

# **CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

**PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE...  
EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS  
FOR CPA LICENSURE**

# EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2014

Conferral of a baccalaureate degree or higher, with:

- 150 semester units of education
  - 24 semester units in accounting subjects
  - 24 semester units in business-related subjects
  - 20 semester units of accounting study
  - 10 semester units of ethics study

# **24 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING SUBJECTS**

**CBA REGULATION  
SECTION 9.2(b)**



# 24 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING SUBJECTS

Accounting

Auditing

Taxation

Financial Reporting

Financial Statement Analysis

External or Internal Reporting

# 24 SEMESTER UNITS

## ACCOUNTING SUBJECTS

Assurance

Attestation

Bookkeeping

Cost (Cost Analysis, Costing)

Peachtree/Quickbooks

CPA Review Courses from  
nationally/regionally accredited institutions

# **24 SEMESTER UNITS BUSINESS-RELATED SUBJECTS**

**CBA REGULATION  
SECTION 9.2(c)**



# 24 SEMESTER UNITS

## BUSINESS-RELATED SUBJECTS

Business Administration  
Business Management  
Business Communications  
Economics  
Finance  
Business Law  
Marketing  
Mathematics  
Statistics

## **24 SEMESTER UNITS BUSINESS-RELATED SUBJECTS**

Computer Science and Information Systems

Business-related law courses offered by an accredited law school

Any accounting subjects in excess of the 24 units needed to fulfill the accounting requirement



# **20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY**

**CBA Regulation  
Section 11.1**



## 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

- Two options for meeting the 20 semester units of accounting study:
  1. Conferral of a specified master's degree
  2. Completion of 20 semester units in the following areas: accounting subjects, business-related subjects, other academic work relevant to accounting and business

## 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

- Specified master's degrees include:
  - Master of Accounting
  - Master of Taxation
  - Master of Law in Taxation (LL.M.)

## 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

20 semester units of accounting study include:

- Minimum 6 semester units in accounting subjects
- Maximum 14 semester units in business-related subjects
- Maximum 9 semester units in other academic work relevant to accounting and business

## 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

Other academic work relevant to accounting and business includes:

- Skills-based courses
  - Foreign languages/cultural & ethnic studies
  - Industry-based courses
- \* Maximum of 3 semester units in any one of the above-listed areas**

## 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

Skills-based courses include courses completed in the following disciplines:

- Communications
- Journalism
- English
- Physical Sciences
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Life Sciences

# 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

## Courses in foreign language

- Includes Sign Language

## Courses with the following in the title:

- Culture
- Cultural
- Ethnic

# 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

## Industry-based courses include:

- Courses with the words “Industry” or “Administration” in the title
- Courses completed in the following disciplines:
  - Engineering
  - Architecture
  - Real Estate



## 20 SEMESTER UNITS ACCOUNTING STUDY

Maximum of 4 semester units may be completed in internships or independent study

- Courses must be completed in the accounting and business-related subjects.

# **10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY**

**RESULTING FROM  
SENATE BILL 773**



# **10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)**

Comprised of 4 sections:

1. Mandatory accounting ethics
2. Specified courses relating to ethics
3. Specified disciplines focused on a foundation of ethics
4. Financial statement auditing course

# 10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)

Minimum 3 semester or 4 quarter units  
in accounting ethics or accountants'  
professional responsibilities

- Required beginning January 1, 2017
- Must be completed at an upper division level or higher, unless completed at a community college

# **10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)**

Maximum 7 semester units or 11 quarter units in courses with the following words in the course title:

- \* Between January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2016, applicants can complete up to 10 semester or 15 quarter units.**

# 10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)

Auditing

Business Law

Corporate Governance

Ethics, Morals, or Fraud

Organizational Behavior

Human Resources Management

# 10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)

Management of Organizations  
Business Government and Society  
Business Leadership  
Legal Environment of Business  
Corporate Social Responsibility  
Professional Responsibilities

# 10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)

Maximum 3 semester or 4 quarter units  
in courses from the following disciplines:

- Philosophy
- Religion
- Theology



# **10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)**

To qualify under one of the three identified disciplines the course title must contain one of the following words or term:

