



Utah Board of Accountancy Board Report

<https://dopl.utah.gov/cpa/index.html>

Spring 2019

Board Members

Wade K. Watkins, CPA, Chair

K. Tim Larsen, CPA

Michael T. Gregory, CPA

Carey D. Woolsey, CPA

VACANT/resignation (Public Member)

Board Staff

Bureau Manager:

Robyn Barkdull - rbarkdull@utah.gov

Board Secretary:

Sharon Smalley - ssmalley@utah.gov

Contact Information

Division of Occupational &

Professional Licensing

P.O. Box 146741

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6741

801-530-6628

<https://dopl.utah.gov/cpa>

2019 Board Meetings

May 1

June 5

August 7

September 4

October 2

November 6

Board meeting schedules are subject to change. If you have any questions

please contact the Board office at

(801) 530-6628. Meetings may

include public and non-public

sessions. The Utah Board of

Accountancy meets in the Heber Wells

Building, 160 E 300 So., Salt Lake City,

UT 84114, 4th Floor at 1:30 p.m.

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Wade Watkins, CPA - Chair, Utah Board of Accountancy



On behalf of the board, I am pleased to invite you to review the Utah Board of Accountancy's first electronic newsletter. We are pleased to offer this service and hope you will find it useful. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact us at the Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing (801) 530-6628 or email B8@utah.gov. We welcome your comments.

The Utah Board of Accountancy is a five member board created by the legislature whose members are appointed by the Governor and Executive Director of Commerce for four-year terms. Four of the five members are licensed certified public accountants and one member represents the general public at large. The mission of the board is to review and recommend policy and rule changes; make recommendations on licensing and renewals; assist the division in reviewing complaints concerning the unlawful or unprofessional conduct of a licensee; and advise the division in its investigation of these complaints to protect the public. The Board performs its duties with the assistance of the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing staff and the Office of the Attorney General.

It is my pleasure to serve currently as Board Chair. I believe that our overall mandate as members of the Utah Board of Accountancy is to help protect the public interest. We cannot do that without the help of the staff at DOPL and the Utah Association of CPAs. Thank you!

We are in an exciting time of change for CPAs and the accounting profession. Blockchain, AI and Cloud computing are transforming the accounting, finance and tax industries. It is more important than ever that we help ensure that those entering, and within the accounting profession, are properly licensed, and their skills are up-to-date.

The majority of issues that come before the State Board of Accountancy are a result of individual CPAs or firms not understanding the Utah Accountancy law and rules. As a result, we are in the process of opening the Utah Accountancy rules to update them to help clarify what individual licensees and firms need to do to be properly licensed and adhere to the rules and regulations of the state and the profession.

I encourage you to get involved in the process and take the time necessary to understand what is required of licensed CPAs and firms in the State of Utah.

Please visit our website: <https://dopl.utah.gov/cpa/> to find current information including links to the laws governing our profession, as well as resources for applicants, licensees and consumers.

SERVING YOUR INDUSTRY

We have an exciting volunteer opportunity to serve as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) for the PSI CPA Laws and Rules Examination. The Department of Occupational and Professional Licensing is seeking exceptional individuals to serve on a committee that will review and audit the current examination. Good News! Time served on the committee goes toward your Continuing Education licensing requirements. To be qualified as an SME, you must have a license in good standing and be working in the area that the exam is focused on. If you are interested in serving as an SME please contact Jenna Mayne at jennamayne@utah.gov or at (801)530-6256.

SPEAK UP!

The Utah Board of Accountancy is currently reviewing R156-26a – Certified Public Accountant Licensing Act Rule. The purpose of the review is to determine if each section contains relevant information, as well as clear and concise language. All Utah CPA's study R156-26a, as well as 58-26a – Certified Public Accountant Licensing Act each two year licensing period as part of the CPE requirement. This is an opportunity for licensees to communicate to the Board and DOPL staff regarding any issues in the Rule you believe need to be addressed. Please submit your comments to B8@utah.gov. All comments will be reviewed by the Board for consideration.



UTAH LEGISLATURE CHANGES EXAM HOUR REQUIREMENT

HB159, Certified Public Accountant Exam Amendments, passed in the 2019 legislative session, modifies the number of hours required to sit for the Uniform CPA Exam. Beginning May 15, 2019, Utah CPA candidates who demonstrate completion of at least 120 semester hours or 180 quarter hours may now apply to take the Uniform CPA Exam. Utah continues to require a CPA applicant to submit transcripts showing completion of 150 total education hours as defined and clarified in R156-26a-302a before being granted a CPA license.

CANDIDATE PERFORMANCE ON THE UNIFORM CPA EXAM

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) released the *Candidate Performance on the Uniform CPA Examination – Jurisdiction Edition, 2017* and *Candidate Performance on the Uniform CPA Examination – University Edition, 2017*. Both publications feature comprehensive, statistical data from all (4) testing windows (AUD, BEC, FAR, REG) of the 2017 Uniform CPA Examination (Examination).

