



# Activity Review

## North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners

1101 Oberlin Rd., Ste. 104 • PO Box 12827 • Raleigh, NC 27605 • 919-733-4222 • [nccpaboard.gov](http://nccpaboard.gov) • No. 9-2020

## The Impact of COVID-19 on CPE

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are far-reaching and affect nearly every aspect of our lives.

Stay-at-Home Orders and social distancing requirements compelled CPE sponsors to find ways to provide quality education and training in a virtual environment.

CPAs, many of whom usually attend in-person classes and conferences, questioned how they would earn enough CPE credits to be eligible for license renewal next year.

Unlike some jurisdictions, North Carolina has few restrictions on how a CPA can meet the annual CPE requirement.

“CPAs can choose all self-study or a mix of CPE activities,” explains Robert N. Brooks, the Board’s Executive Director.

“As long as those activities meet the criteria in 21 NCAC 8G, then they are probably eligible to renew their license next year.”

21 NCAC 08G .04019(g) allows CPAs to carry forward up to 1,000 minutes to the next calendar year.

“I tell CPAs carry-forward CPE is like an insurance policy--better to have it and not need it than need it and not have it,” said Brooks.

The Board has received numerous questions about extending the CPE deadline beyond December 31, 2020.

As of August 31, 2020, the Board had not extended the deadline but is monitoring the situation.

“If the Board extends the deadline, we will notify licensees of the change as soon as possible,” said Brooks.

## NCACPA CPE Goes Virtual

On August 7, 2020, the NCACPA, a CPE provider for many North Carolina CPAs, announced the conversion of all its remaining 2020 in-person events to a virtual live format.

Amelia Hodges, NCACPA Director of Professional Development, said, “We have transitioned all of our in-person seminars and conferences to a convenient and user-friendly virtual live format while maintaining the same high-quality programming our attendees expect.”

The updated CPE catalog ([nccpa.org/events](http://nccpa.org/events)) includes over 1,200 virtual events in multiple formats (webcast, webinar, self-study, and on-demand).

**NOTE:** North Carolina CPAs are not required to take CPE through the NCACPA. A CPA may take CPE from any sponsor that meets the requirements of 21 NCAC 08G .0403.



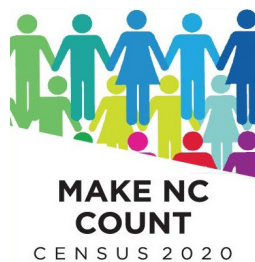
## Make NC Count: 2020 Census

Time is running out for you to complete the 2020 Census.

The information gathered in the Census is used to distribute federal funding, decide how many seats North Carolina gets in the U.S. House of Representatives, and make planning decisions at the state and local level.

Every NC resident who responds to the Census brings back more than \$1,600 per year to the State.

Make NC count in the 2020 Census! Visit <https://2020census.gov> to respond.



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# Disciplinary Actions

*Pursuant to NCGS 93-12(9), civil penalties are remitted to the North Carolina Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund ("Fund") in accordance with NCGS 115C-457.2. NCGS 115C-457.1(b) states, "The Fund shall be administered by the Office of State Budget and Management. The Fund and all interest accruing to the Fund shall be faithfully used exclusively for maintaining free public schools."*

## MARCUM, LLP | MELVILLE, NY

**THIS CAUSE**, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners ("Board") at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate to the following:

1. The Board received notice from the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) that it reached a settled order with Marcum, LLP ("Marcum"). Marcum is not registered in the State of North Carolina and does not have an office in the State. It has filed a Notice of Intent to Practice in the State, thereby availing itself of a practice privilege to conduct business in this State. Marcum has never previously been the subject of any complaint or investigation by the Board.
2. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §§93-10(c)(1) & (2), a firm that exercises a practice privilege simultaneously agrees to comply with the laws and rules of the State of North Carolina and to subject itself to the jurisdiction of this Board.
3. In 2013, Marcum hosted a MicroCap Conference ("Conference") in New York, New York, that was open to the public. A company that presented at the Conference was an issuer audit client of Marcum based in North Carolina. The company has not been an issuer audit client of Marcum since 2015.
4. In 2019, the PCAOB reached a settled order with Marcum and one of its partners. The settled order stated that Marcum's audit of the financial statements of some of the companies that presented at the Conferences represented a violation of PCAOB independence rules. Marcum voluntarily stopped hosting the Conferences described in the settled order as of 2017.
5. The PCAOB settled order expressly states that the findings therein "are not binding on any other per-

sons or entities in this or any other proceeding," and that Marcum and its partner consented to the order "without admitting or denying the findings therein." Marcum has taken steps to remediate the issues addressed in the settled order.

