



Frequently Asked Questions

Insightful answers to questions that the Board receives on a routine basis.



When does my license expire?

All individual CPA licenses expire on December 31 of each odd-numbered year. All Firm licenses expire on June 30 of each even-numbered year.

Can I have a retired or inactive license status?

Georgia only has "Active" or "Lapsed" statuses for licensees. If an individual or firm licensee does not renew his/her license to practice timely, the license will move to a "Lapsed" status (after the respective late renewal period ends).

How do I change my name on my license?

Name change requests must be submitted in writing and must include your name as it currently appears on the license record, your name as it should now appear on the license record, and your CPA license number (CPAxxxxxx).

You must also attach a copy of the legal documentation for your name change (i.e. marriage certificate, divorce decree, etc.) This written request is emailed to the Board office using the GSBA Contact Information listed, above. No fee is associated with this change unless a new pocket license card is requested.

How do I check the status of my license?

The current status of your license can be verified at the following website: www.CPAverify.org. The current status of both individual and firm licenses is available now on the website. The status of all licenses is updated on a daily basis.

How do I get a wall certificate?

Wall certificates are purchased through NASBA Store at nasbastore.org

After Tax Season Now What?

So, after the tax season is over it's time to look around and decide what to do for the rest of the year.

Here are a few sound suggestions for those of you who have free time after your busy season.

1. Succession planning
2. Continuing Professional Education (CPE)
3. Vacation
4. All of the above



Renewal process will begin October 1, 2021.

Don't wait 'til the last minute.

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Georgia State Board of Accountancy

Board Members

- Clayton Huffman, CPA (Chair)
- Ashley Addison, CPA (Vice-Chair)
- Charles Cole, CPA
- Julian Deal, CPA
- Michael Mixon, CPA
- Craig Smith, CPA
- Todd Tolbert, Consumer Member

Executive Director: Paul Ziga, CPA

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2021 Board Meeting Dates

- Jul 28, 2021
- Sep 22, 2021
- Nov 17, 2021

Board Member News

Fare thee well...



Jim Martin has served the accounting profession for more than 50 years. His journey started as the Executive Director of the Georgia Society of CPAs for over 30 years, growing the organization from a staff of 1 to over 30. Former governor Deal appointed Mr. Martin to the GSBA board in 2013 as the Consumer Member. Although he is not an accountant by trade, Jim had an insight and calling that helped bring the customer perspective to the licensing agency.

Thank you for your many years of Service Jim Martin:

Message from Clay Huffman, Board Chair: "Serving on the Georgia State Board of Accountancy (GSBA) with Jim for more than five years has been a true pleasure. Jim has been a great servant to the CPA profession in Georgia for many years and his historical knowledge of the profession added great value to the efforts of the GSBA. I am thankful for Jim's friendship and value the stories he seemed to always have ready for each topic discussed during our meetings. I congratulate Jim on the completion of his time on the GSBA and thank him for his service to the GSBA and the CPA profession."

Message from Paul Ziga, Executive Director: "Jim Martin is one of my original Board Members from when I started as Executive Director for the Board. His depth of knowledge of the CPA profession and the history of the profession in Georgia has always been appreciated by me. I especially enjoyed traveling with Jim to national conventions where we were able to get to know each other outside of the Board environment. I will miss his kind spirit and enjoyable stories at future Board Meetings."

Welcome aboard...

Todd Tolbert has been appointed to the board as the Consumer Member who represents the public. Born and raised in Macon GA, Todd grew his family and business in this close-knit community. He has served in the Georgia National Air guard and is a political leader in Monroe County. He continues to support the local chapter of the Boy Scouts receiving awards and sponsoring essay and athletic contests. As a business owner of over 40 years and a 30-year public service leader, Todd will bring a valuable consumer perspective to the Board of Accountancy.

Do We Have Your Correct Contact Info?

GSBA utilizes email as the primary source of contact. You should always keep us updated. With the 2021 renewal period coming at the end of the year we need your correct email address on file. If you have changed your name or any contact information, please let us know via gsba@sao.ga.gov.



CPE RULES AT A GLANCE



Total CPE completed during 2 year period (2020-2021)



Minimum CPE earned each year



Accounting and Auditing

2 Reasons for CPE Exemptions

- 1 License issue year
- 2 Over the age of 70

Exciting News for Exam Candidates: Continuous Testing

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and Prometric are providing year-round testing of the Uniform CPA Examination (Exam). The new continuous testing model offers greater candidate flexibility and convenience, with more than 75 additional testing dates available throughout the year. The new model replaces quarterly testing windows that allowed candidates to sit for the Exam during specified dates.

“Continuous testing has been a goal for some time, and it comes in direct response to feedback from CPA Exam candidates and their desire to test more frequently throughout the year. NASBA is proud to work in collaboration with the AICPA, Prometric and the 55 U.S. Boards of Accountancy to continue to ensure the security of the Exam and to implement a successful transition,” shared NASBA Executive Vice President & COO Colleen Conrad, CPA.

