	Independence Day Observance

A MEMBER OF
NASBA

BOARD UPDATE



CHRISTINA
ELLIS

Christina Ellis appointed to Board by Governor Asa Hutchinson

Christina Ellis of Hot Springs, AR was appointed to the Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy on July 31, 2020. Christina is a partner with JWCK, LTD in Hot Springs. She earned a Bachelor's degree in accounting and a MBA from Henderson State University.



SHERRY
CHESSE

Sherry Chesser completes term

The Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy thanks Sherry Chesser for her five years of service on the Board. During her tenure she served as board president and Compliance Committee chair. She was also active at the national level, serving on the Compliance Assurance Committee with NASBA. Currently she is serving on the Auditing Standards Board. Sherry is a partner with Landmark CPAs in Little Rock.

WE HAVE MOVED!

The Board moved office locations in July. We are now under the Department of Labor and Licensing, and our new address is 900 W. Capitol, Suite 400 Little Rock, AR 72201. Our email addresses and phone numbers did not change.

CPA EXAM YEAR-ROUND TESTING

New Model Replaces Quarterly Testing Windows

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and Prometric recently launched year-round testing of the Uniform CPA Examination (Exam). The new continuous testing model provides greater candidate flexibility and convenience, with more than 75 additional testing dates available throughout the year. The new model replaces quarterly testing windows that allowed candidates to sit for the Exam during specified dates. According to Prometric, 3,465 test events have already been scheduled between September 11-30, 2020, a previous blackout period, signifying increased flexibility and frequency in candidate testing.

The 55 U.S. Boards of Accountancy have endorsed the move to a Continuous Testing model as a means to support Exam candidates on their journey to CPA licensure.

Under the continuous testing model, scores will be released on a rolling basis. Candidates wishing to learn more about continuous testing, as well as how the score release process will work, should visit the AICPA's [CPA Exam Score Release](#) page, as well as follow NASBA via social media for updates.

CPA EXAMINATION OVERVIEW

Arkansas Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2020 Q1

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	36	68.2	47.2%
Re-exam	168	72.0	53.6%
Average			
AUD	56	72.3	50.0%
BEC	45	75.4	66.7%
FAR	62	66.4	36.5%
REG	41	73.1	63.4%

Overall Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2020 Q1

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	11,382	71.0	53.5%
Re-exam	30,052	72.2	51.6%
Average			
AUD	11,227	70.9	48.0%
BEC	9,333	76.4	61.8%
FAR	12,275	69.1	46.4%
REG	8,599	72.1	55.4%

Jurisdiction Ranking for Arkansas



Arkansas Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2020 Q2

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	24	77.5	70.8%
Re-exam	88	75.2	60.2%
Average			
AUD	35	73.7	60.0%
BEC	25	81.2	80.0%
FAR	33	72.3	45.5%
REG	19	78.1	73.7%

Overall Statistics CPA Exam Summary: 2020 Q2

	Sections	Avg. Score	%Pass
First time	5,912	79.3	75.1%
Re-exam	15,221	77.3	67.4%
Average			
AUD	6,263	76.2	65.3%
BEC	4,370	81.4	76.9%
FAR	5,219	75.7	62.9%
REG	5,281	78.9	74.9%

Jurisdiction Ranking for Arkansas



APRIL BOARD DISCIPLINARY CASES

The following cases were closed at the April 20, 2020 Board Meeting:

Respondent: Mary Glover

License #: 4110

Violation: Failure to respond timely to a CPE audit; failure to obtain 1 hour of Ethics CPE

Action: \$375 penalty

Respondent: Michael Williams

License #: 7448

Violation: Failure to respond timely to a CPE audit; failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$600 penalty

Respondent: Radu Badalac

License #: 9664

Violation: Failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$130 penalty

Respondent: Tammy Waymire

License #: 6348

Violation: Failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$350 penalty

Respondent: Sheila Williams

License #: 7529

Violation: Failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$350 penalty

Respondent: Kenny Sexton

License #: 2295

Violation: Providing tax services on an inactive license

Action: Licensee surrendered their license in lieu of disciplinary action

AUGUST BOARD DISCIPLINARY CASES

The following cases were closed at the August 14, 2020 Board Meeting:

Respondent: Osborn & Osborn, CPAs PLLC

License #: 123LC

Violation: Firm failed to properly supervise its staff and an employee embezzled over \$9,000,000 from a client.