6. Marcum wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. Marcum understands and agrees that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

1. Marcum is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
2. Marcum's failure to comply with all of the PCAOB's independence rules constitutes a violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0204 and .0402.
3. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §§93-12(9) & (10), and also by virtue of Marcum's consent to this Order, Marcum is subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Marcum agree to the following Order:

1. Marcum's practice privilege is censured and Marcum must pay a ten thousand dollar (\$10,000) civil monetary penalty, to be remitted with this signed Order.

**Consent Order Approved by the Board on August 17, 2020.**

**THIS CAUSE**, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (“Board”) at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate to the following:

1. Mark B. Thompson, CPA (hereinafter “Respondent”), is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 24454 as a Certified Public Accountant.
2. The Board received a complaint against the Respondent from a third party (hereinafter “Complainant”).
3. The Complainant signed a contract giving the Respondent the authority to negotiate the sale of the Complainant’s business (hereinafter “Business”).
4. The Complainant was contacted by a potential buyer for the Business, whom she referred to the Respondent.
5. The Respondent first needed to do a complete financial statement before he could evaluate the Business.
6. The Complainant provided information and an inventory to the Respondent, but he did not complete the financial review in a timely manner.
7. It was later discovered that the Respondent was unaware that the Complainant had provided the inventory information because one of the Respondent’s employees had received that information and failed to tell the Respondent.
8. The Respondent subsequently terminated the employment of that employee.
9. The Respondent wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. The Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

1. The Respondent is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.

2. Per 21 NCAC 08N .0103 (Responsibility for Compliance by Others):

A CPA and CPA firm shall be responsible for assuring compliance with the rules in this Subchapter by anyone who is the CPA's partner, fellow shareholder, member, officer, director, licensed employee, unlicensed employee or agent or unlicensed principal, or by anyone whom the CPA supervises. A CPA or CPA firm shall not permit others (including affiliated entities) to carry out on the CPA's behalf, with or without compensation, acts that if carried out by the CPA would be a violation of these Rules.

As such, the Respondent had the responsibility to adequately supervise his employees and is responsible for any resulting non-compliance with the Board’s rules as a result of his employees’ actions. Therefore, the Board concludes that the Respondent did not provide timely services to the Complainant in violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0212(3).

3. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9), and also by virtue of the Respondent’s consent to this Order, the Respondent is subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and the Respondent agree to the following Order:

1. The Respondent, Mark B. Thompson, is censured.

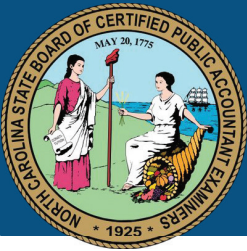
***Consent Order Approved by the Board on August 17, 2020.***

### 2020 Board Meetings

October	November	December
Oct. 19 10:00 a.m.	Nov. 23 10:00 a.m.	Dec. 14 10:00 a.m.

Under NC Gen. Stat. §143-318.10, all official Board meetings are open to the public, and any person is entitled to attend such a meeting. However, the public may be excluded from certain portions of the meeting as allowed by NC Gen. Stat. §143-318.11, *Closed Sessions*.

The agenda for each meeting is available on the “About” page of the Board’s website, [nccpaboard.gov](http://nccpaboard.gov), approximately one week before the meeting date.



# BY THE NUMBERS

## A look at CPAs in North Carolina

(as of August 31, 2020)



### Female CPAs

Total: 10,253

47%



### Male CPAs

Total: 11,653

53%



**Total CPAs: 21,906**



### Original CPA Certificates

Total: 16,749

77%

### Reciprocal CPA Certificates

Total: 5,157

23%

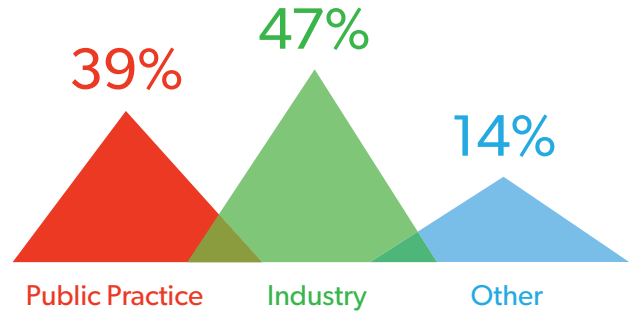


NC CPA Licenses Issued Since 1913

**44,195**

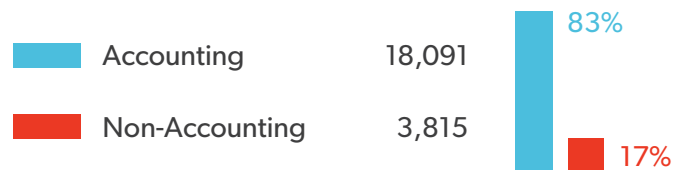
### Where do NC CPAs work?