The *Jurisdiction Edition* provides a broad view of Uniform CPA Examination trends from around the world. In 2017, the jurisdictions with the highest pass rates were: **Utah (61.79%)**, Wisconsin (57.60%) and Missouri (57.59%). Performance metrics also indicate 95,654 candidates took the Examination in 2017 (of which 71,199 were new candidates) with 25,834 candidates passing their fourth section of the Examination.

Background data for these publications was obtained from the Boards of Accountancy's submission of eligible candidate information into NASBA's Gateway System, and then analyzed and assembled by Editor, Noël Winter, and Contributing Editors, Greg Gaynor, Ph.D., CPA, Mark M. Ulrich, CPA, and H. Fred Mittelstaedt, Ph.D.

Average Pass Rate

1. Utah – 61.79%



In ranking order

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Utah – 61.79% | 6. North Carolina – 54.79% |
| 2. Wisconsin – 57.60% | 7. South Carolina – 54.77% |
| 3. Missouri – 57.59% | 8. Colorado – 54.70% |
| 4. South Dakota – 56.61% | 9. Massachusetts – 54.60% |
| 5. Nebraska – 55.95% | 10. Iowa – 53.69% |



CPA EXAM PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: 2018 Q-4

UTAH

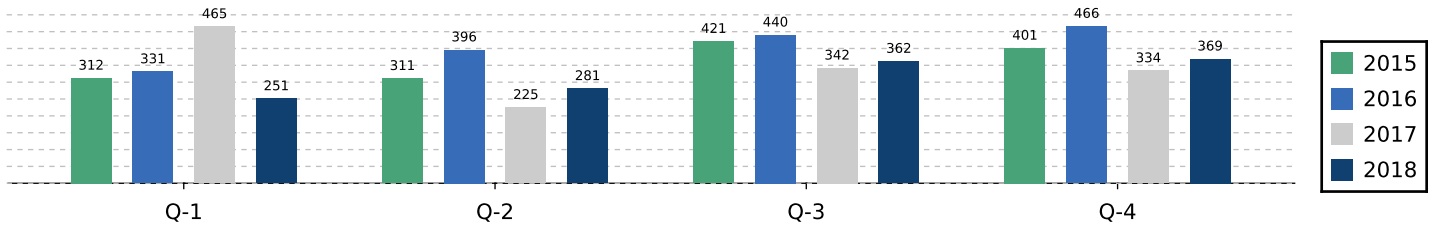
Overall Performance

Unique Candidates	294
New Candidates	70
Total Sections	369
Passing 4th Section	53
Sections / Candidates	1.26
Pass Rate	65.04%
Average Score	76.46

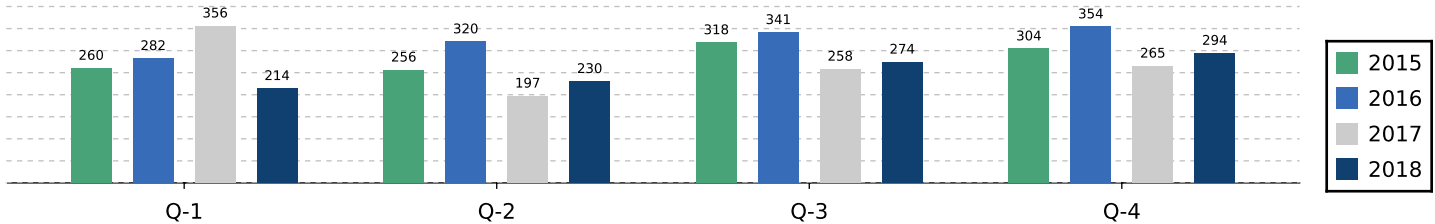
Section Performance

	Sections	Score	% Pass
First-Time	138	76.43	65.22%
Re-Exam	227	76.63	65.2%
AUD	83	76.57	62.65%
BEC	74	81.66	81.08%
FAR	82	72.85	57.32%
REG	130	75.72	62.31%

