

UAPB Student Shares About Intern Experience at EY

Chikomborero Musinga, an accounting student at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, recently completed a summer internship at EY, in the global firm’s Minneapolis, Minnesota office.

As a Financial Services Organization Launch Intern, Musinga gained valuable experience working with numerous financial industry experts, according to a news release.

EY is an IT service and consulting company working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions. With more than 700 locations in more than 150 countries, EY provides local knowledge with global experience. (More about EY www.ey.com/en_us)



“Words cannot describe how grateful I am for the incredible journey I’ve had during my summer internship at EY. The rotation through FSO Audit and Tax has been an eye-opening experience that pushed me to develop personally and professionally,” Musinga said.

“I had the privilege of collaborating with some of the most knowledgeable and supportive professionals, who generously shared their expertise and guided me through various projects. This experience has sharpened my skills and helped me build lasting connections,” she said.

Musinga, who is vice president of UAPB’s Accounting Club, adds that she is “eager to apply” what she has learned as she advances in her career. Musinga is pursuing a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Accounting. She is a member of the Carolyn F. Blakely Honors Program, the National Association of Black Accountants, and a student member of the Arkansas Society of CPAs. She was a Fellow with UAPB’s Emerging Scholars Leadership Academy from January to May 2023.

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ARCPA Mock CPA Exam Hosted by Surgent

Are you truly ready to pass the CPA Exam? Have you studied enough? Are you focusing on the right material? There is only one way to find out, give it a try! Sign up for the free virtual event on **Thursday, September 19, 2024**.

Students and non-certified Associate members are invited to participate in a live 4-hour mock CPA Exam (virtual) workshop hosted by the Arkansas Society of CPAs and Surgent CPA Review. This unique opportunity will allow you to experience what it is like to sit for any CPA Exam section as you immerse yourself in questions pulled from the actual CPA Exam Blueprints. Plus, you will receive your own personalized ReadySCORE (an accurate measurement of your actual exam score) as well as a detailed report showing your areas of strength and weakness for that section.

Don't go into exam day unprepared. Find out if you are ready - sign up today for this free virtual event!

To Register: <https://www.arcpa.org/become-a-cpa/mock-cpa-exam>

For questions, contact Robin Harris at ARCPA (501) 664-8739, or email rharris@arcpa.org



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Blair Trotter, CPA

Blair Trotter, CPA, is a Corporate Controller for Central States Manufacturing, in Tontitown. She is a native of Fayetteville, AR, and an alumna of the University of Arkansas (& study abroad with CIMBA (Italy) and London School of Economics). She is serving a three-year term on the ARCPA Board of Directors.

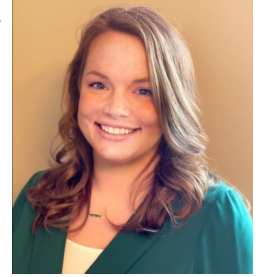
What is your first experience or favorite memory of your involvement with ARCPA?

I had the privilege of being part of the ARCPA's inaugural Leadership Academy in 2019. This initiative proved invaluable for my personal growth while facilitating connections with upcoming leaders statewide. Inspired by this experience, I stepped up as a leader within my local chapter and later had the opportunity to represent Industry CPAs at ARCPA's strategic planning retreat in 2022. I encourage all members to actively engage with their local chapters and, if possible, consider applying for participation in the next LEAD program.

What favorite activities/hobbies/volunteerism do you do in your spare time?

As a dedicated Razorback fan, you'll often find me cheering on our various teams, especially baseball, softball, gymnastics, and football. When there aren't events in Fayetteville, I enjoy escaping to Bull Shoals Lake or embarking on impromptu weekend getaways. Over the past few years, I've been involved with the Fayetteville Junior Civic League, playing a role in raising a remarkable \$132,000 to benefit 23 nonprofit organizations just this past spring! I'm also a member

of the Sam M. Walton College Dean's Alumni Advisory Council, the Zeta Tau Alpha Alumnae Chapter, and serve on the Advisory Board for the Springdale branch of Signature Bank of Arkansas.



Best advice for students about becoming a CPA, or taking the CPA Exam?

