

Illinois Uniform CPA Examination Educational Requirements

Education Requirements Effective July 1, 2013

Note: *If you have been approved to sit for the CPA examination prior to July 1, 2013, you will not have to meet the new education requirements. Please refer to Section 1400.90 of the Administrative Rules for complete transcript of requirements listed at www.ilboe.org*

For questions regarding which option was used to process your evaluation, please contact our office, www.ilboe.org

In order to be admitted to take the examination for the first time after July 1, 2013, a candidate for the Illinois CPA examination must have successfully completed the following:

Option 1:

Degree: A graduate degree in accounting from a regionally accredited institution or approved equivalent institution (regional accrediting association which is a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) www.acenet.edu) *and* AACSB www.aacsb.edu or ACBSP www.acbsp.org accredited accounting program. **

Total Hours: You must have completed 150 semester credit hours*

Accounting Hours: No specific requirements

Business Hours: No specific requirements

*Quarter credit hours may be converted to semester credit hours by multiplying quarter credit hours by two-thirds.

**If a candidate has obtained graduate credit or a degree from a non-AACSB/ACBSP program, s/he will apply under option 4.

Option 2:

Degree: A graduate degree in business from a regionally accredited institution or approved equivalent institution (regional accrediting association which is a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) www.acenet.edu) *and* AACSB www.aacsb.edu or ACBSP www.acbsp.org accredited business program. ***

Total Hours: You must have completed 150 semester credit hours*

Accounting Hours: 30 semester credit hours in accounting including; ****

Managerial Accounting, Taxation, Financial Accounting, Audit and at least two semester credit hours of Research & Analysis (RAA)**

Business Hours: No specific requirements

*Quarter credit hours may be converted to semester credit hours by multiplying quarter credit hours by two-thirds.

**For purposes of meeting the accounting hours requirement, one graduate accounting SCH is equivalent to 1.6 SCH. This extra weight is not applied to the total semester hours.

***If a candidate has obtained graduate credit or a degree from a non-AACSB/ACBSP program, s/he will apply under option 4.

Please note: Graduate accounting credit earned with an undergraduate degree (with no graduate degree earned yet-only enrolled in a graduate degree program) will be multiplied by 1.6 whether or not the credit has been taken from an AACSB or ACBSP accredited program.

****No more than three (3) semester hours of accounting obtained through internships or life-experience credit posted on a college transcript may be awarded to the accounting requirements.

Option 4:

Degree: At least a baccalaureate degree in any concentration or graduate degree with a concentration other than accounting or business from a regionally accredited institution or approved equivalent institution (regional accrediting association which is a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)).*** www.acenet.edu

Total Hours: You must have completed 150 semester credit hours*

Accounting Hours: 30 semester credit hours in accounting including****

Managerial Accounting, Taxation, Financial Accounting, Audit and at least two semester college hours of Research & Analysis (RAA)**

Business Hours: 24 semester credit hours in business including****:

Two (2) semester credit hours (SCH) of Business Communication (BC) and three (3) SCH of Business Ethics (BE)

*Quarter credit hours may be converted to semester credit hours by multiplying quarter credit hours by two-thirds.

**For purposes of meeting the accounting hours requirement, one graduate SCH is equivalent to 1.6 SCH earned at the undergraduate level. This extra weight is not applied to the total semester hours.

***If a candidate has obtained graduate credit or a degree from a non-AACSB/ACBSP program, s/he will apply under option 4.

Please note: Graduate accounting credit earned with an undergraduate degree (with no graduate degree earned yet-only enrolled in a graduate degree program) will be multiplied by 1.6 whether or not the credit has been taken from an AACSB or ACBSP accredited program.

**** No more than three (3) semester hours of accounting & no more than three (3) semester hours of business obtained through internships or life-experience credit posted on a college transcript may be awarded to the accounting & business requirements.

Education Requirements Effective January 1, 2001 to June 30, 2013

Note: *If you have been approved to sit for the CPA examination after January 1, 2001 but before July 1, 2013, you will not have to meet the new education requirements. Please refer to Section 1400.90 of the Administrative Rules for complete transcript of requirements listed at www.ilboe.org*

For questions regarding which option was used to process your evaluation, please contact our office, www.ilboe.org

In order to be admitted to take the examination for the first time before July 1, 2013 but after January 1, 2001, a candidate for the Illinois CPA examination must have successfully completed the following:

Option 1:

Degree: A graduate degree in accounting from a regionally accredited institution or approved equivalent institution (regional accrediting association which is a member of the Council or Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) www.acenet.edu) *and* AACSB www.aacsb.edu or ACBSP www.acbsp.org accredited accounting program. **

Total Hours: You must have completed 150 semester credit hours*

Accounting Hours: No specific requirements

Business Hours: No specific requirements

*Quarter credit hours may be converted to semester credit hours by multiplying quarter credit hours by two-thirds.