CPA Firm Partner	1,431
CPA Firm Staff	4,406
CPA Firm PLLC Member	467
PC Shareholder	752
Individual Practitioner	1,561
Government – Accounting	1,000
Government – Non-Accounting	118
Industry – Accounting	8,474
Industry – Non-Accounting	1,740
Educator	300
Legal	183
Other	775
Retired	377
Student	31
Unemployed	291



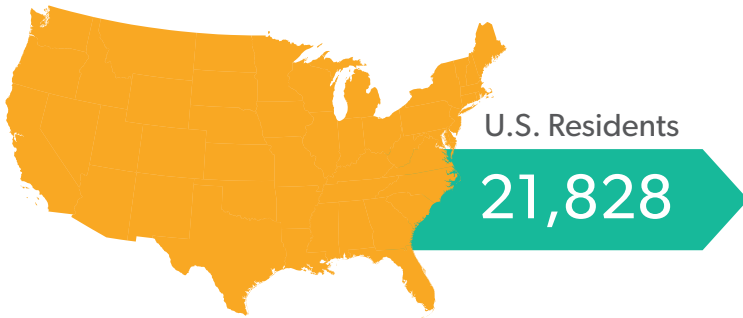
### What type of jobs do NC CPAs focus on?

Administration	730
Advisory Services	903
Auditing	3,105
Financial Planning	583
General Accountancy	9,600
Law	152
Non-Accounting	706
None/Other	976
Taxation	5,151





### Where do NC CPAs live?



**82%** Active Licensees living in NC

**1955**  
Year Longest Standing Active Certificate Issued

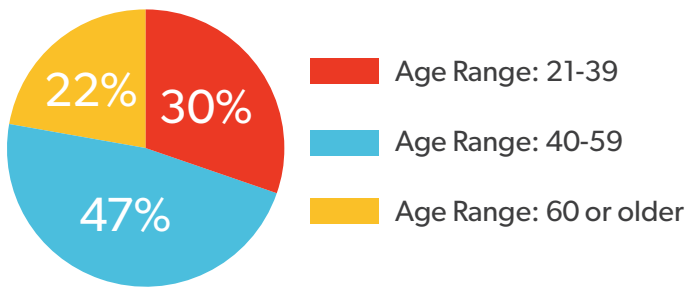
### Age Demographics

Age Range	Male	Female	Total
21-29	952	902	1,854 (8%)
30-39	2,520	2,337	4,857 (22%)
40-49	2,227	2,439	4,666 (21%)
50-59	2,792	2,951	5,743 (26%)
60-69	2,314	1,417	3,731 (17%)
70 or older	848	207	1,055 (5%)
	11,653	10,253	21,906

**92**  
Oldest Person with an Active NC CPA License

**21**  
Youngest Person with an Active NC CPA License

**Average Age: 48**



## AICPA Peer Review Board Extends Off-Site Waiver

CPA firm peer reviews can continue to be held remotely without prior approval of the administering entity for system reviews commencing before June 30, 2021, as a result of an August 20, 2020, vote by the AICPA Peer Review Board (PRB) that extended the off-site waiver.

The AICPA urges firms to contact their peer reviewers as soon as possible to schedule a mutually convenient time for their reviews.

Reviewers' firms also will be affected by the pandemic, so firms that wait too long might have difficulty scheduling their reviews in time to meet the new deadline.

Source: *Journal of Accountancy*,  
August 20, 2020.

## Reclassifications

At its August 17, 2020, meeting, the Board approved the applications for reclassification submitted by the following individuals:

### Reinstatement

Amy Trethaway Moss, #36035	Owens Cross Roads, AL
Pamela New Vest, #19909	Lexington, NC
Charlene Snow White, #32451	Wilmington, NC
Amy Elizabeth Winkler, #41669	Charlotte, NC

### Reissuance

Dana Marie Houston, #25000	Flowery Branch, GA
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### Inactive

Between August 5, 2020, and August 31, 2020, the individuals listed below were approved for inactive status. "Inactive," when used to refer to the status of a person, describes a person who has requested inactive status and has been approved by the Board and who does not use the title certified public accountant, nor does he or she allow anyone to refer to him or her as a certified public accountant, and neither he nor she nor anyone else refers to him or her in any representation as described in Rule .0308(b) of this Section [21 NCAC 08 .0301(b)(20)].

