



CURRENT PROFESSIONAL ISSUES



- 1 | Regulatory Changes
- 2 | Recruitment and Staffing
- 3 | Technology
- 4 | Open Forum/Q&A

TXCPA



REGULATORY CHANGES



BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INFORMATION REPORTING



Anti-money
laundering reporting
requirements issued
by the U.S. Treasury
Department's
Financial Crimes
Enforcement
Network (FinCEN).



New mandatory reporting requirements went into effect on **January 1, 2024,** for many corporations, small businesses and LLCs.



Penalties for violating the reporting requirements include up to a \$10,000 fine and two years in jail.

Penalties increased to \$591 a day from \$500, effective Jan. 25.



DEADLINE FOR BOI REPORTING

Existing reporting companies have until **January 1**, **2025**, to file an initial BOI report.

If the reporting company was created or registered:

BEFORE
January 1, 2024

AFTER
January 1, 2024

New reporting companies will have **90 calendar days** to file after receiving actual or public notice that their company's creation or registration is effective.

Companies created after 2024 or have a change in ownership or need to correct information have 30 days to file.



FINCEN RELEASES NEW FAQS

HOA

- Most need to file unless they qualify as a taxexempt entity (e.g. 501(c)(4) – social welfare organizations)
- · Beneficial Owner of HOA:
 - Is a senior officer;
 - Has authority to appoint or remove certain officers or a majority of directors of the HOA;
 - Is an important decision-maker; or
 - Has any other form of substantial control over the HOA.

TRUSTS

- Trusts can own or control a reporting entity
- A beneficial owner is:
 - A trustee that has the authority to dispose of trust assets;
 - A beneficiary that is the sole permissible recipient of income, or has the right to withdraw substantially all of the assets from the trust; or
 - A grantor or settlor that has the right to revoke the trust or withdraw the assets of the trust.
 - Other facts and circumstances may apply
- FinCEN FAQs: https://www.fincen.gov/boi-faqs



FINCEN'S PLAN FOR ACCESS TO BOI INFORMATION

FIVE PHASES

SPRING 2024

Pilot program for a handful of Federal agency users.

SUMMER 2024

Access to Treasury offices and other Federal agencies engaged in law enforcement and national security activities.

FALL 2024

Access to intelligence activities, as well as to State, local, and Tribal law enforcement partners.

WINTER 2024

Access to
intermediary Federal
agencies in
connection with
foreign government
requests.

SPRING 2025

Access to financial institutions subject to customer due diligence requirements under applicable law and their supervisors.



HOUSE HEARING ON CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY ACT

- House Committee on Small Business had a hearing on April 30
- "Under the Microscope: Examining FinCEN's Implementation of the Corporate Transparency Act"
- Recommendations to House include:
 - Suspension of all enforcement actions until one year after the conclusion of all court cases related to the NSBA v. Yellen case
 - Update BOI reporting information on an annual basis





MORE BOI INFORMATION



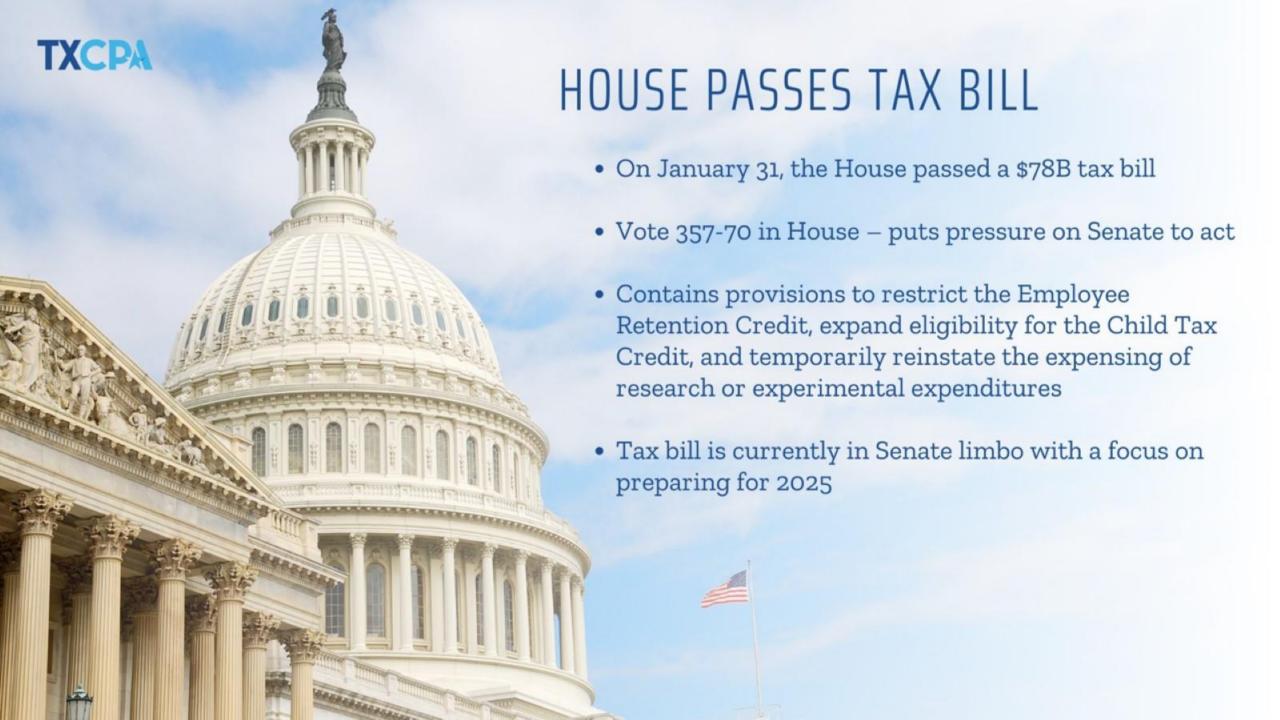
AICPA Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Resource Center



