

Accountancy **News**

February 2004

Computer-Based CPA Exam (CBT) Frequently Asked Questions

How many sections will the exam have and how long will the exam take?

The 14-hour exam has four sections:

Audit and Attestation	(4.5 hours)
Financial Accounting and Reporting	(4 hours)
Regulation	(3 hours)
Business Environment & Concepts	(2.5 hours)

Where will the exam be held?

There are three Prometric CPA Exam testing centers in Oregon: Eugene, Milwaukie and Portland. Exam locations with addresses are on the Board of Accountancy website.

How often will I be able to take the exam?

There will be four "examination windows" available each year. An "examination window" refers to a three-month period in which candidates have an opportunity to take the CPA exam. The exam will be available during the first two months of each "exam window". During the third month the exam will not be offered.

Candidates may sit for each exam section only once during an "examination window" in any jurisdiction. This means, if necessary, candidates may take each exam section up to four times each year.

If I have not passed all exam sections by 2004, will I retain credit for sections passed?

Conditional credit under the paper and pencil exam will carry over to the computer exam for the corresponding sections of the CBT exam. Candidates will have the same number of testing opportunities or length of time to pass the remaining sections as was available under the paper and pencil exam. Under CBT that period translates to six exam attempts or three years **from the date the candidate first received conditional credit**. Candidates may test up to four times each year under CBT; therefore conditional credit may expire before the remaining time period elapses if the candidate tests during each testing window. **Conditional credit will expire** when the number of testing attempts or the period of time expires, whichever occurs first.

Although a candidate may lose conditional credit earned under the paper and pencil exam by not passing remaining exam sections within the period allowed, all exam sections passed under CBT are subject to a rolling 18 month period. Candidates who pass a section of the exam under CBT will have 18 months to pass all exam sections.

How is credit maintained for exam sections passed under CBT?

All sections of the exam must be passed within an 18 month period. Exam sections passed under CBT are maintained on the candidate's record for a rolling 18 month period. If the last of the four exam sections is not passed until 19 months after the date that the first section was passed, the earliest section is removed from the candidate's record, and that section must be taken again within the new 18 month period.

What are the fees?

Oregon candidates will pay two separate fees for the examination. First-time Oregon candidates will be charged a \$100 application fee and returning Oregon candidates will be charged a \$50 application fee. The application fees are not refundable and are not based on the number of sections taken.

An additional fee is calculated for each exam section and includes the charges for seat time for computer testing, grading fees and other exam administrative charges. The candidate pays the additional examination fees directly to NASBA according to a payment coupon that will provide instructions for methods of payment. The following chart describes the additional charges for each exam section.

AUD	Auditing & Attestation	\$134.50
BEC	Business Environment & Concepts	\$100.50
FAR	Financial Accounting & Reporting	\$126.00
REG	Regulation	\$109.00

How do I apply?

CPA Exam applications are available on the Board website or from the Board office. First time candidates must provide proof of eligibility (refer to OAR 801-010-0050). Once eligibility is determined, the Board will send an ATT (Authorization to Test) for each candidate to NASBA for processing through the National Candidate Database. After processing, NASBA will send the candidate the NTS (Notice to Schedule) and a payment coupon for each exam section that is included on the ATT. Once payment is received, the candidate may contact an approved Prometric exam testing site in any jurisdiction to schedule an appointment for each exam section. The location of all testing centers is on the NASBA website. www.nasba.org

Important Note:

When a candidate receives an NTS, the candidate must verify that all information is correct and that the name EXACTLY matches the name on the identification documents that will be used during check-in at the testing center. IF THE NAME DOES NOT MATCH, CONTACT THE BOARD OFFICE IMMEDIATELY TO REQUEST A CORRECTION. A CPA Exam candidate will not be allowed to enter the testing center if the name on the identification documents does not exactly match the name on the NTS.

2004 Board Meeting Schedule
February 17 – Phone Conference
May 16-17 – Cannon Beach
August 23 – Salem
October 17-18 – To be Determined
December 13 - Salem

Newsletters: The *Accountancy News* is published every two months. It is posted on the web site (www.boa.state.or.us). Licensees who would like to receive the newsletter by US mail or e-mail need to contact Kimberly Bennett at 503.378.4181 x 24 or Kimberly.bennett@state.or.us

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

This is a brief description of action taken by the Board for violations of ORS Chapter 673 and OAR Chapter 801. This report is condensed and may not include all the facts set forth in the Board order. Readers should contact the Board for further information.

John M. Caughell, #8714 November 18, 2003, final order assessing civil penalty of \$1,000 for falsely representing to the public that licensee held an active permit to practice public accountancy in Oregon while license was in lapsed status.

James M. Gleason, #5645 December 15, 2003, consent order issued, imposing restrictions on licensee's permit for falsely representing to the public that he held an active permit to practice public accountancy in Oregon while his license was suspended.

Gary L. Franklin, #2908 December 15, 2003, final order assessing a civil penalty of \$5,400 for professional misconduct and \$1,000 for failure to respond to Board communications.

Andre Danner Gianuzzi, #8124 January 12, 2004, final order, revoking licensee's CPA Certificate and Permit to engage in the practice of public accountancy and assessing civil penalties of \$40,000 for fraud or deceit in obtaining or applying for a certificate; dishonesty, fraud or gross negligence in the practice of public accountancy; engaging in conduct that evidences a lack of ability or fitness to discharge the duty owed to a client or the general public; and professional misconduct.

The Oregon Board of Accountancy assessed a \$100 civil penalty against the following licensees for failure to submit a change of address within 30 days:

Richard Brent Babcock, #7951

Steven Drew Baker, #9379

Introducing:

Governor Theodore Kulongoski appointed **Anastasia Meisner, J.D.** to serve as a public member on the Board of Accountancy beginning February 1, 2004. Ms. Meisner is a partner at Guyer Meisner Attorneys in Lake Oswego, Oregon. The Board welcomes Ms. Meisner and looks forward to the expertise and perspective that she will contribute to the Board.

Board Members:

Stuart Morris, PA, Chair
5922 NE Sandy Blvd
Portland, OR 97213

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Website:

The Board updates the website (www.boa.state.or.us) on a regular basis to keep licensees advised of Board activities. For information on topics such as the computer-based CPA Exam, proposed rules, calendar of events, Independence Task Force reports, please visit the tab marked "Keeping Current". The licensee database on the Board website is updated on a monthly basis. The information is accurate as of the date on the licensee search page. For current information on a licensee or firm, please contact the Board office at 503.378.4181 x21.