



Grants to Help Students Overcome COVID-19 Hardships

AICPA Foundation to offer \$2,000 grants for helping students overcome COVID-19 hardships

If you're a student who's been directly affected by the coronavirus pandemic, consider applying for the AICPA's new Student Hardship Grant.

This grant provides up to \$2,000 for a total of 25 students who have experienced monetary hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to assist with educational related expenses (e.g. tuition and books).

For details and more information, or to apply for the grant, go to:

www.thiswaytocpa.com/education/scholarship-search/student-hardship-grant/



Funded by the AICPA Foundation, this one-time grant provides up to \$2,000 for those needing financial assistance related to school expenses. Learn about eligibility requirements and apply by **August 16, 2020**.



AICPA Certificate Program for Student Members

The AICPA Certificate Program offers AICPA Student Affiliate Members and faculty access to AICPA technology certificates for up to 80% off regular prices. With more than a dozen emerging and in-demand topics in the accounting profession to choose from, the certificates provide continued learning with completion times anywhere from three hours to several days.

Topics include:

- Cybersecurity
- Blockchain
- Data Analysis
- Fundamentals of Forensic Accounting
- Robotic Process Automation

Courses can be taken individually or as a group to elevate an entire curriculum. For more information, please contact Danielle Eiler, Associate Manager, Academic and Student Engagement, email: Danielle.Eiler@aicpa-cima.com.

This program provides knowledge in a variety of subject areas to help connect traditional accounting curriculum with its day-to-day practices. The certifications are developed and offered by the AICPA.

Want to know if you are you eligible for Student Affiliate membership?

If you can answer YES to this statement, you are eligible:

I am a full-time or part-time student at a U.S. or non-U.S. college or university and do not already qualify for a CPA license.

In addition, you will be required to agree to be governed by and comply with the AICPA Bylaws and Code of Professional Conduct.

Dual membership with the Arkansas Society of CPAs and the AICPA connects you with the two essential organizations established to support you on your journey to becoming a successful CPA — from college, to the CPA Exam, and beyond. Sign up for membership in both with one application.

Join for free! Complete the application online: <https://thiswaytocpa.com/program/AR>

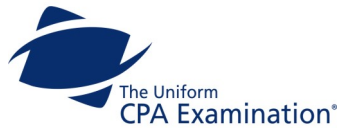


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Continuous Testing Begins for U.S. CPA Exam



NASBA, AICPA and Prometric to Begin Year-Round Testing for the U.S. CPA Exam

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and Prometric are launching year-round testing of the Uniform CPA Examination (Exam) beginning today. 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.

“Continuous testing has been a goal for some time, and it comes in direct response to feedback from CPA Exam candidates and their desire to test more frequently throughout the year. NASBA is proud to work in collaboration with the AICPA, Prometric and the 55 U.S. Boards of Accountancy to continue to ensure the security of the Exam and to implement a successful transition,” shared NASBA Executive Vice President & COO Colleen Conrad, CPA.

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. NASBA has created a Continuous Testing Status Map, which tracks the status of states with continuous testing.

CPA Exam candidates are encouraged to refer to the map often for updates. The map and a video of the continuous testing model can be accessed here:

<https://nasba.org/exams/continuous-testing/>

“Increasing candidate convenience is one of our top priorities,” said Michael A. Decker, AICPA vice president of Examinations. “The move to continuous testing will give candidates the flexibility to develop a personal testing schedule that works best for them.”

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. Additional information is available in this [short informational video](#).

About NASBA

Since 1908, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) has served as a forum for the nation’s Boards of Accountancy, which administer the Uniform CPA Examination, license more than 650,000 certified public accountants and regulate the practice of public accountancy in the United States. NASBA’s mission is to enhance the effectiveness and advance the common interests of the Boards of Accountancy in meeting their regulatory responsibilities. The Association promotes the exchange of information among accountancy boards, serving the needs of the 55 U.S. jurisdictions. NASBA is headquartered in Nashville, TN, with a satellite office in New York, NY, an International Computer Testing and Call Center in Guam and operations in San Juan, PR. To learn more about NASBA, visit www.nasba.org.