TXCPA's Beneficial Ownership Reporting Resource Page



FinCEN Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Resources





KEY BUSINESS PROVISIONS IN TAX DEAL



Delays three TCJA business extenders

- Deduction for section 174 research & experimental expenditures
- Extension of 100% bonus depreciation
- Extension of section 163(j) interest expense calculation as EBITDA



Increases maximum amount for section 179 expensing

- Slight raise in expensing limit allowance (cost of equipment and software) to \$1.29M (from \$1.16M)
- Limit adjusted for inflation after 2024



Provides "time limited and limited in scope" disaster relief

- Targeted disaster tax relief for some Hurricane Ian victims
- Tax relief for some wildfire victims
- Tax relief for people impacted by the East Palestine train derailment



ERC changes

- Ends program early on January 31, 2024
- Penalties for certain COVID-ERC promoters
- Extends statute of limitations to six years



EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT UPDATE

- ERC Voluntary Disclosure Program ended March 22
- Withdrawal Program remains available
 - Available for employer to withdraw ERC claims if filed but, in hindsight, feel don't qualify for the credit
 - To qualify for the program, an employer:
 - Must not have received a refund, or did and did not cash the check
 - Must withdraw entire amended payroll tax return on which ERC was claimed
- IRS announced ~ \$1B in potential savings from erroneous ERC claims half from enforcement and half from Voluntary Disclosure and Withdrawal programs
 - Additional \$3B being investigated



- Despite a moratorium since September on processing new claims for the pandemic-era ERC, Commissioner Danny Werfel says the IRS is still processing 20,000 new applications weekly.
- Commissioner Werfel supports retroactive bill stopping ERC claims.
- "There's two things being harmed if that bill doesn't get passed. One, the financial bottom line of the U.S. government...And two, in our big inventory of claims, there are still eligible claims in the midst, but they're very hard to find."

INITED STATES

Internal Revenue Service Building

Visitors フ



DATA ON THIS YEAR'S IRS FILING SEASON

- Improved phone service —reached 88% (compared to 84% last year and 15% in 2022)
- More calls answered (16.8% increase)
- Faster response times just over 3 minutes (4 minutes in 2023 and 28 minutes in 2022)
- Number of refunds down by 1.5%
 - Avg refund increased to \$2,948 (3.8% increase)
- Number of returns filed increased by 1.9%
- More callback options for more than 4 million taxpayers





CHANGES TO TRANSCRIPT DELIVERY SERVICE AUTHORIZATION PROCESS

- Began April 8, 2024
- Tax professionals must call the Practitioner Priority Service line to request transcripts
- Tax professionals need to pass the current required authentication and also verify their Short Identification
- Scan for more info from the IRS:



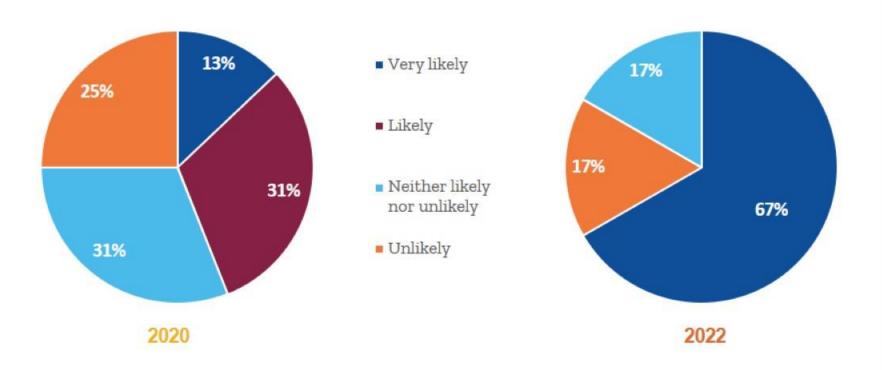
REVISED GUIDANCE FROM DEPT. OF LABOR: EMPLOYEE OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR?