Action: \$10,000 fine and firm must go under pre-issuance review for all attest reports for two years

Respondent: Bryant Barnes

License #: 9351

Violation: Failure to respond timely to board correspondence; failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$625 penalty

Respondent: Jack Bottoms

License #: 1530

Violation: Failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$125 penalty

Respondent: Naomi Smith

License #: 0131

Violation: Failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$125 penalty

Respondent: Angela Graves

License #: 6990

Violation: Failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$550 penalty

Respondent: Harold Vinson

License #: 2981

Violation: False reporting of CPE hours; failure to obtain required CPE hours

Action: \$2,480 penalty

REVOCATIONS

The following licenses were revoked via a hearing held on June 12, 2020 for failure to renew for 2020:

Brian Breech	Little Rock, AR
Thomas Fox	North Little Rock, AR
Roy Nichols	Gamaliel, AR
Orin Wilson	Searcy, AR
Sylvia Blaty	Russellville, AR
Lela Davidson	Rogers, AR
Olivia Row	Stamps, AR
Margaret Senn	West Memphis, AR
Jane Tucker	Little Rock, AR
Mountain Home CPA	Mountain Home, AR
The Rogers Accounting Firm	Little Rock, AR

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

The following candidates passed the final section of the CPA exam from February 1 through July 31, 2020:

Ethny Ashcraft	Pine Bluff, AR	Bryan Golden	Little Rock, AR	Alexander Segalla	Little Rock, AR
Angela Benefiel	Texarkana, AR	Alexandra Holder	Sour Lake, TX	Thomas Simmons	Hot Springs, AR
Loren Blakley	Little Rock, AR	Donnita Jeffery	Pine Bluff, AR	Brooklyn Taylor	Springdale, AR
Daniela Buhayevska	Little Rock, AR	Emily Jett	Alexander, AR	Luke Terrell	Fayetteville, AR
Jennifer Burks	Benton, AR	Jean Piere L. Chavez	North Little Rock, AR	Vinicius Vianna	Fayetteville, AR
Jordan Carlisle	Cabot, AR	Michael Meredith	Augusta, AR	Riley Weaver	Dallas, TX
Kelsey Carter	Conway, AR	Jason Moseley	Maumelle, AR	Eric Williams	Fayetteville, AR
Mallory Coffey	Siloam Springs, AR	Chase Netherton	Conway, AR	Carley Willmon	Benton, AR
Elizabeth Cogbill	Star City, AR	Melissa Noble	Rudy, AR	Meghan Zanone	Fayetteville, AR
Melissa Daniel	Camden, AR	Nikki Nottingham	Bono, AR	Richard Zimmerman	Fayetteville, AR
Andrea Espinoza	Hope, AR	Christopher Phillips	Conway, AR		
John Goins	Texarkana, AR	Rachael Reynolds	Cabot, AR		

NEW INDIVIDUAL CPA LICENSES

The following individual CPA licenses were approved from February 1 through July 31, 2020:

Chan Lam Leong	Frisco, TX	Justin Leonard Parker	Texarkana, TX	Andrea G. Tabora Torres	Little Rock, AR
Jacob Robert Holden	Rockwall, TX	Brittany Nicole Williams	Malvern, AR	James Logan Cole	Hot Springs, AR
Dylan Patrick Sutton	Jonesboro, AR	David Michael Pearson	Lowell, AR	Bradley Hampton Hall	Hot Springs, AR
Beverly Hughes Sanford	Arkadelphia, AR	Jordan Carlisle	Cabot, AR	Oddey John Posey	Little Rock, AR
Ronald Tran	Little Rock, AR	Claire Marie Northam	Texarkana, TX	Jennifer Burks	Benton, AR
Juan Yan	Springdale, AR	Megan Alyce Biar	Fayetteville, AR	Kyle Vincent Cowles	Cabot, AR
Aleesha Walker	Conway, AR	Megan Jean Cook	Maumelle, AR	Sean Edward Doolin	Alexander, AR
Sanket Miitha	San Antonio, TX	Jonathan Phillips	Fayetteville, AR	Daniela Buhayevska	Little Rock, AR
Julian Rotramel	Fayetteville, AR	Mary Abigail Perdue	Conway, AR	Mei-Mei Brown	Little Rock, AR
Seth Kendrick	Dallas, TX	Valerie Kae Thompson	Harrison, AR	Elizabeth Cogbill	Star City, AR
Zachary Siebenmann	Little Rock, AR	Amy Hall	Streetboro, OH	Rachael Grace Reynolds	Cabot, AR
Brandon Abbott	Broken Arrow, OK	Tim Althage	Bentonville, AR		
Teresa Jean Carr	Bono, AR	Ryan Crews	Searcy, AR		

NEW FIRMS

The following firm CPA licenses were approved from February 1 through July 31, 2020:

Potts & Company CPAs, LLC	Fort Smith, AR	Yeo & Yeo CPAs and Business Consultants	Saginaw, MI
Garland & Greenwood CPAs and Advisors PLLC	Little Rock, AR	ADAMSBROWN LLC	Great Bend, KS
Benjamin L Cox, CPA, PA	El Dorado, AR	CHD Accounting, LLC	Jonesboro, AR
Amelia Boney Corporation	Dumas, AR	Culver PLLC	Oakland, TN
John S. Brock, CPA, PA	Conway, AR	Andrea K Coffman CPA PA	Russellville, AR
Colette B Vaughn CPAs PLLC	Jonesboro, AR	Audit Solutions, LLC	Chesterfield, MO

