

Below is a sample long article with approximately 650 words of text.

## **Headline: Board Implements CPetracking Program**

### **CPetracker**

Compliance with CPE requirements is a charge the Montana Board of Public Accountants (MBPA) takes very seriously. CPE is an integral part of professional development and one that all licensees and consumers benefit from.

Recently, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) pilot tested an automated CPetracking program that offers licensees the ability to track and record their own earned credits. The Board is pursuing implementation of this program for Montana permit holders.

In the near future, you will receive an email with your user name and password to log onto the CPetracking System for the first time. You can view an instruction video on logging in for the first time by clicking the link: [CPetracking](#). You will need to include your entire license number of PAC-CPAP-LIC-### when logging into the system.

### **How the program is designed to work.**

If a permit holder is selected for a CPE audit, they log onto a special NASBA-sponsored MBPA CPetracking website, input their completed credit information, attach supporting documentation and click "submit" to electronically file their CPE records with the Board. Licensees can access their CPE record up until it is submitted to the Board. The CPetracking system will streamline the CPE audit as several input functions that use to involve a lengthy manual process and additional Board resources to complete would now be automated.

### **How does the CPetracking program benefit Montana CPAs?**

As a CPA permit holder, you can use the CPetracking program as a central repository for all of your CPE training records. Updating is easy and you can print or download your records for your personal files. The system will be available to all permit holders to access anytime, 24/7/365 until the permit holder submits it to the Board. This will allow you to get a head start on a potential audit as MBPA will require permit holders chosen for audit to use the CPetracking program for submitting proof of CPE compliance when conducting an audit beginning for the reporting requirement year 2014 (2012-2014). The CPetracking system will also allow MSCPA and other approved organizations to upload your attendance information, relieving you of that task.

Using the CPAttracking system as a record keeping resource will in no way increase your chances of an audit, but if ever selected, having the work done ahead of time would significantly enhance the compliance submittal process and relieve you from last minute deadlines and filing hassles.

The CPetracking system facilitated by NASBA will be offered free of charge and available to Montana permit holders. Creating a viable CPE history with automated tracking should not only help MBPA use its resources in the most efficient manner but ease the CPE management workload required for you.

You will be receiving detailed information on the CPetracking system in the near future. Be on the lookout for individual login information to set up your CPetracking system account. Once you have established an account, you may start logging courses and uploading completion documentation. The system will also help you track specific Board rules and requirements at a glance. Tracking your compliance with Board requirements will no longer be a confusing process.

**Permit Holder benefits would include:**

- Records would be submitted and stored online, reducing the need for paper filing.
- Credits are entered using the basic online form and completion documentation can be attached.
- Accounts are available online throughout the submission period for the permit holders to access and add/edit records until they are required to submit their records to the Board.
- Permit holders can download and export the records they have entered into a spreadsheet for personal record keeping or choose a printer-friendly version of their CPE records.
- CPE credits are submitted to the Board at the click of a button.

All permit holders should be on the lookout for more information on the CPetracking system in the near future.