- New DOL regulation (RIN 1235-AA43) provides revised guidance in determining employee or independent contractor classification effective Mar 11, 2024
 - Rescinds 2021 rule
- New economic reality test provides six factors:
 - 1. "opportunity for profit or loss depending on managerial skill;
 - 2. investments by the worker and the potential employer;
 - 3. degree of permanence of the work relationship;
 - 4. nature and degree of control;
 - 5. extent to which the work performed is an integral part of the potential employer's business; and
 - 6. skill and initiative."



EXPECTED GROWTH IN DEMAND FOR ESG ASSURANCE

How likely is it that your firm will start performing sustainability-related assurance services over the next three years?



84% OF FIRMS ARE LIKELY OR VERY LIKELY TO START PERFORMING **ESG SERVICES** IN THE NEXT THREE YEARS.

Source: AICPA firm survey, top 100 member firms



CALIFORNIA CLIMATE BILLS



Private and Public Businesses Operating in the State (reports due January 1, 2026)

- SB 253: The Climate Corporate Data Accountability Act
 - Revenues greater than \$1 billion
 - Report emissions, including scopes 1, 2, and 3
 - Obtain third-party assurance of the reports
 - Impact extends beyond companies to suppliers, which expands the reach
- SB 261: The Climate-Related Financial Risk Act
 - Revenues greater than \$500 million
 - Prepare and submit an annual climate-related financial risk report



2023 GLOBAL FINANCE TRENDS SURVEY REPORT

- "ESG metrics and measurement" is the top priority for both public and private company CFOs and finance leaders in the coming year
 - ESG metrics ranked 14th in the previous year
- Three out of five (60%) of organizations indicate a substantial increase in the focus and frequency of their reporting related to ESG issues



Source: 2023 Global Finance Trends Survey Report by Protiviti



FEDERAL TAX POLICY COMMITTEE

Advocates for members by reviewing federal tax legislation, regulations, and administrative pronouncements and providing valuable feedback and input on your behalf.

Most recent advocacy: TXCPA Committee Calls on FinCEN to Delay BOI Filing Deadline for All Entities by One Year

- The FTP Committee urged that the filing deadline for all existing entities be delayed one year until 2025, the 90-day deadline for new entities be made permanent and the period for reporting subsequent events be extended to at least 90 days.
- The reporting deadline for companies created or registered in 2024 was extended from 30 days to 90 days thanks to advocacy efforts from TXCPA and the FTP Committee.



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Advocates for the CPA profession in Texas by responding to exposure drafts of proposed accounting and auditing standards, rules and regulations issued by accounting and auditing standard-setting bodies that have an impact on the practice of accountancy in Texas.

Most recent comment letter included feedback on PCAOB Rulemaking Docket Matter No. 054

– Proposals Regarding False or Misleading Statements Concerning PCAOB Registration and Oversight and Constructive Requests to Withdraw from Registration.



PCAOB PROPOSALS CALL FOR FIRMS TO DISCLOSE MORE ABOUT THEMSELVES



- Two new PCAOB proposals would require firms to report new metrics and information.
- The Firm and Engagement Metrics proposal would require PCAOB-registered accounting firms auditing accelerated or large accelerated filers to publicly report specific metrics about those audits and their practices.
- The Firm Reporting proposal would amend PCAOB's annual and special reporting requirements to facilitate the disclosure of more complete, standardized and timely information.
- TXCPA's Professional Standards Committee is reviewing the proposals

TXCPA

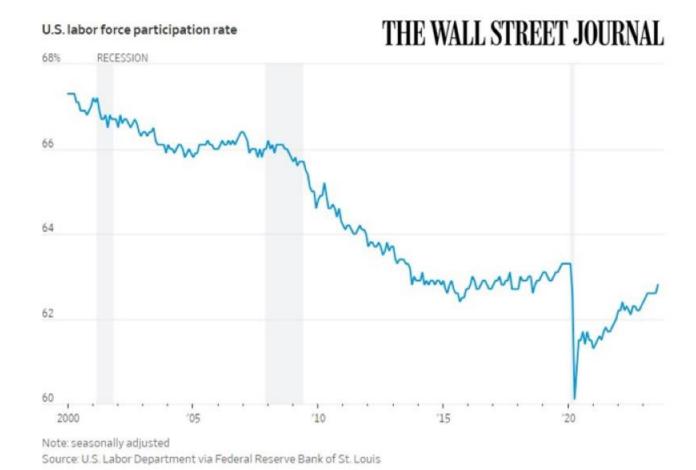


RECRUITMENT AND STAFFING



DEMOGRAPHICS AND THE LABOR FORCE

- The global working-age populations of 61 of 195 countries or areas are projected to decrease by 1 percent more between 2022 and 2050 (U.S. is one)
- Census shows that U.S. working-age population grew only 3% over the last decade driven by a decrease in fertility rates starting in 2007 and retirements.
- U.S. non-working population grew 13%
- 10,000 Baby Boomers reaching 65 years old every day; 3M early retired in 2020-22





