

## Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Exam and License Requirements

### **Michigan CPA Exam Requirements:**

CPA Exam requirements are separate from the requirements to become a licensed CPA in the State of Michigan. To register and complete the CPA exams, you need:

1. Bachelor degree from an accredited college or university:
  - a. Bachelor degree with an accounting concentration:
    - i. An accounting concentration is defined as 24 semester credits of accounting coursework, including 3 credits in auditing.
    - ii. The accounting coursework must include: Auditing, Financial Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Accounting Systems, U.S. Taxation, and Governmental Accounting.
    - iii. Must include at least 24 semester credits of general business subjects.
    - iv. The Walsh Bachelor of Accountancy (BAC) degree does satisfy this requirement.
  - b. Bachelor degree in another major (not accounting):
    - i. Must include 24 credits completed in accounting courses that include: Auditing, Financial Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Accounting Systems, U.S. Taxation, and Governmental Accounting.
    - ii. This must include at least 24 credits of general business credits

The following Walsh courses satisfy the accounting requirements to qualify for the CPA exams:

- Auditing: ACC 415 or ACC 515
- Financial Accounting: ACC 300 or ACC 500
- Managerial Accounting: ACC 310, ACC 419, or ACC 519
- Accounting Systems: ACC 406 or ACC 506
- Governmental Accounting: ACC 412 or ACC 512
- U.S. Taxation: ACC 495 or TAX 595

Recommended accounting courses for students looking to take the CPA exams:

- Intermediate Accounting: ACC 301, ACC 302, ACC 501, or ACC 502
- Financial Accounting Concepts: ACC 303 or ACC 503
- Tax and Business Taxation II: TAX 496 or TAX 596

### Additional Notes:

- Coursework is accepted for classes that have been granted college credit.
- Approved general business credits include: Business Communications, Business Ethics, Business Law, Economics, Finance, Management, Marketing, Information Systems Technology, Quantitative Methods, or Statistics.
- The CPA Exams are computer-based in four hour increments with a variety of testing formats, including multiple-choice questions, essays and task-based simulations to test accounting knowledge and skills, using real life, work-related situations.
- For more exam information, visit [www.nasba.org](http://www.nasba.org) or <https://nasba.org/exams/cpaexam/michigan/>

**Michigan CPA License Requirements:**

Once you have successfully passed all four sections of the CPA Exam, you will need the following to earn your CPA Licensure.

1. Applicants must have completed 150 semester credit hours to include:
  - a. Option 1:
    - i. 30 semester credits of accounting subjects and include 3-6 credits in taxation.
    - ii. 39 semester credits in general business courses, including 3 -12 semester hours in at least five of the following areas: Business Law, Economics, Ethics, Finance, Management, Marketing, Taxation, Statistics, and Business Policy.
  - b. Option 2:
    - i. Earn a master's degree in accounting that includes a minimum of 12 credits in graduate level accounting coursework.
  - c. The Walsh Master of Accountancy (MAC) degree (for students that do not have a bachelor's degree in accounting or business) may not fulfill all of the general business credits needed for a CPA license. Prior coursework in business can satisfy the general business requirement. Please contact a Walsh advisor for personal review of credits.
2. Successfully pass all four parts of the uniform CPA exam:
  - a. Applicants need to successfully pass all four sections of the CPA exam within a consecutive 18 month period.
  - b. Each part of the exam may be taken separately. The four exams include Auditing (AUD), Financial Accounting and Reporting (FAR), Regulation (REG), and Business Environment and Concepts (BEC).
3. Obtained one year of qualifying accounting experience:
  - a. Applicants must also have one year (2,000 hours) of qualifying experience.
  - b. The experience may include volunteer, internship, or part-time work, and the 2,000 hours must be earned from one year up to a five-year time period.
  - c. Experience may be gained through employment in industry, academia, government or public accounting. The qualifying experience must be verified by a CPA. This person does not need to be employed at your place of work and may be licensed in any state or jurisdiction of the U.S.

**Additional Notes:**

- CPA candidates may complete the CPA exams before having the total of 150 semester credit courses completed.
- The 150 semester credit requirement must be met prior to applying for the CPA licensure.
- The State Board of Accountancy is the governing organization with official authority in granting examinations and license.