

Illinois BOARD OF EXAMINERS Bulletin

Spring Edition 2021



JB Pritzker, Governor

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS



The National Society of Black Certified Public Accountants, Inc. (NSBCPA) recently announced today the selection of Darryl R. Matthews, Sr. as its President & CEO. NSBCPA is currently the only organization completely focused on increasing the number of Black CPAs by providing CPA Exam candidates with the resources and coaching to pass the exam, ensuring they become CPAs.

Vista Equity Partners Founder, Chairman, and CEO, Robert F. Smith, recently pledged \$1 million to support the NSBCPA's first-of-its-kind Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Exam Bootcamp Program for Black Accounting Students. The program is also supported by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Foundation.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Russ Friedewald
Executive Director

Hello, springtime, finally! It looks as though we might finally begin to recover and get back to a somewhat normal life once the herd immunity is achieved later this spring or summer. For those of you still in the exam process or just beginning the exam process, there are some changes coming in July that you should know about. For more information on these changes, go to www.aicpa.org.

Chairman Larry Wojcik and I would like to publicly welcome six new members to the Board of Examiners appointed by Governor JB Pritzker since July, 2020. You will see their photos elsewhere in this newsletter. We would also like to acknowledge the service and dedication of our members who have completed their terms; James Kelley, Rhonda Kodjayan, Simon Petravick, Sara

Mikuta, Jeannie Folk and Kent Reeves.

On a personal note, I was honored to have received the Lorraine P. Sachs Standard of Excellence Award from the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy at the annual meeting held virtually in early November, 2020. I am obviously honored to have received this award and grateful to be counted among those who have been the recipients previously.

Enjoy your spring!

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ILLINOIS BOARD OF EXAMINERS BULLETIN

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NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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Most recently Matthews served as a Partnership Specialist for the 2020 Decennial Census, the Executive Director of the National Association of Black Accountants, the National Medical Association, a national professional organization that represents the interests of more than 50,000 African American physicians. He has also served as Executive Director for the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and was the Fraternity's 32nd General President.

Earlier in his career, Matthews was the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the National Association of Black Accountants, where he helped them to achieve their most profitable years, coupled with remarkable growth. Matthews is a highly respected, effective, and successful senior association executive, with experience in federal government operations, association management, and consulting.

"Darryl brings more than 30 years of diversified leadership experience in association and non-profit management, and," said NSBCPA board chair, Shannon Nash, CPA, Esq. "He is a proven leader in strategic planning, fundraising, and grants management with a successful record of increasing an organization's partnership and donor base. He has an extensive global network of resources and is well connected. He has raised and administered millions of dollars in foundation and federal grants as well as municipal government contracts."

Said Matthews, "My vision is to ensure that through effective programming and mentoring we will be the premier membership society of choice for blacks pursuing certification in public accounting, and excellence in their professional endeavors," said Matthews. "I very much look forward to working alongside our members to ensure that they have the tools and resources needed to maximize their potential and rapidly ascend as leaders in their career pursuits."

Matthews received a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and Political Science from the University of Central Missouri.

The mission of the National Society of Black Certified Public Accountants, Inc. ("NSBCPA") is to increase the number of Black CPAs by providing the most relevant knowledge, resources, and advocacy; and to promote cultural competence, diversity, and inclusion within the profession.

Black CPAs are by far the most underrepresented group within the CPA profession. With this in mind, the NSBCPA was founded in June 2020 in the State of Illinois as a membership non-profit organization.



NOTICE TO CPA CANDIDATES

BOARD MEMBERS

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Maria de J. Prado, CPA
Member, CPA

Amanda Gavin, CPA
Member, CPA

Martrice Caldwell, CPA
Member, CPA

RoseAnn Abraham, CPA
Member, CPA

CPA CANDIDATES—The AUD and BEC sections of the Uniform CPA examination will change dramatically beginning with the July 1st, 2021 administration. Be sure you are ready by preparing now for these changes. Both sections have undergone an overhaul of content.