CHANGING ATTITUDES TOWARD COLLEGE EDUCATION

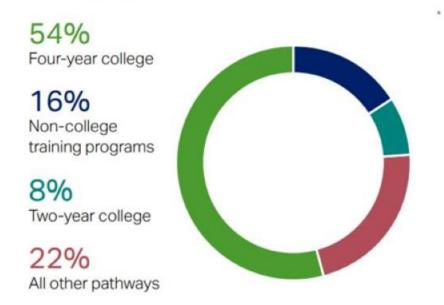
College/university enrollments are declining overall in the U.S., reducing our potential pipeline population

WHY?

- Nearly half of parents (chart to the right)
 wanted something other than a four-year
 college for their children (Source:
 Carnegie/Gallup 2021)
- % of young adults ages 18-29 who think college is very important dropped from 74% in 2013 to 41% in 2019 (Source: Gallup 2019)

Please think about your ideal situation; if there were no obstacles or limitations, what would/did you most want your child to do immediately after he or she finishes/finished high school?

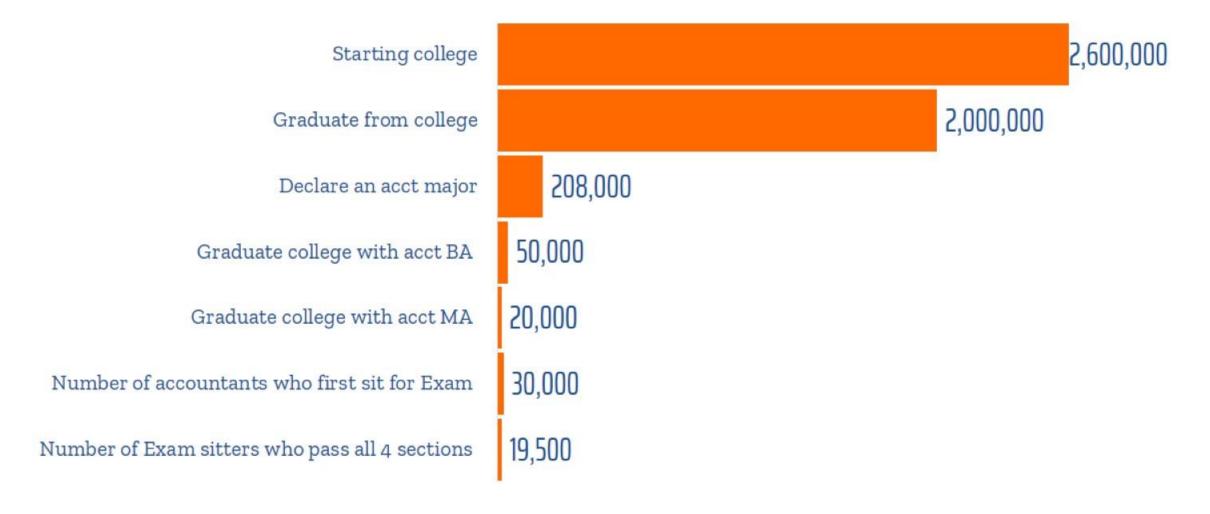
% Among all parents



[&]quot;Non-college training programs" and "All other pathways" are composite groups. For a complete listing of all data by subcategory, please see the appendix.



EXAMINING THE PIPELINE FUNNEL





BUSINESS MAJORS AND ACCOUNTING MAJORS



1 in 9

College businessrelated graduates earns an accounting degree, and that number is trending down. (Wiley, 2023)



1 in 4

Accounting majors gets an accounting bachelor's degree.



1 of 12

Accounting majors becomes a **CPA**.

Source: JoA 2017-18; IPEDS, Wiley



CPA EXAM TRENDS



43%

of accounting grads (BA and MA) sit for the Exam.

57%

of exam sitters (over all of time) ultimately pass all sections of the Exam.