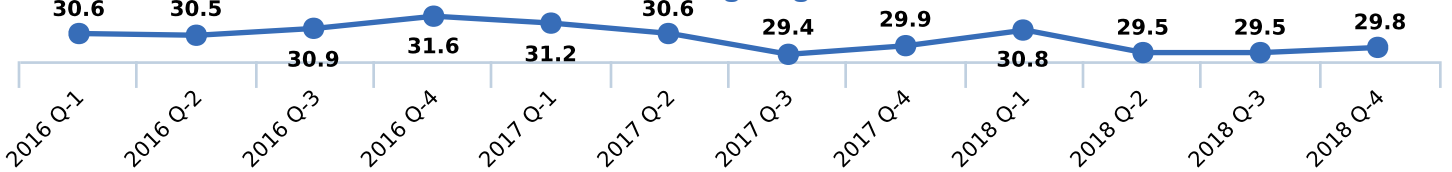
Sections



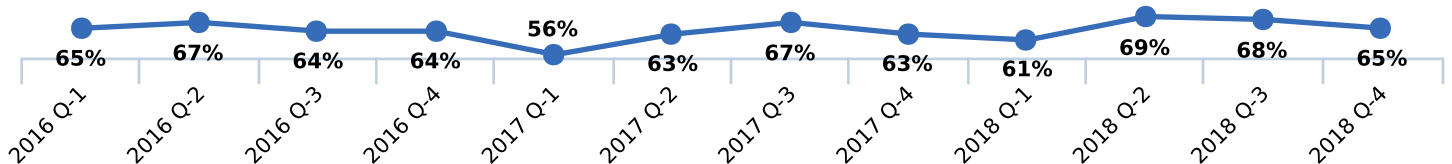
Candidates



Average Age



% Pass



CPA EXAM PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: 2018 Q-4

UTAH

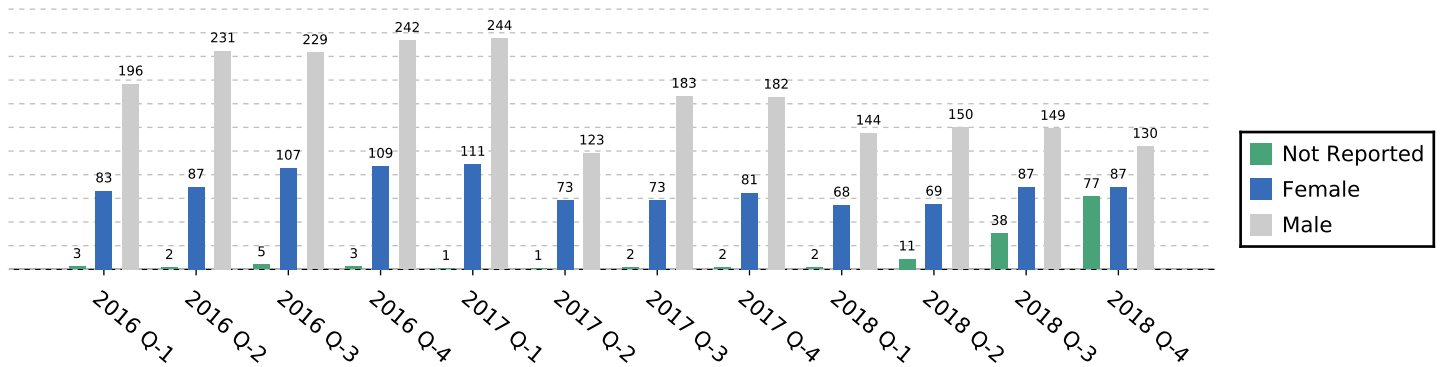
Degree Type

Bachelor's Degree	57	19.4%
Advanced Degree	199	67.7%
Enrolled / Other	38	12.9%

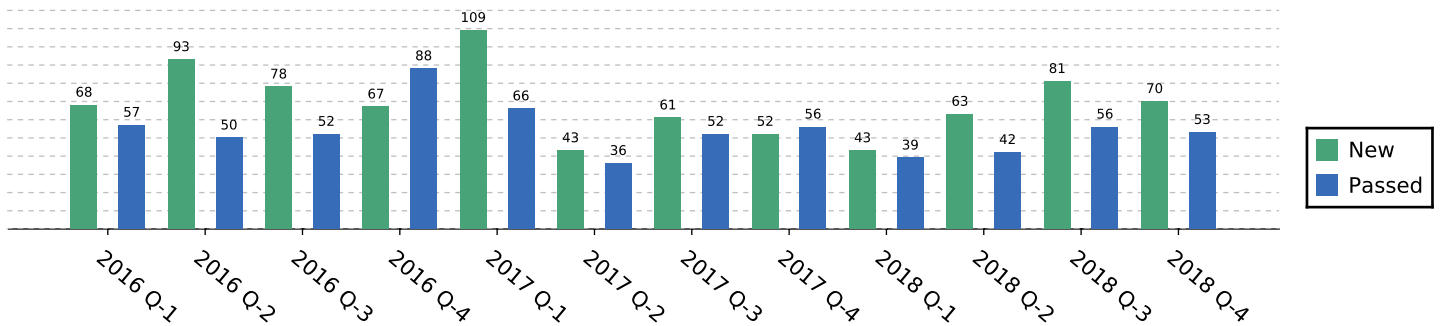
Residency

In-State Address	276	93.88%
Out-of-State Address	18	6.12%
Foreign Address	0	0.0%

Gender



New Candidates vs Candidates Passing 4th Section



Notes:

1. The data used to develop this report was pulled from NASBA's Gateway System, which houses the Uniform CPA Examination's Application and Performance information for all 55 jurisdictions.
 2. The demographic data related to age, gender, and degree type is provided by the individual candidates and may not be 100% accurate.
 3. Some jurisdictions do not require candidates to report certain demographic data nor complete surveys gathering such data on a voluntary basis.
- Copyright © 2018 National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, Inc. All rights reserved.