- 1. Auditing and Attestation (AUD)** - The revisions expand upon or add more detail to the AUD Blueprint on audit data analytics. The revisions do not change the nature or scope of content eligible for testing in the AUD section. The audit data analytics concepts addressed in the revisions are covered by the existing AUD Blueprint and are currently eligible for testing.
- 2. Business Environment and Concepts (BEC)** - The revisions are not intended to significantly change the content eligible for testing in the BEC section. The revisions:
 - a. Clarify the Section introduction.
 - b. Reorganize Area IV, Information Technology, to clarify the nature and scope of the Area with respect to newly licensed practice. See the table in the BEC discussion below for a mapping of the representative task statements in Area IV of the existing BEC Blueprint to the revised Area IV Blueprint.
- 3. Regulation (REG)** - The revisions clarify the REG Blueprint and do not change the nature and scope of content eligible for testing in the REG section. The revisions add a section assumptions discussion to the Section introduction and clarify three representative task statements. This summary is organized by Exam section. The complete, revised Blueprints may be found in the CPA Exam Study Materials section of aicpa.org/cpaexam.

MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Illinois Board of Examiners welcomes six new Board Members appointed by the Governor of Illinois, Governor JB Pritzker. To learn more about each of the Board Members, please visit our website at <https://www.ilboe.org/about-us/board-members/>.



Rose Ann Abraham, CPA



Martrice Caldwell, CPA



Amanda Gavin, CPA



Sook Lee, CPA, CFE, CFF



Luis Plascencia, CPA



Maria de J. Prado, CPA



SOCIAL MEDIA



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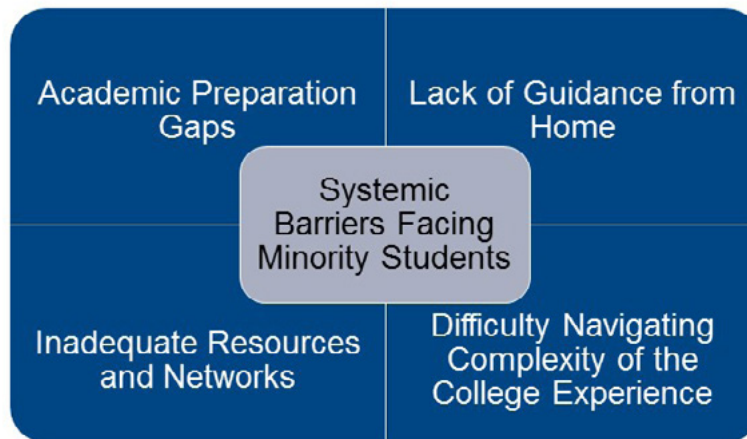
<http://www.ilboe.org/>



EVOLUTION'S IMPACT ON MINORITY STUDENTS

Dr. Kevin James was asked to consider what the CPA Evolution will mean to minority students, as part of the NASBA Annual Meeting's panel session moderated by Education Committee Chair Stephanie Saunders (VA). Dr. James, who is Dean of the Deese College of Business at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, detailed some of the steps his school has taken to make it a top producer of African-American CPAs. In 2019 there were 29 candidates from NCATSU who took the Uniform CPA Examination. *US News and World Report* ranked it as the number one business college of the public historically black colleges and universities (HBCU). He credited the school's success to "mitigating systemic barriers".

Specifically, the NCATSU attracts underrepresented students by: conducting a Student Ambassadors Program that enlists its current students to speak to high school students; holding Accounting Career Awareness Workshops; supporting the AICPA diversity programs; conducting week-long residential summer programs for high achieving high school students; and using services from the State Society.



Overall, HBCUs "are already under-resourced and allocate more resources proportionately to addressing systemic barriers," Dr. James said, but he did not think the CPA Evolution initiative would create new barriers to the profession for minority students: It would "amplify other constraints." He noted: "CPA Evolution will require additional resources for business colleges (e.g., more technology courses, specialized faculty, etc.). Many HBCUs will face challenges dedicating adequate resources to making CPA Evolution adjustments." He encouraged the profession to study the challenges faced and their implications on meeting their diversity goals.

