



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 TO STUDY ATTEST EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT

SACRAMENTO – The California Board of Accountancy (CBA) will be launching a study to determine whether it should continue its present attest experience requirement for prospective Certified Public Accountants. At issue is whether the current requirement is necessary in supporting the CBA’s mission to protect consumers.

Attest experience includes audits, reviews of financial statements, or examinations of prospective financial information. Currently, those qualifying for a CPA license in California may do so under the “general experience” requirement or “attest experience” requirement.

According to CBA President Michael Savoy, the CBA will be performing this study on both a national and state level during 2015.

“This study, both in length and breadth, is designed to aid the CBA in determining whether to maintain, modify, or eliminate the attest experience requirement,” said Savoy. “At the end of the day we need to answer the question ‘What is in the best interest of California consumers?’”

The CBA has contracted with Sacramento-based CPS HR Consulting to conduct the preliminary work developing the study. The consulting firm is a self-supporting public entity with strong expertise in working with the public sector for federal, state, and local governments.

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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 90,000 licensees, the largest group of licensed accounting professionals in the nation, including individuals, partnerships, and corporations.

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