Start early and stay committed. While you'll have to make sacrifices while you spend your spare time studying, stay motivated and remember the long-term goals you'll be able to achieve and the benefits that will come with earning your CPA license.

Why did you become a CPA?

I pursued the CPA due to my inherent aptitude for numbers and passion for understanding business operations. It also helped that I've always looked up to my dad and wanted to be a CPA just like him! Beginning my professional journey in public accounting allowed me to engage with diverse clients and industries, recognizing that obtaining my CPA license was crucial for advancement within this field. Beyond public accounting, holding a CPA license opens doors to a multitude of professional opportunities across various sectors. With the CPA designation, individuals are equipped with a comprehensive understanding of financial principles, taxation regulations, and auditing standards, making them highly sought-after assets in industries such as finance, consulting, and corporate management.

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AICPA Foundation CPA Exam Scholarship

Applications for the CPA Exam Scholarship are open! Apply by Sept. 30 to earn up to \$1,000 for the CPA Exam and review material costs. Eighty recipients will be selected for the scholarships. Applications will close on September 30, just prior to midnight Eastern Time.

For eligibility information or to learn more:
<https://bit.ly/4aGMXee>



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Review us on Google
Arkansas Society of CPAs

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 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 <https://www.becker.com/arcpaPP>.

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% discount on the Surgent CPA exam review course! These state-of-the-art online lectures provide a customized study program, access that doesn't expire, and a pass guarantee with every course. Studying with Surgent means less stress for you—and a faster path to passing the CPA Exam. Learn more: www.surgentcpareview.com/partners/arkansas-society-of-cpas/

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.

UWorld Roger CPA Review

ARCPA members save 20% off the Unlimited access course! Prepare to pass the CPA Exam with exceptional course materials that make difficult concepts easy to understand. Proven with a 91% pass rate, we proudly serve the accounting profession's top educators, employers and professional organizations to ensure success for future CPAs.

Learn more, at <https://accounting.uworld.com/cpa-review/lp/partner-organizations/>

CPA Review Courses



Become A Student Member Today! Membership is Free

Join Arkansas Society of CPAs (ARCPA) for free. Apply Online: <https://www.arcpa.org/join>

UAPB Student Interns at EY (Cont'd)

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Musinga is currently a senior at UAPB, and plans to work for a public accounting firm after graduation and later pursue a master's degree.

Accounting is not about being a math scholar, UAPB's website states, "The Department of Accounting in UAPB's School of Business & Management offers a well-rounded curriculum that sharpens analytical and communication skills while preparing students like Chikomborero Musinga to be the key to evaluating financial data that is critical to the growth of one's organization," according to a news release.

"Accounting can be rewarding for students who are dedicated, driven, and committed to earning their degree. Start building your future today by exploring the diverse and rewarding programs the Department of Accounting offers at UAPB," according to the university's news release.

(Musinga shows her enthusiasm for being selected as an intern at EY)



Arkansas Society of CPAs

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AICPA Career Launchpad

AICPA & CIMA have created a Career Launchpad. The Career Launchpad is a resource for AICPA student members. Any college student thinking about their first job is encouraged to check it out! Designed for the AICPA® & CIMA® Student Community, this comprehensive tool provides five free modules that offer invaluable resources, expert tips for building a resume, essential tools and effective strategies to elevate job searching skills. It includes over an hour of interviews with CPAs from across industries who share their "why" with students - why they chose accounting, why the CPA, and why they love it!

What to expect from each module:

- Career pathways, including advice & behind-the-scenes information from accountants across industries (Module 1)
- Navigate the accounting industry, benefits, and work-life balance (Module 2)
- Real-life case studies (Module 3)
- Enhance your resume/CV, cultivating skills, and crafting your LinkedIn profile (Module 4)
- Ace the interview (Module 5)

Students may also earn up to three digital badges by completing the modules.

Badge 1: Career Launchpad, Module 1-5 will be earned upon completion of the first five modules.

Badge 2: Career Launchpad, Module 6 is earned for those completing at least one mock interview in the AI tool.

Badge 3: Career Launchpad with AICPA & CIMA is earned for those completing all course modules.

Students can sign up (or sign in if already members) at www.thiswaytocpa.com/Career-Launchpad.

Visit us on the web!

www.arcpa.org