

## CPA Evolution Update

CPA Evolution is a joint initiative of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The initiative is transforming the CPA licensure model to reflect the rapidly changing skills and competencies the accounting profession requires today and will require in the future. It will put in place a flexible and adaptable licensure approach that will serve as the foundation for future-proofing the CPA profession.

Over three years, NASBA and the AICPA gathered input from more than 3,000 stakeholders from across the profession on how to transform CPA licensure and meet the needs of the marketplace. During these conversations, several key themes became clear:

- The profession supports the need to change the CPA licensure model
- Newly licensed CPAs should all demonstrate strong common core competencies
- The new CPA licensure model should position the CPA for the future

The new CPA licensure model should continue to protect the public interest

Based on this feedback and lessons learned from studying other

international and domestic licensure models, NASBA and the AICPA developed a new approach to CPA licensure. In 2020, both the AICPA Governing Council and the NASBA Board of Directors voted to support advancement of the CPA Evolution initiative. The AICPA and NASBA are now moving forward with implementing the new model.

### What is the new licensure model?

The new CPA licensure model takes a core + discipline approach, starting with a deep and strong core in accounting, auditing, tax and technology that all candidates will be required to complete. Each candidate will also choose a discipline in which to demonstrate deeper skills and knowledge. Regardless of chosen discipline, this model leads to full CPA licensure, with rights and privileges consistent with any other CPA. A discipline selected for testing will not mean the CPA is limited to that practice area.

This model:

- Enhances public protection by producing candidates who have the deep knowledge necessary to perform high-quality work, meeting the needs of organizations, firms and the public.
- Is responsive to feedback, as it builds accounting, auditing, tax and

technology knowledge requirements into a robust common core.

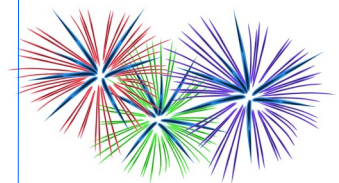
- Reflects the realities of practice, requiring deeper proven knowledge in one of three disciplines that are pillars of the profession.
- Is adaptive and flexible, helping to future-proof the CPA as the profession continues to evolve.
- Results in one CPA license.

### What does this mean for the Uniform CPA Examination?

The specific content of the core and the disciplines will be determined by a CPA Exam practice analysis, which is currently underway.

Practice analyses — gathering information about the current and future state of the profession and the work of newly licensed CPAs — are conducted periodically as part of the AICPA's ongoing efforts to make sure the Exam is current and to maintain its the validity and reliability. The current practice analysis will likely wrap up in 2022, and an Exam Blueprint will be exposed for public comment in mid-2022.

The AICPA and NASBA expect the new Exam will launch in January 2024.



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## CPA Exam Evolution Update (cont'd)

### What's next for students and CPA candidates?

Aspiring CPAs who are college freshmen now will be among the first to take the overhauled version of the CPA Exam when it launches in 2024. Current CPA candidates will be able to sit for the current CPA Exam until the launch of the new Exam, and a transition plan is being developed for candidates who have started but not completed the CPA Exam process as of January 2024.

Under the new model, the AICPA and NASBA expect to attract students that today wouldn't necessarily choose the CPA route, but who are becoming more critical to the success of the CPA profession.

### How are the AICPA and NASBA supporting accounting academic programs and educators?

Accounting educators will play a vital role in preparing students to pursue the CPA under this new licensure model. The AICPA and NASBA are committed to helping educators every step of the way.

The AICPA and NASBA have engaged with faculty and practitioner volunteers to build a model curriculum that aligns with the core + discipline licensure model. The model curriculum will launch this June, and updates will be posted on the website [EvolutionofCPA.org](https://www.evolutionofcpa.org).

Faculty can also access the Academic Resource Hub, a free database of content from the AICPA, accounting firms, academics and AICPA teaching-award winners that will help faculty

prepare students for the rapidly evolving demands of the profession. The hub contains over 200 resources for a range of class levels on topics like data analytics and cybersecurity to use in classroom instruction.

Throughout 2021, the AICPA will be holding a series of faculty webinars including regular updates on CPA Evolution and deep dives into emerging topics to include in accounting courses.