The 55 U.S. Boards of Accountancy have endorsed the move

to a Continuous Testing model as a means to support Exam candidates on their journey to CPA licensure. NASBA has created a [Continuous Testing Status Map](#), which tracks the status of states with continuous testing. CPA Exam candidates are encouraged to refer to the map often for updates.

“Increasing candidate convenience is one of our top priorities,” said Michael A. Decker, AICPA vice president of Examinations. “The move to continuous testing will give candidates the flexibility to develop a personal testing schedule that works best for them.”

Under the continuous testing model, scores will be released on a rolling basis. Candidates wishing to learn more about continuous testing, as well as how the score release process will work, should visit the AICPA’s [CPA Exam Score Release](#) page, as well as follow NASBA via social media for updates. Additional information is available in this [short informational video](#).



When renewing your license have your:

- CPA license number
- Firm license number (if applicable)

Enforcement - Common Violations

- Using CPA designation when license is lapsed
- Operating without a firm license
- Client records being withheld
- Completing audits, compilations, or attestations without a firm license



The Gems Found on Our Website

The best way to keep informed about the Georgia State Board of Accountancy (GSBA) is through our website. It has everything you need to know and even answers your questions before picking up the phone to call.

Laws, Rules and Policies

The Georgia Code 43-3 covers the Georgia Law governing Accountants.

[Laws, Rules, and Policies](#)

Board Meetings

You can read our board meeting minutes and see future dates.

[Board Meetings](#)

Services

Learn about how to obtain the services of GSBA from licensing to examination to complaints.

[Services](#)

FAQs

This covers CPA examination, licensure, CPE requirements, complaints and beyond.

[FAQs](#)

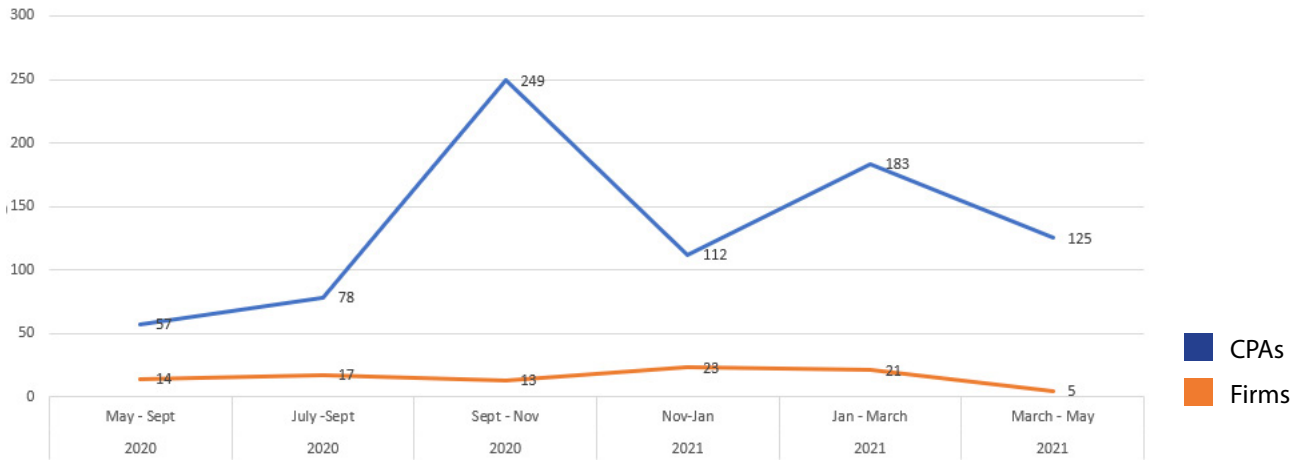
Forms

All forms required by GSBA are listed here.

[Forms](#)



New Georgia Licensees



CPA Exam: Biometric Procedures

Prometric reinstates biometrics procedures for the CPA Exam, specifically fingerprint and ID scans, in all test centers. This decision is based on an updated review of Prometric test center safety protocols with Johns Hopkins University, and its confirmation that the CDC and other world health organizations are now less concerned about the spread of infection through touch points on hard surfaces, especially when mask-wearing and social distancing are also observed.

Out of an abundance of caution, all test takers will be required to use hand sanitizer before using any fingerprint scanners, and Prometric staff will wipe down devices with cleaner after each use to help reduce any risk of transmission. Additionally, to help ensure social distancing is still maintained, test center staff have been trained on how to assist test takers in using fingerprint scanners and ID scan from an appropriate distance.

Image capture will be completed from the same position. While maintaining social distancing, masks will need to be lowered or removed momentarily for this process by clasping the sides or strap of the mask to remove briefly, and then reaffixing in same manner.

Fun Georgia Fact

At the time of its construction [March 20, 1889], Georgia's capitol was the tallest building in Atlanta (*Jackson, Edwin L. "Georgia State Capitol." New Georgia Encyclopedia. 25 May 2017. Web. 08 February 2021.*)

