

NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY BOARD REPORT

<https://www.oplc.nh.gov/accountancy/>

Summer 2023



Board Members

Richard S. Silverman, CPA - Chair
Debra Grott, CPA - Vice Chair
Edward C. David, CPA - Secretary
Jonathan D. Blais, CPA
Jennifer H. Elder, CPA

Public Members:

Charles Powell, Esquire

Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) Members

Lindsey Courtney, Executive Director, OPLC
Bethany Cottrell Division Director, Licensing
and Board Administration Division
Dawn Couture, Board Administrator

Contact Information

OPLC Office/Board of Accountancy
7 Eagle Square
Concord, NH 03301

603-271-2152 (Phone)
www.oplc.nh.gov/accountancy
accountancy@oplc.nh.gov

Board Meetings Dates for 2023

JUNE 16
AUGUST 7
OCTOBER 16
DECEMBER 4

Board meeting schedules are subject to change. If you have any questions please contact the Board office at (603) 271-2219. Meetings may include public and non-public sessions. Meetings are held at the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, 7 Eagle Square, Concord, NH 03301. Meetings are held at 9:00 a.m. unless otherwise indicated.



LICENSE RENEWAL RULE CHANGES

Important Changes About Your License Period

The [New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated \(RSA\) 310-A:1-h, III](#) establishes a two-year renewal period for various licenses in New Hampshire including CPAs. The rule states that *initial licenses and renewals shall be valid for two years, except that timely and complete application for license renewal by eligible applicants shall continue the validity of the licenses being renewed until the board has acted on the renewal application. Licenses issued shall expire on the last day of the month in the month the license was issued.*

Please note, all current licensees are required to renew licenses based on the current triannual renewal, after which they will be renewed on a 2-year basis. These licenses will all come due semiannually on June 30th. New licensees will have a renewal date based on the month their original license was issued.

JUNE 30, 2023 LICENSE RENEWALS

Licensees whose last names begin with A-F will have to renew their licenses by June 30th 2023.

Please make sure all questions are answered accurately any response that are found to be incorrect will be sent to Enforcement for disciplinary action.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Members Retiring from the New Hampshire Board of Accountancy



Fred Briggs

FRED BRIGGS, CPA – Fred’s term on the board expired February 5, 2023. Fred served over 10 years. During his term Fred served as Chairman for three years. In addition, Fred was extremely active in the National Association of Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). He served on several NASBA committees and represented the Northeast region on the nominating committee. His participation in NASBA was extremely helpful to the board, keeping the members current on important matters effecting the profession. The board thanks Fred for his years of service.



Jeffrey Seifert

JEFFREY SEIFERT, VP TD BANK – Jeff served as a public member on the board for over nine years. Jeff expertise as a banker brought a unique perspective to the board. He was concerned and passionate on many of the issues that faced the board during his tenure. He will be missed and the board wishes him the best in his upcoming retirement.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER

New Board Member Joins the New Hampshire Board of Accountancy



Jonathan Blais

JONATHAN BLAIS, CPA – Jon was born and raised in Berlin, NH. He attended the University of Massachusetts Lowell, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in music performance and sound recording technology. He then received an MBA from Plymouth State University with concentrations in Small Business and Entrepreneurship and Healthcare Administration. He has worked at Rust & Company CPAs in Swanzey, NH since 2010 and became the firm’s Managing Member in 2022. Jon is a member of the New Hampshire Society of Certified Public Accountants’ Board of Directors as well as its Executive Committee. He resides in Keene with his wife Melissa.

MOVING? - Don’t forget to notify OPLC, in writing, within 30 days of your move.

ACCOUNTING STEM PURSUIT ACT FEDERAL LEGISLATION

The 118th United States Congress is slated to introduce bipartisan legislation – Accounting STEM Pursuit Act of 2023 – to recognize accounting as part of the STEM programs in schools. Under the Act, the accounting profession will become a part of the science, technology, engineering and mathematics curricula, reinforcing the clear and logical connection between accounting and technology. It is anticipated the Senate companion bill will also be filed in the near future.

The legislation would amend title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 by adding “activities to

promote the development, implementation and strengthening of programs to teach accounting, including increasing access to high-quality accounting courses for students through grade 12 who are members of groups that are typically underrepresented in accounting careers” to this act.

This legislation will not only bring early exposure to the accounting profession for students in high school and younger, but will also strengthen the pipeline of a talented and diverse workforce – one that is needed to compete in a profession that continues to evolve.

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CPA EVOLUTION

In a joint effort, the AICPA and NASBA plan to roll out a new model for the AICPA Uniform CPA Exam. This model will allow the exam to remain current and candidates to acquire the skills needed in a changing profession. The exam will be broken down into two components: three Core Components and one Discipline Component. The Core Component sections are required and will remain essentially the same (AUD, FAR, REG). The candidate will select one of three sections for the Discipline component: Business Analysis and Reporting (BAR), Information Systems and Controls (ISC), or Tax Compliance and Planning (TCP). The candidate will be required to pass four sections to pass the entire CPA exam, three core components and one discipline component.

There are several benchmark dates to be aware of as you plan your exams. NASBA will stop accepting exam requests for BEC in early October for first time candidates and mid-November for returning candidates to allow time to process requests. Any candidate who has passed AUD, BEC, FAR and REG by December 15, 2023, will have passed the exam and will not have to take the new CPA Evolution exam.

Important Dates:

October 1, 2023 - Last day to request First-time candidate Authorizations to Tests (ATTs) for BEC.