# 10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)

Introductory

Foundation of

Introduction

Fundamentals of

Principals of

Survey of

General

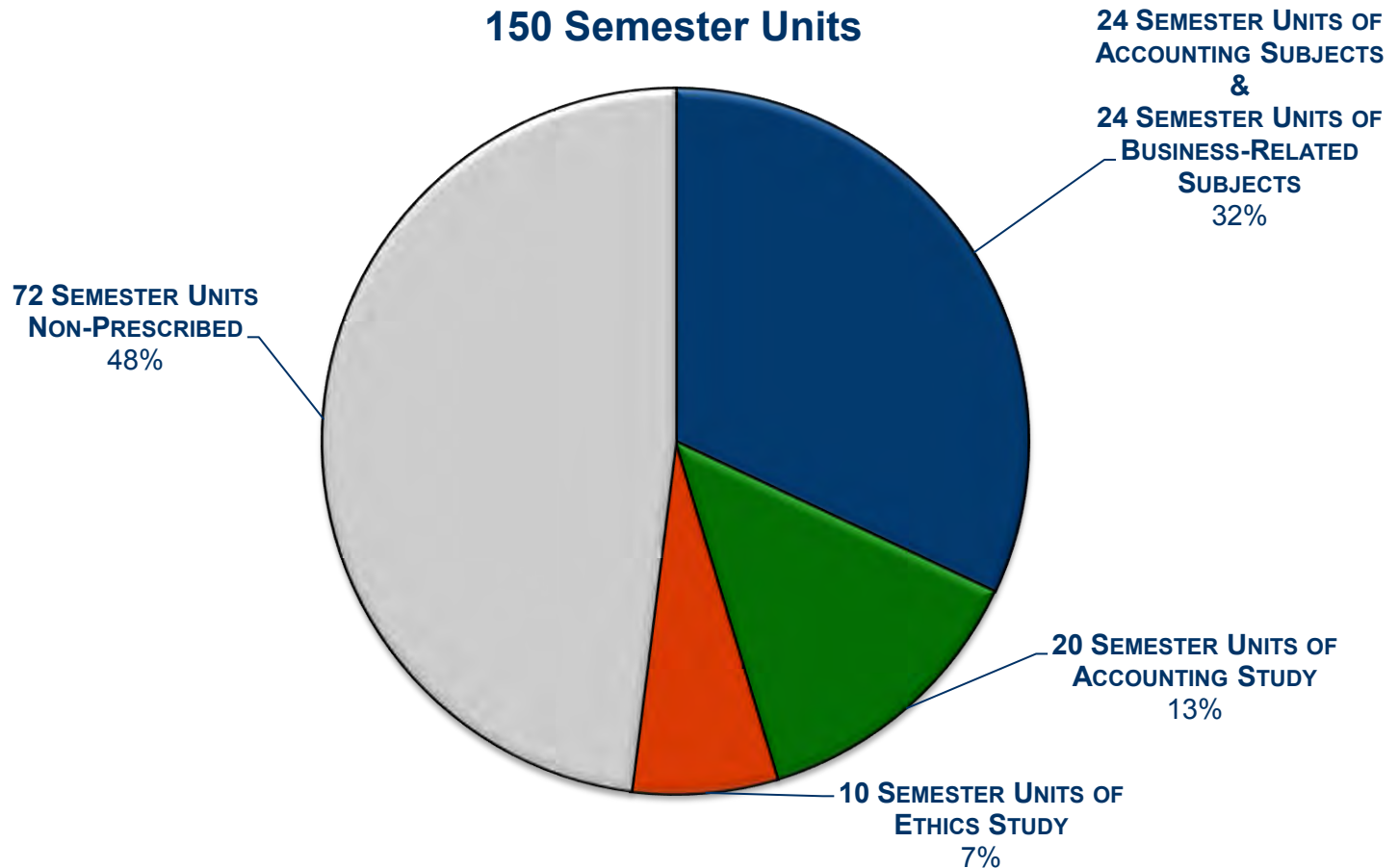
Or

The sole name in the course title is the name of the discipline

# **10 SEMESTER UNITS ETHICS STUDY (SENATE BILL 773)**

Maximum 1 semester unit in a course devoted to financial statement auditing

# EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CPA LICENSURE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2014



# **CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

**IMPLEMENTING CHANGES TO  
CPA LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS**



# IMPLEMENTING CHANGE... HOW WILL IT IMPACT CPA LICENSURE APPLICANTS?

Substantial crossover with the requirements

Considerable flexibility for courses to qualify

Looking out for what's best for the applicant

# CBA TRANSCRIPT REVIEW PROCESS

Reliance on transcripts to determine educational qualifications

Clear course titles are of the utmost importance

# CBA TRANSCRIPT REVIEW PROCESS

- 1 – Determine accrediting agency/body & units earned – semester/quarter
- 2 – Verify educational requirements – of bachelor's degree or higher, 24 semester units of accounting and 24 semester units of business-related subjects
- 3 – Tally all respective units



## DETERMINING COURSES

Rely on the definitions in CBA Regulations

Additional terms for accounting include: assurance, attestation, bookkeeping, cost (cost analysis, costing), Quickbooks, peachtree, and CPA Review courses

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ACCOUNTING STUDY

Business as usual for identifying the accounting and business-related courses

Other Academic Work Relevant to Accounting and Business

Focus on course designator, *e.g.*:

Engl, Bio, Chem, Soc, Span, French, etc.

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ACCOUNTING STUDY

Identifying Master of Accounting, Taxation,  
and Laws in Taxation

Master of Accounting

≠

Master of Business Administration  
w/concentration in Accounting

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ETHICS STUDY

## Mandated Ethics – Beginning 2017

Ethics/professional responsibilities courses  
taken from Accounting departments

Ethics/professional responsibilities courses  
with the term accounting in the course title

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ETHICS STUDY

## Courses taken from the course title list

Law requires courses contain specified words or terms

Minimal flexibility

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ETHICS STUDY

Examples of ....:

Ethical = Ethics

Fraudulent = Fraud

Morality = Morals

Social Responsibilities of Corporations =  
Corporate Social Responsibilities

Organizational Management = Management  
of Organizations

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ETHICS STUDY

Examples of ....:

Business & Society  $\neq$  Business, Government  
& Society

Leading Organizations  $\neq$  Business  
Leadership or Management of Organizations

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ETHICS STUDY

## Courses taken from the disciplines list

Focus on course designators – Phil, Reg (HRS, RS, etc.), Theo

Course title must include listed words/terms or have the sole name in the course title is the discipline



# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ETHICS STUDY

## Courses taken from the disciplines list

Examples of courses that would meet:

Phil – Introduction to Formal Logic

Phil – Introduction to Philosophical Thought

Rel – Foundations of Christian Faith

Theo – Introduction to Sacred Scriptures

# IMPACT OF THE NEW RULES ETHICS STUDY

## Courses taken from the disciplines list

Examples of courses that would not meet:

Phil – Formal Logic

Phil – Philosophical Thought

Rel – Christian Faith

Theo – Sacred Scriptures

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**IMPLEMENTING CHANGES TO  
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**[www.cba.ca.gov](http://www.cba.ca.gov)**