INACTIVE

The following licensees converted from active to inactive status from February 1 through July 31, 2020:

Glenda Hagood	Little Rock, AR	Craig Shelly	Bentonville, AR
Thomas Duncan	Winter Garden, FL	Mitchell Bell	La Grange, IL
Gregory Crawford	Benton, AR		

NASBA MAKES CRUCIAL DECISION ON CPA EVOLUTION

Unanimous Vote of Support for the Advancement of the CPA Evolution Initiative

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) Board of Directors has announced its unanimous vote of support for the advancement of the CPA Evolution initiative to design and implement a new approach to CPA licensure. CPA Evolution is a joint initiative between NASBA and the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). In recent years, NASBA and the AICPA have monitored trends impacting the skillsets required of newly licensed CPAs and believe the CPA Evolution initiative will aid in positioning the CPA license for the future as well as continue to protect the public interest.

“The CPA profession is too important to our society and to our economy to not be 100% prepared and ready to respond to changing demands,” shared NASBA Chair

Laurie Tish, CPA. “CPAs entering the profession must be prepared with the skills and knowledge necessary to serve in this trusted role. The new licensure model will be more attractive to the best and the brightest, which will enhance the CPA pipeline.”

The CPA Evolution initiative aims to ensure newly licensed CPAs have the required knowledge and skills best suited to serve clients, businesses and the public-at-large. As the profession and the world navigate a new normal, education required of CPA candidates, as well as the CPA Exam, itself, will adapt to address the emerging skills and competencies necessary in today’s marketplace. The new core plus discipline model will allow candidates to show enhanced competency in a chosen discipline within the profession.

RETIRED

The following licenses were approved for retired status from February 1 through July 31, 2020:

Vickie Becker	Sioux Falls, SD	Isaac Jenkins	Little Rock, AR	Tonie Sheilds	North Little Rock, AR
Roland Eley	Alexander, AR	Phyllis Kemp	Little Rock, AR	Richard Stoddard	Branson, MO
Pat Gillespie	Raleigh, NC	Tommie Kifer	Monette, AR	Rena Taylor	Pine Bluff, AR
Williams Grant	Harrison, AR	Lisa Love	Little Rock, AR	Cynthia Turley	Rogers, AR
Gordon Guy	Arlington, TX	Suan McLuen	Biloxi, MS	David Waldrop	Little Rock, AR
Jesse Hall	Monroe, LA	Paulette Moore	Alma, AR	Donna Weaver	Buford, GA
Jerry Harris	Plano, TX	David Scott	Colleyville, TX		
Johnny Hudson	Little Rock, AR	Caryl Sharp	Tucson, AZ		

SURRENDERS

The following licenses were surrendered from February 1 through July 31, 2020:

James Birch, C.P.A., P.A.	Little Rock, AR	Eric McGraw	Fayetteville, AR
James Birch	Little Rock, AR	Dawna McKenzie	Fort Smith, AR
Michael Burroughs	Jonesboro, AR	Michael Moody	Fort Smith, AR
Charles Conine	Little Rock, AR	Penelope Osburn	Pyatt, AR
Eva Duckworth	Jonesboro, AR	J. Timothy Fulmer, CPA, PA	Rogers, AR
Denis Duncan	Atlanta, GA	Ted Duncan CPA PA	Maumelle, AR
Franklin Ekenseair	St Pete Beach, FL	Astrid Potts	Houston, TX
F. Keith Ekenseair, P.A.	St Pete Beach, FL	Hugh Riner	Magnolia, AR
Gardner, Langston & Bryan	Monroe, LA	Ben Sayle	Greenville, MS
Sue Garrison	Jonesboro, AR	Amanda Servedio	Queens, NY
Barbara Gilbert	Hope, AR	Thomas Sims	Kirkwood, MO
Paul Glasscock	Vernon, CT	Deborah J. Smith, CPA, PA	Walnut Ridge, AR
James Gunn	Stillwater, OK	Deborah Smtih	Walnut Ridge, AR
Larry Harvey	Hot Springs, AR	Charles Sullivan	Van Buren, AR
Kevin Kelbel	Mount Horeb, WI	Qingyun Tan	Richardson, TX
Tammy Lisko	St. Pete Beach, FL	Kimberly Thompson	Brentwood, TN
Tammy S. Lisko, P.A.	St. Pete Beach, FL	Linda Wright	Rogers, AR
Laura Martin	Blytheville, AR		

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TERM: 2018 – 2023



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FAYETTEVILLE
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TERM: 2017 – 2022

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 101 East Capitol, Suite 450
 Little Rock, AR 72201

Moving? Please Notify the Board Office of Your New Address

The rules and regulations require all licensees to notify the ASBPA of all such changes by sending a change of address form to the office. Please include a street address to facilitate any express mail deliveries. Click [here](#) to change your address, or complete and mail in the form below:



Name: _____

Employer: _____ License#: _____

Old Address: _____ New Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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