Source: IPEDS and AICPA Exam data



CAQ/EDGE RESEARCH ON SELECTION OF ACCOUNTING AS A MAJOR

REASONS FOR NOT CHOOSING ACCOUNTING AS A MAJOR:



70%

Said lack of interest or passion



61%

Said higher starting salary with other major



57%

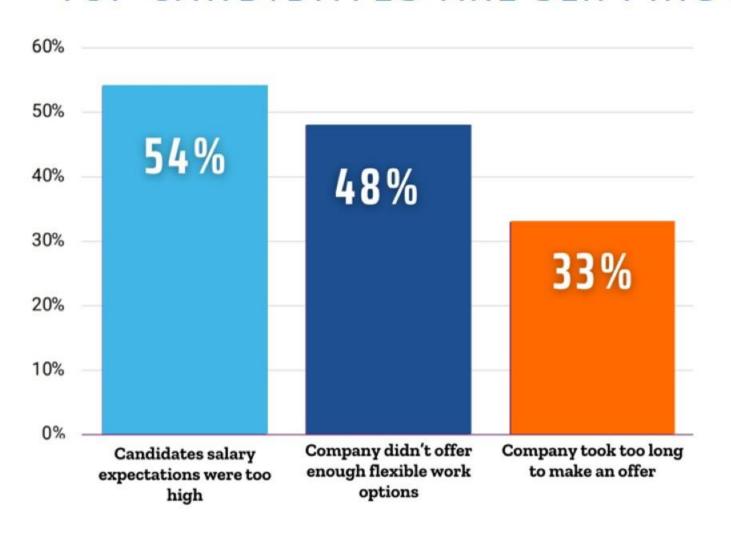
Said don't want to pursue 150 hours for CPA 66% of accounting majors decided their major prior to college

The CAQ research showed the "150 requirement is more conspicuous a challenge for Black and Hispanic non-accounting students, and in particular those students who considered accounting but opted out."

"The time required to study for the CPA exam is a top obstacle across all demographics, but the costs associated with completing the 150 credit hour requirement is the most significant hurdle identified by Black and Hispanic accounting majors."



TOP CANDIDATES ARE SLIPPING AWAY





Offer competitive salaries.



Provide flexible work options.



Don't wait to make an offer.



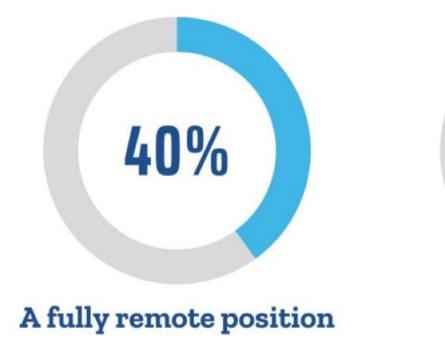
WHAT WORKERS WANT MOST



Source: Robert Half



THE IDEAL WORK ARRANGEMENTS







Source: Robert Half



COMPENSATION DISPARITY AMONG PROFESSIONS

Median annual compensation (all levels):

STEM professionals

\$98,000

>

Accounting and Auditing professionals

\$78,000

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - 2022/2023

Median average compensation 2022 (new/starting professionals):

Engineers:

\$75,000

All business graduates:

\$62,000

>

Accounting:

\$50,000



2023 PCPS NATIONAL MAP SURVEY

Position	2023 median – all respondents	2021 median – all respondents	Change
Equity partners/owners	\$183,855	\$166,572	10%
Directors (11+ years of experience)	\$136,211	\$120,000	14%
Senior managers (8-10 years of experience)	\$105,000	\$94,951	11%
Managers (6-7 years of experience)	\$86,374	\$82,600	5%
Senior associates (4-5 years of experience)	\$69,472	\$65,888	5%
Associates (1-3 years of experience)	\$55,930	\$52,639	6%
New professions (<1 year of experience)	\$50,000	\$45,000	11%
Paraprofessionals	\$49,577	\$48,596	2%
Interns	\$28,667	\$26,621	8%
Professional contractors	\$56,590	\$71,278	-21%

Source: 2023 PCPS National MAP Survey



HOW THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION IS ADDRESSING THE SHORTAGE



Investing in automation and technology to allow staff to focus on higher-value work



Focusing on increasing diversity and inclusion in recruitment



High school outreach to promote accounting as a career option



Exam changed in 2024 to illustrate how tech-focused the profession has become



The profession is advocating for accounting to be recognized as a STEM curriculum under the technology field



ACCOUNTING IS STEM

- AICPA, TXCPA and other state CPA societies are working on three different fronts to achieve STEM recognition for accounting:
 - Advocating for bipartisan federal legislative support
 - Encouraging colleges and universities to apply for the STEM designation
 - Securing federal STEM designation from the U.S.
 Department of Homeland Security
- STEM-designated fields are eligible for additional state and federal resources, expanding opportunities for students at all education levels creating pathways for future accountant



HOW YOU CAN HELP PROMOTE THIS CHANGE

- Follow TXCPA's social media channels (Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn) and like, comment, and share our STEM campaign posts.
- Send letters to your U.S. senator and congressional representative to cosponsor two bipartisan, bicameral, AICPA-endorsed bills.
 - Learn more about these bills and find draft messages to send on our campaign page at bit.ly/AccountingisSTEM
- Reach out to your alma mater to ask for their support in changing their Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes to obtain the STEM classification for their university accounting program.
- Your support is integral to increasing the visibility of this important advocacy effort. Let's shape the future of accounting together!