Gary Stephen Lake, #17745	Hendersonville, NC
Delane Welborn Buck, #24678	Lake Mary, FL
Robert Donald Parrott, #2943	Greenville, NC
Catherine Barwick Redmon, #18332	Goldsboro, NC

## Certificates Issued

On August 17, 2020, the Board approved the following individuals for licensure as North Carolina CPAs:

Brittany Nicole Alley	Amber Renee Johnson	Zachary Brian Roddy
Phillip Douglas Bair	Curtis Wayne Jones	Matthew Scott Roth
Ethan Vincent Biamonte	Jonora Kinshasa Jones	Kyle Scott Salvaterra
Randolph Edward Brown	Lamar Jones Jr.	Marshall Bennett Sams
Caitlin Reid Burton	Martina Kralova	Aliya Sanderson
Kathryn Anne Carmody	Michael Joseph Leatherwood	Conner DuBose Shaw
Steven Thomas Chambers	Andrea Bridges Lee	Cooper Jameson Shephard
Elizabeth Anne Chapman	Laurie H. Londergan	Paul Vincent Shimp
Aryssa Lee Ciuffo	Timothy James Mausolf	Austin Benjamin Shipe
Calista Zoe Corwyn	Peter Michael Maxwell	Sarah Martin Silver
Kim Cherie Creasey	Justin Sean McMahon	Kimberly Kathryn Slone
John Vela Delarosa	Chase Preston Middleton	Casey David Stewart
Robert Newton Eberlein	Amanda Marie Miller	Christopher Alan Teats
Scott Gerard Falls	Gabriel Morales Gagnon	Kelsey Rian Vaught
Leigh Ann Ferguson	Kide Azubuko Nnadike	Brandon Chase Walters
Christopher Michael Forrest	Andrew William Phelps	Mallory Eleanor West
Russell Reeve Guilfoile	Alexander James Raborn	T'Andrea Latrelle Anissa White
Yuting Han	Jonathan Robert Rea	Garrett Eugene Wickline
David Christopher Holmes	Chloe Abigail Reid	Hal Lincoln Young
Fredrick Maurice Hood	Jenna Chrystal Riglick	

## 2020 Exam Score Release Dates

If you take your exam on/before:	Your target score release date is:
September 30	October 9
October 23	November 10
November 16	November 24
December 8	December 16
December 31	January 12

Source: AICPA

- All dates and times are Eastern Time (ET) zone.
- For most candidates, Prometric sends Exam data files to the AICPA within 24 hours after you complete testing.
- Exam data files received after the AICPA cutoff dates will result in subsequent scheduled target score release dates.
- If you take the BEC section, you may receive your score approximately one week following the target release date because additional analysis may be required for the written communication tasks.
- Follow NASBA on Twitter (@NASBA) for Exam score release announcements.

## AICPA Launches .cpa Domain

On September 1, 2020, the AICPA and CPA.com launched .cpa, a restricted Internet domain exclusively for the CPA profession.

Only licensed CPA firms and individual CPAs can sign up for the new top-level domain, a term that refers to the last letters of an email address or website name (most commonly .com).

License verification will take place at the time of domain purchase as well as when a .cpa domain is renewed.



Although firms may submit applications now, individual licensed CPAs cannot apply until January 2021.

For more information, or to apply for a domain name, please visit [domains.cpa.com](https://domains.cpa.com).

## CPA Exam Performance Summary: 2020 Q-2 North Carolina

### Overall Performance

Unique Candidates	433
New Candidates	103
Total Sections	492
Passing 4th Section	74
Sections / Candidates	1.14
Pass Rate	73.98%
Average Score	79.07

### Section Performance

	Sections	Score	% Pass
First-Time	184	80.09	73.37%
Re-Exam	308	78.47	74.35%
AUD	185	78.05	72.43%
BEC	104	82.84	82.69%
FAR	99	76.15	66.67%
REG	104	79.90	75.0%

### Jurisdiction Ranking

Candidates	16	Sections	16
Pass Rate	10	Avg Score	10



# State Board of CPA Examiners

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North Carolina State Board of  
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2,000 copies of this document were printed in September 2020 at an estimated cost of \$1,765.00 or approximately 88¢ per copy.

## Notice of Address Change

Please Print Legibly

Full Name:	
Certificate No.:	Last 4 Digits of SSN:
Home Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Home Phone:	Home Fax:
Home Email:	
Firm/Business Name:	
Business Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Business Phone:	Business Fax:
Business Email:	
Signature:	
Date:	Send mail to: <input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Business

Mail form to: PO Box 12827, Raleigh, NC 27605  
Fax form to: (919) 733-4209

Pursuant to 21 NCAC 08J .0107, all certificate holders & CPA firms shall notify the Board in writing within 30 days of any change in home address & phone number; CPA firm address & phone number; business location & phone number; & email address.