Reprinted from the Fall 2020 *NASBA State Board Report* with permission.



CPA Exam Performance Summary: 2020 Q-4

Illinois

Overall Performance

Unique Candidates	2,073
New Candidates	387
Total Sections	2,838
Passing 4th Section	490
Sections / Candidates	1.37
Pass Rate	56.17%
Average Score	73.55

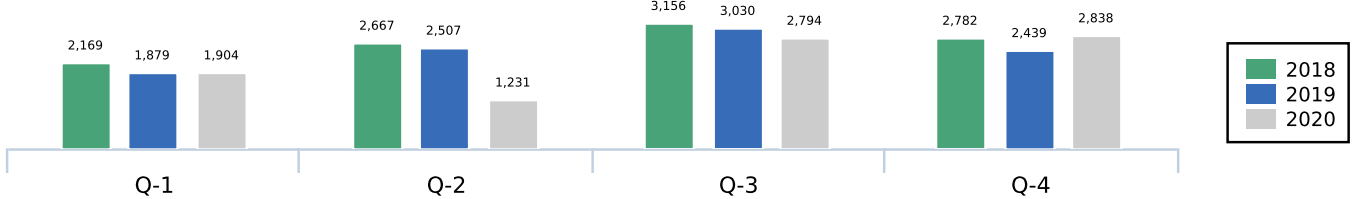
Section Performance

	Sections	Score	% Pass
First-Time	839	73.68	58.88%
Re-Exam	1,992	73.5	55.02%
AUD	709	72.61	49.51%
BEC	615	79.06	71.38%
FAR	822	69.86	46.47%
REG	692	74.02	60.98%

