



North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners

Legislative Requirement: Session Law 2024-53 Senate Bill 743

AUTHORIZE STATE AGENCIES TO EXERCISE REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY FOR EMPLOYMENT-RELATED CERTIFICATIONS

In response to the Disaster Recovery Act of 2024, the NC State Board of CPA Examiners exercised regulatory flexibility as follows:

CPA Exam Applications – The Board approved Executive Staff authority to approve full refunds upon request to CPA Exam candidates impacted by Hurricane Helene and the Nash County tornado (“Natural Disasters”). Refunds were provided for Exam section fees and the administrative fees collected.

Continuing Professional Education (CPE)

The Board’s CPE requirement for CPAs is 2,000 minutes annually. The CPE completion period is based on the calendar year. Accordingly, those individuals impacted by the natural disasters would have been required to obtain all CPE from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. As a matter of procedure, the Board already allows licensees to request an extension to complete the annual CPE requirement, but an extra reporting form was developed to streamline the reporting process for those impacted by the State’s natural disasters. Any extension request from a licensee located within a FEMA Disaster Declaration 4827 area was automatically approved.

Firm Registration Renewals

All CPA firms are required to renew annually with the Board by December 31. The firm renewal process started on December 5, 2024, and the deadline was extended to March 1, 2025, to align with the time period of the Disaster Recovery Act.

To ensure that all impacted individuals were aware of the relief efforts approved by the Board, the Board added a disaster relief information page to its website, placed articles in its monthly newsletter, and made multiple posts to the Board’s social media accounts.