

New Curriculum Rule Effective March 1st

On March 1, 2008, a new curriculum rule went into effect which will impact college students. The following is a quick explanation of the current rule, the change, the background and the implications.

Current Rule

1. Out of the 150 semester hours, a CPA candidate must take 30 semester hours of accounting subjects, including:
 - 1.1. Not more than six semester hours of taxation
 - 1.2. Thirty-nine semester hours including:
 - 1.2.1. A minimum of three semester hours each in business communications and computer technology
 - 1.2.2. A minimum of three semester hours, but not more than 12 semester hours, in at least five of the following areas: business law, economics, ethics, finance, management, marketing, taxation, statistics, and business policy.

New Rule

Line 1.2.1 will be removed so that CPA candidates will no longer be required to take business communications and computer technology courses.

Background

The State Board of Accountancy, along with the input from the academic community, determined that in today's academic world these topic areas are intertwined in other classes so that there is no longer a need to have a specific class requirement.

Advice for Students

We want to be sure that students have all the help they need and to ensure clear understanding of the new requirement and its effect on their degree pursuit. If students have any questions regarding the education requirements for certification in Michigan, the recent rule change and/or its affect, students should contact Sara Hernandez, Assistant Licensing Administrator at the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth, Licensing Bureau for further assistance at 517.241.9251 or hernandezs1@michigan.gov.

We here at the MACPA are also always available for assistance. If you have any questions regarding how this new ruling came about or specifics of the rule itself, please contact John Lindley, Senior Director of Government Relations and Regulatory Affairs, at jlindley@michcpa.org or 517.853.2560. Questions regarding degree and certification pursuit in Michigan should be directed at David Johnson, Academic & Career Development Specialist, at djohnson@michcpa.org or 248.267.3752.