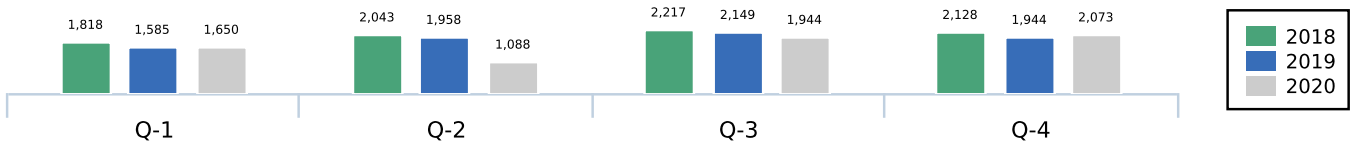
Jurisdiction Ranking

Candidates	Sections
4	4
Pass Rate	Avg Score
10	5

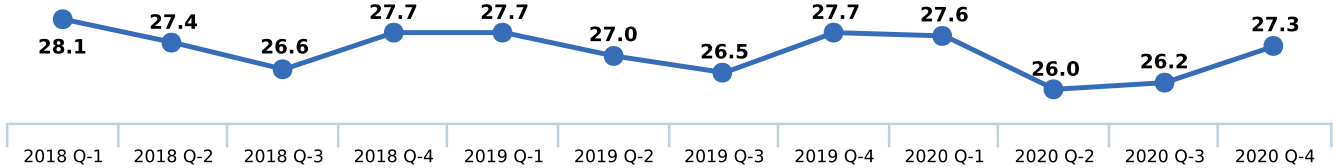
Sections



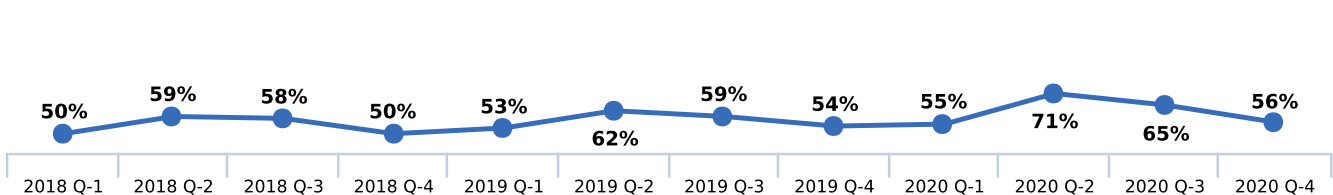
Candidates



Average Age



% Pass



CPA Exam Performance Summary: 2020 Q-4

Illinois

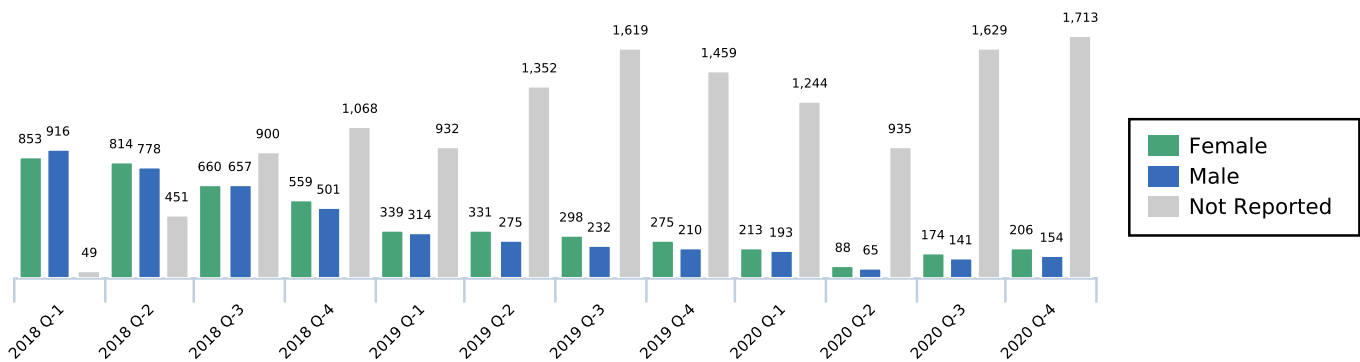
Degree Type

	Candidates	% Total
Bachelor's Degree	1,521	73.4%
Advanced Degree	552	26.6%
Enrolled / Other	0	0.0%

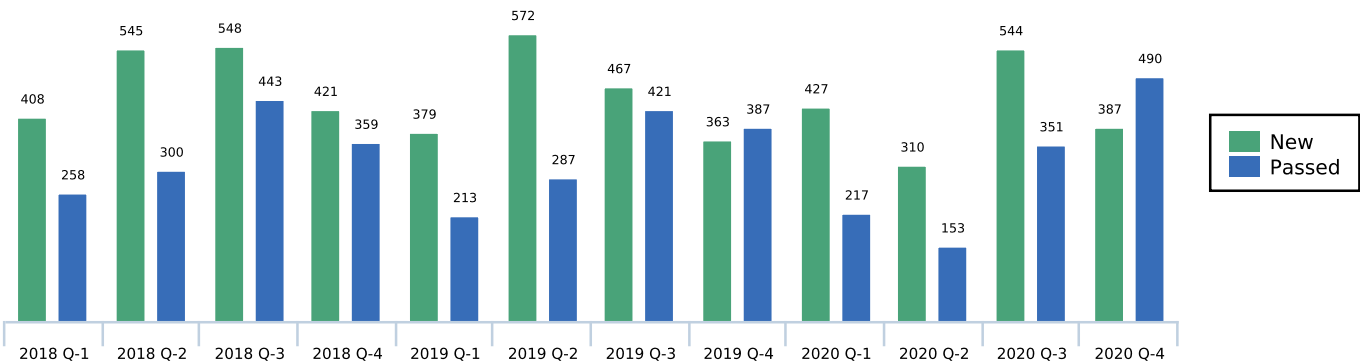
Residency

	Candidates	% Total
In-State Address	1,734	83.65%
Out-of-State Address	324	15.63%
Foreign Address	15	0.72%

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.
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