



**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY  
2000 EVERGREEN STREET, SUITE 250  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95815-3832  
TELEPHONE: (916) 263-3680  
FACSIMILE: (916) 263-3675  
WEB ADDRESS: <http://www.cba.ca.gov>



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY APPROVES PROPOSALS FOR NEW CPA EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

*Looks to keep CPA licensure attainable to community college  
and non-traditional students*

(Sacramento, CA) –The California Board of Accountancy (CBA) has begun the process to add approved course requirements for 30 additional units of education necessary for CPA licensure in California, including 10 units devoted to ethics education. These additional hours were the result of the California Legislature’s passage of Senate Bill 819 in 2009 and are designed to enhance consumer protection by strengthening the competency of applicants as practitioners. The expanded education requirements will also enable California CPAs in good standing to practice outside the state without having to obtain another license from those states that have enacted mobility legislation. The new requirements take effect January 2, 2014.

At its July 21 meeting in Pasadena, the CBA removed a requirement for upper division courses in the Accounting Education Committee (AEC) proposal, and requested the Ethics Curriculum Committee (ECC) reconsider the upper division requirement from its proposal. By statute, the CBA may not change the ECC’s report, but may request it consider revisions. CBA President Sally Anderson said the CBA wanted to move ahead and support both proposals, but had concerns that requiring upper level courses at a four year institution may unintentionally impact community college and non-traditional students.

“The CBA’s goal of the expanded education requirements is to strengthen the competency of CPAs, not create barriers for those wishing to enter the profession,” said Anderson. “We are confident that the new education requirements for CPA licensure in

California will assist in turning out well-educated, well-prepared applicants whose work will enhance consumer protection.”

The ECC met August 16 in Sacramento to address the request to remove the upper division designation from its proposal. The CBA is moving forward with getting the new requirements into regulation, so that universities and colleges may begin making any necessary curriculum changes. A copy of the proposed course requirements is available at [http://www.dca.ca.gov/cba/lic\\_require.shtml](http://www.dca.ca.gov/cba/lic_require.shtml).

The July 21, 2011 CBA meeting webcast is archived and available for viewing at <http://www.cba.ca.gov/webcast/> A copy of the full July 21, 2011 CBA meeting agenda is available online at: <http://www.dca.ca.gov/cba/meetings/materials/2011/mat0721cba.pdf>

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*Created by statute in 1901, the CBA’s mandate requires that protection of the public shall be its highest priority in exercising licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. The CBA currently regulates more than 85,000 licensees, the largest group of licensed accounting professionals in the nation, including individuals, partnerships, and corporations.*

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