

LB 27 Experience Provisions effective September 6, 2013

Earlier this year, Governor Dave Heineman signed into law changes to the Public Accountancy Act (PAA) known as LB 27. The changes will allow additional types of experience gained through employment to apply toward requirements for an active permit to practice as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in Nebraska. The additional types of experience include working within a private company, government, or academia for three years under the supervision of a current licensed CPA (*other forms of status such as Inactive Registrant, Certificate Holder or other title, do **not** qualify as a CPA supervisor*). It is generally expected the Board will require the experience be accounting related to qualify. Provisions within LB 27 require the experience to meet to the satisfaction of the Board.

Beginning September 6, 2013 the Board will accept applications for an initial permit to practice as a CPA including experience gained with the additional types of experience. Initially, the Board will accept additional information detailing what type of experience was gained as provided. A Board prepared form is available to assist in providing information to the Board. The initial processing of these applications will include:

- Initial review by staff including assisting the applicant with providing relevant information and meeting the requirements as outlined within LB 27. A Board prepared form is offered to assist in this process.
- Applications will then be reviewed by the Board's Licensing Committee to determine if the experience gained is acceptable. Recommendations will then be forwarded to the Board where final review will determine if the applicant's experience meets "the satisfaction of the Board." Any feedback provided by the Committee and/or the Board will be shared with the applicant. If necessary, the applicant may provide further information and may attend a later Board meeting to share their thoughts.
- Until further notice applicants will await final review by the Board at their next scheduled meeting. If successful, staff will then process and issue the active permit to practice.

It should be noted those providing experience within a CPA firm will continue with the Board's current process of providing two years of experience within an affidavit completed by the CPA supervisor without requiring the submission of additional information or delay as outlined above.

LB 27, proposed regulations, forms and other information can be viewed on the Board's website at www.nbpa.ne.gov. Questions can be addressed at (402) 471-3595 or by email to jo.lowe@Nebraska.gov or dan.sweetwood@Nebraska.gov.