**If a candidate has obtained graduate credit or a degree from a non-AACSB/ACBSP program, s/he will apply under option 4.

Option 2:

Degree: A graduate degree in business from a regionally accredited institution or approved equivalent institution (regional accrediting association which is a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) www.acenet.edu) *and* AACSB www.aacsb.edu or ACBSP www.acbsp.org accredited business program. ***

Total Hours: You must have completed 150 semester credit hours*

Accounting Hours** : 24 semester credit hours in accounting including****;
Managerial Accounting, Taxation, Financial Accounting and Audit

Business Hours: No specific requirements

*Quarter credit hours may be converted to semester credit hours by multiplying quarter credit hours by two-thirds.

**For purposes of meeting the accounting hours requirement, one graduate accounting SCH is equivalent to 1.6 SCH. This extra weight is not applied to total semester hours.

***If a candidate has obtained graduate credit or a degree from a non-AACSB/ACBSP program, s/he will apply under option 4.

Please note: Graduate accounting credit earned with an undergraduate degree (with no graduate degree earned yet-only enrolled in a graduate degree program) will be multiplied by 1.6 whether or not the credit has been taken from an AACSB or ACBSP accredited program.

****No more than three (3) semester hours of accounting obtained through internships or life-experience credit posted on a college transcript may be awarded to the accounting requirements.

Option 4:

Degree: At least a baccalaureate or higher degree in any concentration or graduate degree with a concentration other than accounting or business from a regionally accredited institution or approved equivalent institution accredited in business (regional accrediting association which is a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)).** www.acenet.edu

Total Hours: You must have completed 150 semester college hours*

Accounting Hours: 24 semester credit hours in accounting including***
Managerial Accounting, Taxation, Financial Accounting and Audit

Business Hours: 24 semester credit hours in business****:

*Quarter credit hours may be converted to semester credit hours by multiplying quarter credit hours by two-thirds.

**If a candidate has obtained graduate credit or a degree from a non-AACSB/ACBSP program, s/he will apply under option 4.

Please note: Graduate accounting credit earned with an undergraduate degree (with no graduate degree earned yet-only enrolled in a graduate degree program) will be multiplied by 1.6 whether or not the credit has been taken from an AACSB or ACBSP accredited program.

*** No more than three (3) semester credit hours of accounting & no more than three (3) semester credit hours of business obtained through internships or life-experience credit posted on a college transcript may be awarded to the accounting & business requirements.

Education Requirements Prior to January 1, 2001

Note: *If you have approved to sit for the CPA examination prior to January 1, 2001, you will not have to meet the new education requirements. Please refer to Section 1400.90 of the Administrative Rules for complete transcript of requirements listed at www.ilboe.org*

For questions regarding which option was used to process your evaluation, please contact our office, www.ilboe.org

In order to be admitted to take the examination for the first time prior to **January 1, 2001, a candidate for the Illinois CPA examination must have successfully completed the following:**

120 semester hours of semester credit hours, which include 27 semester credit hours of accounting including Audit and Business Law of which no more than 6 hours may be in business law.

All courses are subject to review by the Board of Examiners.

If you wrote the exam as an Illinois candidate before January 1, 2001, you are locked in the current educational requirements at the time provided your status to write the exam does not change due to non-completion of courses in progress. You do not need to condition or pass before that date to lock in those current requirements.

On the paper and pencil examination, a candidate had unlimited tries to pass the CPA exam in Illinois until which time s/he conditioned (passed two or three parts with a minimum of 50 in failed sections). After the exam at which s/he conditioned, s/he had three years to write all failed parts and pass the exam. In addition, a candidate who wrote for another jurisdiction before January 1, 2001, who met Illinois' educational requirements at the time s/he wrote the exam would also be grandfathered under the current requirements. A candidate will have to meet Illinois' current requirements if:

- 1) s/he writes the exam for the first time in any jurisdiction after July 1, 2013 *or*
- 2) at the time of writing the exam in another jurisdiction before January 1, 2001 s/he did not meet Illinois' requirements 120-hour total educational/27 hour accounting requirement.