TXCPA'S CPA PIPELINE STRATEGY

Removing barriers in the licensing process.

Identify financial resources to address the cost of education and licensure.

Reach more students and reach them earlier.

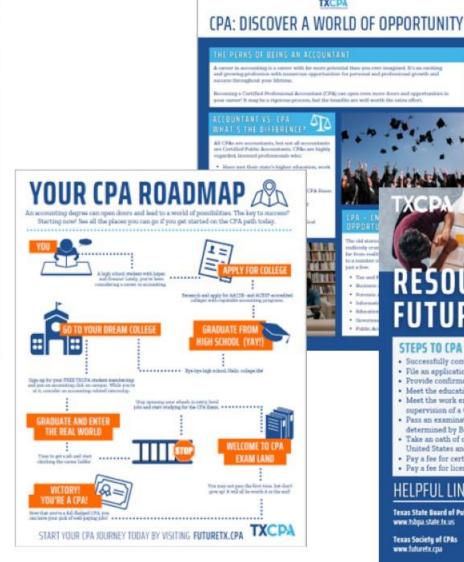
Empower and engage members in changing the perception of accounting.

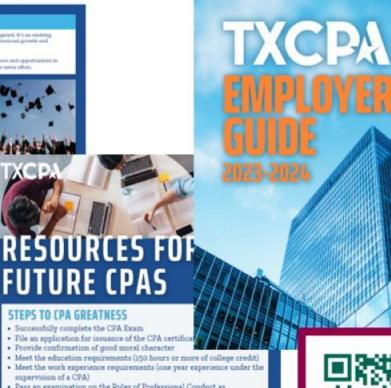




RESOURCE MATERIALS AVAILABLE!







- · Successfully complete the CPA Exam
- · Provide confirmation of good moral character
- Meet the education requirements (150 hours or more of college credit)
- . Meet the work experience requirements (one year experience under the supervision of a CPA)
- · Pass an examination on the Rules of Professional Conduct as determined by Board rule
- · Take an oath of office to support the laws and Constitution of the United States and this state and rules adopted by the Board
- · Pay a fee for certification
- · Pay a fee for licensing

HELPFUL LINKS:

Texas State Board of Public Accountancy MASEA www.hshpa.state.hx.us

Texas Society of CPAs www.futuretx.cpa

www.prometric.com/test-takers/search/cpa

www.nasba.org

www.thiswaytocpa.com

SPANISH OPTION AVAILABLE

· Curson/equintive

· Orientado al detalle

* Audition

· Intratégue

 Connoedor de la tecnología · Septido ético

a Alaptable

· Profesional

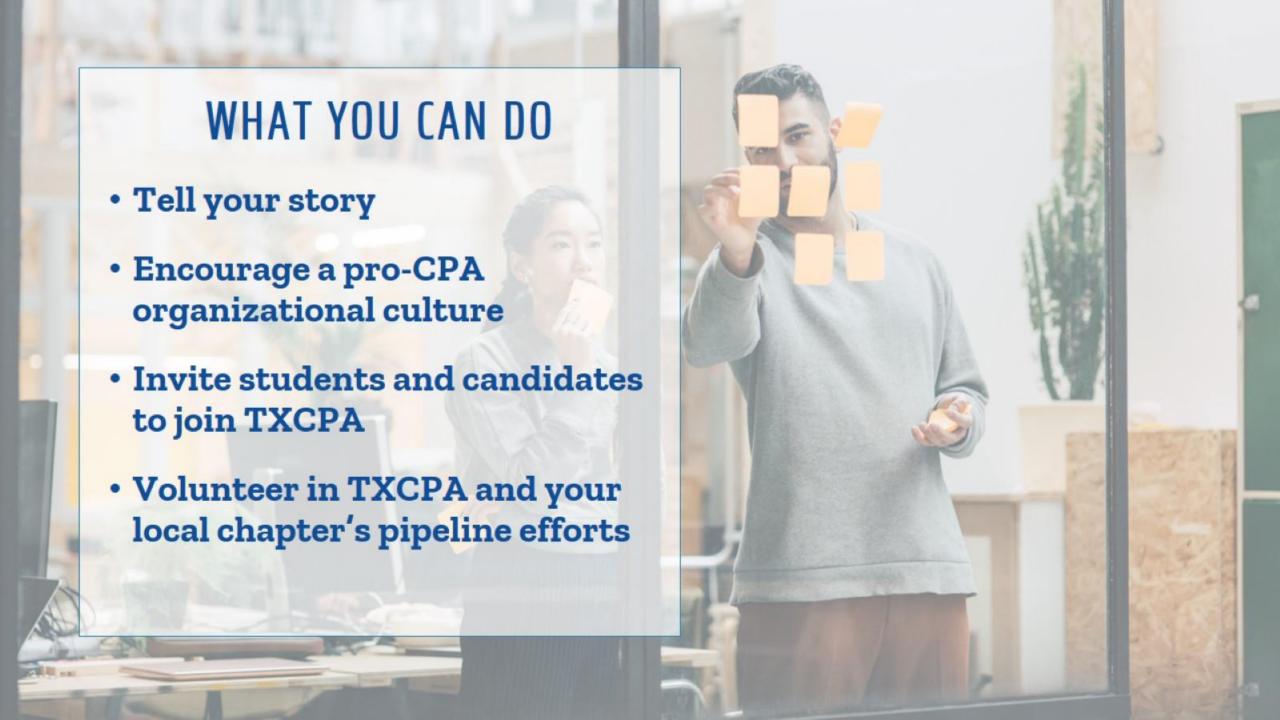
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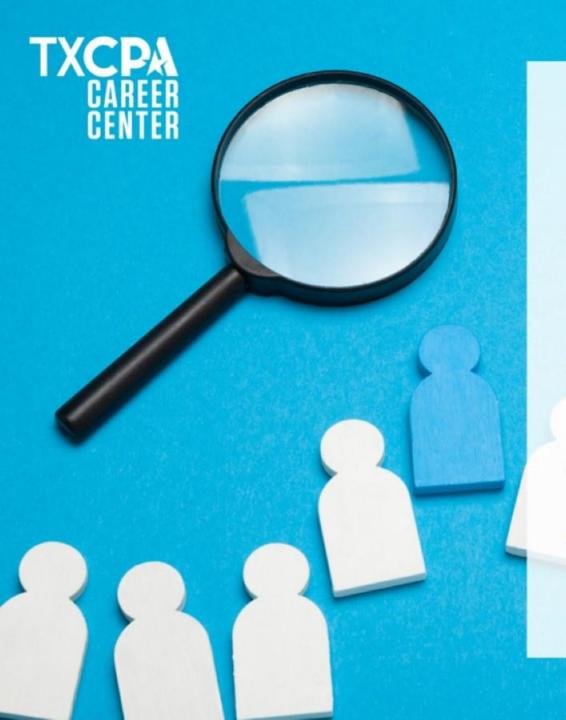


DESTINATION CPA:

An Original Podcast Series From TXCPA

- Provides insights and navigation tips for those on the path to a CPA license and for those interested in learning about the CPA profession
- Three episodes launched so far
- Latest episode features Liz Barentzen, VP of talent initiatives and operations for the Center for Audit Quality (CAQ)
 - CAQ Accounting+ program discussion
 - Encourages underrepresented minority high school and college students to explore accounting careers
 - Discover how this initiative is driving diversity within the profession





TXCPA CAREER CENTER:

Your go-to resource to find or post a job

- TXCPA's online Career Center can assist you in searching for a new job or hiring the right candidate.
- Members can create a FREE job seeker profile, and receive exclusive savings on postings.
- Internship postings are always FREE!
- If it's time to make a career move or you have a job opening, visit the Career Center at

careers.tx.cpa

TXCPA



TECHNOLOGY



SMALL BUSINESS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

<u>8x</u>

revenue growth for small businesses engaged in digital transformation vs. those without digital efforts.

Source: Small Business Digital Transformation Survey

91%

of small business owners using AI report it has made their companies more successful.

Source: Constant Contact (8/2023): Small Business Now Report – An AI Awakening



GENERATIVE AI: FIVE USE CASES FOR ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE



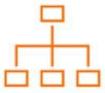
Finance

Structured Data Extraction



Advisory

AI-Enriched KPI Analysis



Practice Management

Recruiting Agent



Audit

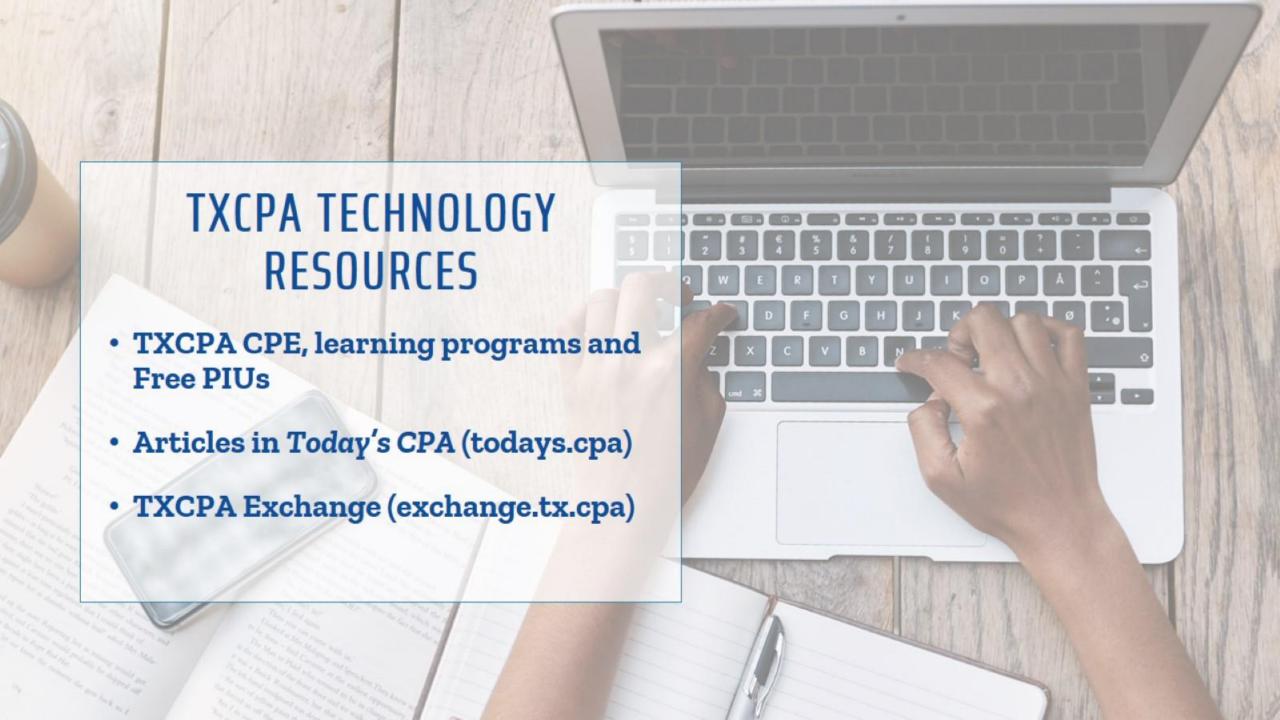
Interview Transcript
Assistance



Tax

Legislation Research Assistant

Source: CPA.com Generative AI Toolkit.



TXCPA

OPEN FORUM / Q&A

2024 ENERGY CONFERENCE

TXCPA's Energy Conference features the latest on current energy issues, changes on the horizon and the hottest topics in the industry.

> Al and Automation

Fraud in **Utilities**

And more!

IRA and **Energy** Tax Incentives

May 13-14, 2024 Webcast Only

CPE credit hours: 16.2

Member fee: \$349

Government fee: \$299

Nonmember fee: \$459



Visit bit.ly/EnergyCPE24 or scan the QR code to register!

2024 Nonprofit Organizations Conference

May 20-21, 2024

Hilton Richardson Dallas Webcast Option Available | 18 hours of CPE

TXCPA's 2024 Nonprofit Organizations Conference is designed to expand your knowledge and provide the latest training on all things related to the nonprofit industry.

Employment Law

The Effective Nonprofit Cybersecurity Playbook Nonprofit Risk Management

FASB Update





Practice Management Conference

May 29, 2024 | DoubleTree Dallas Love Field | Webcast Available

Attend TXCPA's Practice Management Conference for the latest on hot topics like BOI, hiring trends, succession planning, technology risk management, and more!

Network with other practitioners and leave with action items you can put into place right away to enhance your practice.





Upcoming FREE CPE

Just one of the many benefits of your TXCPA membership!

Professional Issues Update Webcast May 16, 2024 | 2 hours of CPE

REPLAY Professional Issues Update Webcast May 29, 2024 | 2 hours of CPE

Texas Taxes Quarterly Updates July 25, 2024 | 1 hour of CPE

FREE on-demand, TSBPAapproved ethics course





TXCPA EXCHANGE

CONNECT. ENGAGE. SHARE. CONVERSE.

Join the conversation on TXCPA Exchange!

Leverage the knowledge of 28,000 fellow TXCPA members by visiting **exchange.tx.cpa**

- Find and connect with members through the member directory
- Participate in discussions, ask questions and get feedback from colleagues
- Share knowledge and resources with your fellow CPA community





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