As CPA Evolution continues to progress, please check back for updates at [EvolutionofCPA.org](https://www.EvolutionofCPA.org).

For questions, please email [Feedback@EvolutionofCPA.org](mailto:Feedback@EvolutionofCPA.org).

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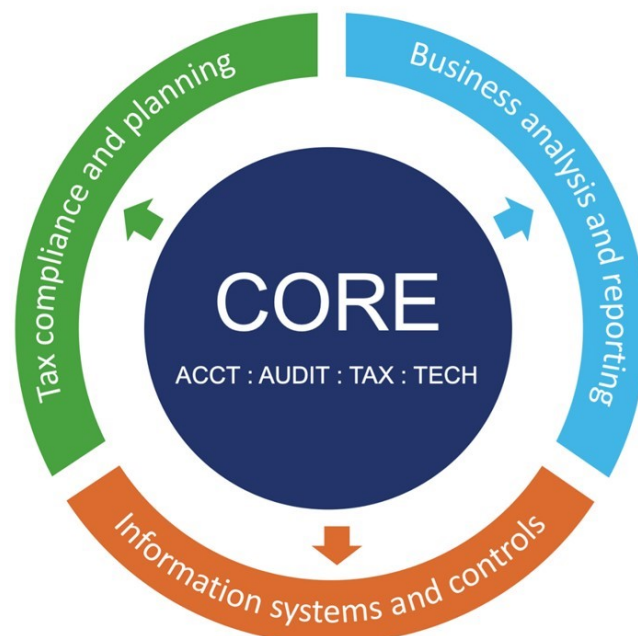
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Crystal McKee



= CPA

## CPA Exam Prep Workshops & Scholarships

Sign Up for these free workshops by UWorld Roger CPA Review.

### Free Workshops:

#### Envision Your CPA Careers

Fri. March 12 @ Noon CST.  
<https://bit.ly/3bwtvRQ>

#### How to Pass the 2021 CPA Exam

Tues. March 16 @ 2:00 pm CST.  
<https://bit.ly/3eniZSR>

#### CPA Exam Game Plan

Weds. March 17 @ Noon CST.  
Sign Up: <https://bit.ly/3v3T48Z>

#### Regional Scholarships

<https://cutt.ly/YzzM9oK>  
Deadline is 3/31/21.

#### National Scholarships:

<https://bit.ly/3vaxYpg>  
Deadline is 4/19/21.



## 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](http://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](mailto:cpareview@surgent.com) to place your order or visit [www.surgentcpareview.com](http://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](http://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) & 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>

## 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](mailto: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>



### Arkansas Society of CPAs

11300 Executive Center Drive  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211  
501.664.8739  
800.482.8739 in Arkansas  
Fax: 501.664.8320  
Email: [rharris@arcpa.org](mailto:rharris@arcpa.org)

## Scholarship Opportunity

Future CPAs from under-represented demographics should consider the George Willie Ethnically Diverse Scholarship & Internship program.

Qualified candidates who apply by **April 16**, at 2:00 p.m. CST, could earn up to \$10,000 towards tuition and secure an invaluable internship through from the AICPA's Private Company Practice Section.

AICPA and PCPS will award up to \$10K per awarded recipients for the final year of tuition towards an accounting degree. Funds are paid directly to the school prior to each semester. Selected applicants will also participate in a busy season internship (Jan-April 2022) with one of the participating co-sponsor firms.

For list of possible firms: <https://thiswaytocpa.com/education/scholarship-search/georgewillie-scholarship-internship/>

Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Plan to pursue the CPA credential
- Minority student of Black or African American; Hispanic or Latino; Native American or Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; Multiethnic or Asian American
- Enrolled on a full-time basis and plan to remain enrolled full-time for the upcoming academic year

- Completed at least 120 hours of course work and have 30 hours or fewer of upper-level accounting courses remaining prior to the upcoming academic year (working toward completing the 150-hour credit requirement for CPA licensure)

- Availability for an internship during the 2022 busy season (January – April)

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident (green card holder)

Be an AICPA Student Affiliate member (or have submitted a new member application). Apply online at no cost:

<https://thiswaytocpa.com/join-aicpa>

Visit us on the web!

[www.arcpa.org](http://www.arcpa.org)