About the American Institute of CPAs

The American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) is the world’s largest member association representing the CPA profession, with more than 431,000 members in 137 countries and territories, and a history of serving the public interest since 1887. AICPA members represent many areas of practice, including business and industry, public practice, government, education and consulting. The AICPA sets ethical standards for its members and U.S. auditing standards for private companies, nonprofit organizations, federal, state and local governments. It develops and grades the Uniform CPA Examination, offers specialized credentials, builds the pipeline of future talent and drives professional competency development to advance the vitality, relevance and quality of the profession. The AICPA maintains offices in New York, Washington, DC, Durham, NC, and Ewing, NJ. Media representatives are invited to visit the AICPA Press Center at www.aicpa.org/press.

About Prometric

Prometric enables test sponsors worldwide to advance their credentialing programs through test development and delivery solutions that set the standard in quality and service excellence. It offers a comprehensive and reliable approach to advising, developing, managing and delivering programs in an integrated, technology-enabled environment across the world’s most secure testing network or through the conveniences of online testing services, delivering more than seven million tests each year in more than 180 countries. <http://prometric.com>



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Next Stop: CPA – an official CPA Exam podcast

Check out the AICPA's Next Stop: CPA podcast, with topics ranging from exam content and study strategies to career opportunities.

It's a must-listen for anyone pursuing the CPA. New episodes drop each month in the iTunes podcast app and Google Play. Search for "Next Stop: CPA" and subscribe.

podcast



Student Conferences Discounts

Student members may attend ARCPA conferences for just \$15! (we're not kidding!) Meet and network with professionals and prospective future employers at any of these ARCPA events for \$15 each:

- End of Busy Season CPE & Fish Fry
- Industry Commerce & Banking Conference
- Equip Conference
- Fraud Conference
- Agriculture Conference
- AR Federal Tax Institute

Call ARCPA to register: (501) 664-8739 or (800) 482-8739.

Becker CPA Review

Arkansas Society of CPAs associate or student members can receive a discount on the Becker Professional CPA Review for the full 4-part review course. Save \$300 off of the full 4-part review of either Live, Online, or CD-Rom self study review course format. Becker CPA Review classes correspond with the exam testing windows that you select.

For more information on this member service, or to access ARCPA preferred pricing with Becker, ARCPA members should visit the partner page, www.becker.com/arkansascpaspp.

Surgent CPA Review

Surgent CPA Review can help students prepare for the CPA Exam-during or after their undergraduate or graduate education. The 100% online course utilizes a state-of-the-art adaptive learning platform that shortens study time and improves retention allowing students to prepare and pass faster! Enrollment includes access to 350+ 20 minute-or-less video lectures, a test bank of over 7,700 multiple-choice questions, over 400 simulations, customized study guides, and unlimited practice exams.

ARCPA members receive a 35% off all four-part CPA Review courses with code **ARCPASK53**. Contact Surgent at 800-778-7436 or cpareview@surgent.com to place your order or visit www.surgentcpareview.com and enter code at checkout to receive.

Wiley CPA Review

As an ARCPA member, you are entitled to a 20% discount on all Wiley CPAexcel products, including the popular Wiley CPAexcel Platinum Course featuring Bite-sized Lessons and 12,000 AICPA CPA Exam practice questions.

To redeem the 20% discount, visit www.wileycpaexcel.com or call 888-884-5669 to order. Enter code ASCPA at checkout.

Roger CPA Review

Roger CPA Review is a team dedicated to helping students successfully prepare for the CPA Exam with the industry's most Efficient, Effective and Enjoyable eLearning system. ARCPA members qualify for exclusive savings of up to \$434 from Roger CPA Review!

Receive 15% off all Courses and Products, from full service Course Packages, study tools such as Flashcards, Audio Lectures, and more! Simple, no-fee financing options available. For more information call 877-764-4272 or contact Toni Williams at twilliams@rogercpareview.com

CPA Review Courses



Become A Student Member Today! Membership is Free

Join Arkansas Society of CPAs (ARCPA) & American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) in one step

Dual membership with the Arkansas Society of CPAs and the AICPA connects you with the two essential organizations established to support you on your journey to becoming a successful CPA — from college, to the CPA Exam, and beyond. Sign up for membership in both with one application.

