

SAU Student Shares About Internship Experience

Where did you intern this past summer and what was your role?

This past summer I had the opportunity to intern with Crews & Associates in Little Rock, Arkansas. Crews & Associates is a full-service investment banking firm that has served the community for more than 40 years. They've built a strong reputation nationwide for helping individuals, communities, and other institutions navigate changing markets and exceed financial goals.

A few of my everyday responsibilities as an accounting intern included updating the company's inventory, recording journal entries, and assisting in sending payments. I also had the opportunity to help with month-end tasks such as account reconciliations, reviewing expense analysis reports, and much more.

How did you find out about this internship opportunity?

I learned about this opportunity by researching available internships in my area. LinkedIn and Handshake are two great networking tools that students can use to research individuals, companies, and internship opportunities in their region. LinkedIn is especially helpful for students working on personal branding, professional networking, and gaining company insights. As I mentioned earlier, it also provides internship opportunities. Handshake, on the other hand, allows students to find companies that match their specific needs while also offering exclusive opportunities for universities that use the platform.

Did this experience change your career goals or perspective on your field?

This experience reinforced my passion for accounting and my interest in pursuing a career in the field. I gained more knowledge and broadened my perspective on the various paths available within accounting.

How did this internship help you grow professionally and personally?

Through this internship, I gained valuable communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills. I believe these experiences have helped me become a better leader and a stronger future employee.

Did you have opportunities to network with professionals in your industry?

Yes, I had many opportunities to build personal connections with professionals within the company. I listened to their valuable advice and asked important questions that I felt would help me advance in my professional career.

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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, June 12 @ 1:00 p.m.**

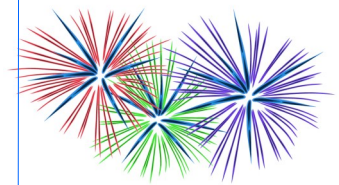
Students and non-certified Associate members are invited to participate in a live 4-hour mock CPA Exam (virtual) workshop hosted by the Arkansas Society of CPAs and Surgent CPA Review. This unique opportunity will allow you to experience what it is like to sit for any CPA Exam section as you immerse 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) and 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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Ross Townsend, CPA

Ross is an alumnus of Arkansas Tech University. He is an Audit Manager at Landmark PLC, CPAs in Little Rock, where he has worked for over four years. His hobbies include golf, hunting, and spending time with family. His pets are two Aussie-doodles named Darci and Dani.



What is your favorite thing to do on the weekend?

Watch golf and hang out with my family

Favorite vacation spot?

San Pedro, Belize

Name something you can't live without.

My family and my faith

Favorite phone or tablet app?

I don't really have a favorite app, but I probably use OnX Hunt maps the most.

Best concert you have ever attended?

Luke Combs

Name something you would like to do if given the chance

I would love to attend the Masters (golf tournament).

Why did you choose to become a CPA

I have always had an interest in accounting since high school, but it was not my initial choice. However, after one semester of electrical engineering, it was enough for me to know that I did not want to continue. I knew from others that becoming a CPA was a good path for a great career, so it seemed like the best choice. Once I graduated from college, it was important for me to

become a CPA so I knew what I could accomplish. Now I understand how important the role of a CPA is within any organization, for-profit or non-profit. They are at the forefront of making it possible to further the mission of the organization by ensuring their financial success.

If you weren't a CPA, what would you do instead?

I like to think that if I were not a CPA, I would have become an engineer of some kind.

What is your daily work routine like? How do you structure your day to be most efficient and organized?

My daily work routine usually starts by making a to-do list or looking at my to-do list if I compiled one the day before. After that, I check my emails for anything that needs my immediate attention. Once all of this is done, I start on my work for the day and check in on my open audits.

Name something that being a CPA has allowed you to do.

One of the many benefits of becoming a CPA and working in public accounting is flexibility. Being able to work remotely or in the office and finding time to get other things done while still working are some of my favorite things about public accounting.

What advice would you give to students about becoming a CPA or preparing for the CPA Exam?

The best advice I have for students is to just jump right into studying for the CPA. While you are in school, you are already in the routines and habits that will make studying for the CPA more manageable. Breaking out a set time in your busy schedule to study was what worked for me. This way you can get the studying in and not feel any guilt or stress trying to cram it in when you find time. Even when it gets tough, it is important that you just keep going. The exam is a marathon, and to finish, you have to put in the work and just keep going.

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Guide to Public Accounting Booklet Now Online

The Guide to Public Accounting Firms is a booklet which is printed annually and distributed to ARCPA student members and department heads of colleges and universities in the state. It contains a directory of public accounting firms where students may seek internships or employment. The Guide includes articles on the CPA Exam and offers information for employment search, writing a resume, interview tips, and more. Check it out!

View the Guide online at www.arcpa.org then click on the Students menu, or go to <https://www.arcpa.org/become-a-cpa/guide-to-public-accounting-firms>



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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.

Becker+

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.

Surgent

CPA Review

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/

UWorld 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



SAU Student Internship at Crews & Associates (Cont'd)

What was the best advice you received from a mentor or supervisor?

Some of the best advice I received from my supervisor and coworkers was to always ask questions. They emphasized the importance of understanding the work I was doing. Asking questions, clarifying concepts, and seeking to learn more demonstrated my commitment and helped solidify the knowledge I gained in both the classroom and the workplace.

What advice would you give to students looking for internships?

Don't be afraid to reach out to local businesses when searching for an internship. SAU Career Services also hosts a career and internship fair, which is a great opportunity for students to connect with potential employers.

Annabel is from Benton, AR. She is a senior accounting student expecting to graduate in May of 2025. After Annabel graduates, she plans to move back home and begin her job as an Associate Auditor for Arkansas Legislative Audit. While she starts her journey as an auditor, Annabel will also begin studying for her CPA license.

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Annabel Minor

Join the ARCPA Mentorship Program

Join the ARCPA Mentorship Program

The Arkansas Society of CPAs (ARCPA) is accepting mentors and mentees for the 2025/26 program.

Are you looking to take the next step in your accounting journey? The ARCPA is excited to offer you a unique opportunity to be matched with a licensed CPA through our new Mentorship Program!

This is your chance to:

- Receive personalized career guidance from a CPA
- Learn what a career in accounting *really* looks like
- Get tips on preparing for the CPA exam and landing your first job
- Build your professional network

Gain insights from someone who once stood exactly where you are now



Whether you're just getting started or preparing to graduate, this mentorship program is designed to support you at any stage of your accounting path.

Sign up today to become a mentee!

<https://fs17.formsite.com/arcpa/form19/index>



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