November 12, 2023 - Last day to request returning candidate Authorizations to Tests (ATTs) for BEC.

November 15, 2023 - NASBA will stop processing Authorizations

to Tests (ATTs and Notices to Schedules (NTSs) for BEC.

November 22, 2023 - NASBA will begin accepting Authorizations for Tests (ATTs) and Notices to Schedules (NTSs) for SAR, 15C and TCP, candidates will not be able to sit for those exams until January 10, 2024.

December 15, 2023 - Deadline to complete the current four exams (AUD, BEC, FAR and REG).

December 15, 2023 - Last testing date for BEC.

December 16, 2023 to January 9, 2024 - Dark window to facilitate the IT system conversion for the exams. No exams will be administered during that time.

January 10, 2024 - AUD, FAR, and REG will be available to schedule through March 24, 2024.

January 10, 2024 - BAR, ISC and TCP will be available to schedule through February 6, 2024.

NASBA will revert to a quarterly schedule to release exam scores due to necessary standard-setting analyses and activities. Although there may be some delay in scheduling exams and receiving scores, Prometric plans to increase testing days and hours available to schedule. Due to the limited testing schedule and possible delayed score releases, any New Hampshire Board of Accountancy candidate with Uniform CPA Examination credits on January 1, 2024 will have such credit(s) extended to June 30, 2025.

2024 Tests Administration Schedule/Score Release Timeline

Quarter	Core Test Dates	Core Score Reports	Discipline Test Dates	Discipline Score Reports
24Q1	Jan 10 - Mar 26	May 14 - June 4	Jan 10 - Feb 6	Mar 26 - April 16
24Q2	Apr 1 - June 25	October 1	April 20 - May 19	June 20
24Q3	July 1 - Sept 25	November 1	July 1 - 31	September 3
24Q4	Oct 1 - Dec 26	Early Feb	October 1 - 31	December 3

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NASBA ANNOUNCES HISTORIC RULE AMENDMENT FOLLOWING RECORD EXPOSURE DRAFT RESPONSE

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) announces the adoption of an eagerly anticipated amendment to the Uniform Accountancy Act (UAA) Model Rules pertaining to the Uniform CPA Examination (Exam).

For nearly 20 years, since the launch of the computer-based Exam in early 2004, candidates have had 18 months from the date of passing the first section of the Exam to complete the remaining three sections without losing credit (the “conditioning” rule). All 55 U.S. states and territories adopted that rule. With the disruptions of the COVID pandemic, the reduction of candidates in the pipeline, and the increased workload of firms, there has been increasing interest in providing candidates and firms relief by extending the conditioning period.

On April 21, 2023, the NASBA Board of Directors voted to adopt an amendment to UAA Model Rule 5-7. The amendment increases the length of conditional credit from 18 months to 30 months, bases the calculation of conditional credit for Exam sections passed on the date that scores are released, and adds descriptive language to provide greater clarity for when Boards of Accountancy may extend conditional credit.

The UAA Model Rules have no immediate effect on state board rules. As the membership organization of the 55 U.S. Boards of Accountancy, NASBA, through its Uniform Accountancy Act Committee, provides the Model Rules as recommendations to boards for adoption whereby uniform adoption is encouraged. As such, each individual board may consider the amendment to the Model Rule 5-7 and, if it so chooses, commence a process to change the rules at the state level. Current Exam candidates remain under existing rules until, if and when, the board to which they applied makes changes.

The approved amendments cover the granting of credit requirements for sections passed on the Exam for those who wish to enter the CPA profession. The revised rule provides that once a candidate has successfully passed one section of the Exam, they will then be provided a rolling 30-month period to pass the remaining three sections of the Exam. The exposure draft proposed a six-month extension of the credit period to 24 months, but based on further consideration and input, the NASBA Board of Directors

elects to approve a 12-month extension to 30 months.

“Providing an additional year of conditional credit to candidates for Exam sections passed provides more flexibility to those seeking licensure as a CPA. The additional time also provides greater latitude to firms and candidates as they negotiate the demands of today’s complex career environment,” said NASBA President and CEO Ken L. Bishop.

In addition, as a result recent revisions to the Exam suggest that score delays may occur as a result of significant updates are made to Exam content and structure. The approved rule seeks to provide uniformity among jurisdictions on the timing of granting Exam credits, which also has the benefit of providing relief to candidates when such delays happen.

“On behalf of the NASBA Board of Directors, we would like to thank the Uniform Accountancy Act Committee and the many stakeholders who provided valuable input to the rule making process,” said Richard N. Reisig, CPA, 2023-24 NASBA Chair. “We believe this amendment made to the UAA Model Rules will support the best interests of the candidates in their journey to entering the profession.”

Over a 60-day comment period leading up to the adoption of the new rule, more than 850 respondents provided input to the exposure draft, which was issued by NASBA’s Uniform Accountancy Act Committee. Comments were received from a broad representation of stakeholders, including State Boards of Accountancy, State CPA Societies, CPA firms, licensed CPAs, educators, and students. NASBA would like to thank all who responded.

At the same April meeting, the NASBA Board of Directors expressed continued support for the development of a recommended policy for state board consideration that would allow CPA Exam candidates (who lost credits because of conditions beyond their control resulting from economic disruptions of the pandemic) to rejoin the process of completing the Exam and obtaining a license. The Board also discussed developing an additional pathway to allow candidates to achieve 150 hours through an academically qualified experience that could allow up to 30 hours of college credit.