Join for free! Complete the Application Online: <https://thiswaytocpa.com/program/AR>

The Most In Demand Jobs on LinkedIn for June 2020

By Cesar Zulaica Pineyro

As COVID-19 lockdowns begin to lift, job seeking has surged back to pre-pandemic levels. And while hiring has only just started to recover, there's still substantial and growing demand for a number of jobs.

Learning about the hottest jobs can be crucial for employers: If you're hiring, it's good to know where you'll face the most competition, and can help manage expectations and inform compensation decisions.

New LinkedIn data on job postings from the past month shows how employers are prioritizing a broad mix of roles — from frontline jobs now recognized as essential, to operational roles that can help bring businesses back on track. One of the most sought-after roles on the market, however, has not changed since before the pandemic — software engineer.

This post is part of a monthly series where we will track the most in-demand jobs in the world and focus on the up-and-coming roles on the market, helping you inform your hiring strategy and outlook.

The most in-demand jobs overall include frontline roles responding to COVID-19

Nurses, drivers, and retail and food service workers have always been essential, but the pandemic has made their importance even more obvious, as this list reflects. Here are the roles that had the most job postings on LinkedIn in May:

The Most In-Demand Jobs

- Software Engineer
- Nurse
- Salesperson
- Driver
- Supermarket Department Specialist
- Certified Public Accountant
- Project Manager
- Store Associate
- Supply Chain Associate
- Food Service Worker

Nurses are the second-most in-demand job, as hospitals across the world continue to battle COVID-19. Many hospitals are struggling financially as elective procedures are pushed off, but healthcare systems still have a high need for frontline clinicians. (Note that LinkedIn has given free premium job posts to healthcare organizations and other essential businesses since April, which may affect these lists.)

Accountants, project managers, and supply chain managers help businesses run like well-oiled machines, playing a critical role in maintaining operations. These roles are all the more important as companies deal with unprecedented volatility and on-the-fly adjustments.

Software developer and engineering roles often top lists of this sort, as companies across every industry increasingly need tech talent. In a recent LinkedIn survey, 85% of software workers said they can be effective working remotely — a stat that may explain why demand for these roles has not been considerably affected. Similarly, sales roles have long been in high demand — and are especially important in a moment when many consumers and clients are tightening their purse strings.

Demand is growing fastest for these roles in accounting, learning, and retail

While the previous list was ranked by overall volume of job posts, this next list will reveal which roles saw the biggest monthly increases — in other words, where demand is growing fastest. Because of that, it magnifies some key short-term trends: the return of retail and a focus on operations. Just this week, the U.S. reported that retail sales rose by 17.7% in May, the largest monthly increase on record.

Here are the roles with the greatest increase in job posts in May:

Jobs with the Fastest Growing Demand

- Certified Public Accountant
- Training Supervisor
- Cashier
- Associate
- Supply Chain Assistant
- Freelance Engineer
- Support Associate
- Food Clerk
- Translation Specialist
- Marketing Strategy Consultant

Certified Public Accountants are the sixth most in-demand job overall, but they top the list of jobs with the fastest growing demand. That could be because this tax season has been more unpredictable than most, and the fact that many businesses are seeing their finances strained.

Demand for training supervisors has also skyrocketed recently — probably because many companies and workers are using this time to reskill. LinkedIn Learning, for example, reported a 3x increase in time spent learning after the outbreak of COVID-19. Interestingly, two of the jobs showing the fastest growth are for contractor roles: freelance engineer and marketing strategy consultant. This could indicate that companies are looking for extra flexibility or aren't ready to commit to new full-time employees yet.

Methodology

Based on global LinkedIn data on all premium job posts in May. The most in-demand jobs are those with the highest number of job posts. The jobs with the fastest growing demand are those with the biggest percentage growth in the number of job posts, from April 2020 to May 2020; jobs with fewer than 500 job posts in April were excluded.

Source: LinkedIn Talent Blog



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