

BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY  
2016-2017 Annual Regulatory Plan

Pursuant to Section 120.74(1), Florida Statutes:

- (a) Chapter 2016-116, Laws of Florida, effective July 1, 2016, was enacted during the previous 12 months which created or modified the duties or authority of the Board, and included amendments to the following law:

Section 120.695, F.S. Notice of noncompliance; designation of minor violation of rules.

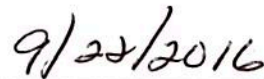
The Board has previously reviewed its rules to identify those the violation of which would be a minor violation and incorporated them into Rule 61H1-36.0055, FAC; while further rulemaking is not required by Section 120.695, F. S., Rule 61H1-36.004, FAC (entitled "Disciplinary Guidelines; Range of Penalties; Aggravating and Mitigating Circumstances") had already been added to the attached spreadsheet and will be evaluated in light of Section 120.695, F.S..

- (b) Attached is a spreadsheet listing the laws not otherwise listed in paragraph (1) which the Board expects to implement by rulemaking before October 1, 2017. Rules that have been noticed prior to October 1, 2016 are not included in this report.

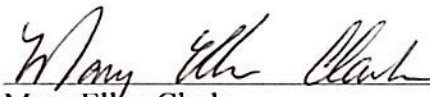
Pursuant to Section 120.74(1)(d), Florida Statutes, I hereby certify that I have reviewed this Annual Regulatory Plan and that the Board regularly reviews all of its rules to determine if the rules remain consistent with the Board's rulemaking authority and the laws being implemented, with the most recent review having been completed June 30, 2015.



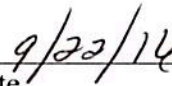
David L. Dennis  
Chair, Board of Accountancy



Date



Mary Ellen Clark  
Counsel to the Board of Accountancy



Date

Rule Number	Rule Title	Rulemaking Action	Reason for Rulemaking	Additional Details on Reason for Rulemaking	Description of Current Rule or Statute to be Implemented	Description of Changes to be Made in Rulemaking
61H1-20-001	Definitions	Rule Amendment	Update Rule	Clarifying rule	The current rule identifies a CPA as a person. The Firm rule requires 51% ownership by a CPA. The Board allows a CPA Firm to own another firm as well	Consider identifying a CPA as both a person and a CPA Firm
61H1-26-001 (1)	Form of Practice and Name- Shared Office Space	Rule Amendment	Update Rule	Clarifying rule	The current rule requires all CPAs to either be an employee of or owner of a Firm to practice. A CPA is only required to practice as a CPA Firm under 473.302	Consider adding the language, "A Florida certified public accountant may only practice public accounting as defined in section 473.302(8)(a), F.S."
61H1-26-003	Licensure of Florida Certified Public Accountant Firms	Rule Amendment	Update Rule		The current rule requires the firm to provide us with the names of all licensed professional staff and non licensed-owners	We do not have the ability to enter non-licensed owners into the database. Some of the firms employee hundreds of people and this requirement, while not entered into the database, is managed on the application and occupies a great deal of staff time (e.g. going out and verifying a non- Florida CPAs license in another state, etc). We've had single applications occupy nearly an entire workday for a staff member. Also, we do not run background checks on the people in a firm, so we have no verification approach on the disclosure requirements.
61H1-27-001	College or University Requirements	Rule Amendment	Update Rule Update/Add Incorporated Material		The current rule reads "North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools." The current rule does not address AACSB or ACBSP accreditation. The rule requires the person to have received a degree. This rule requires an applicant that has graduated from an unaccredited school to apply and be accepted into an accredited school's business program, complete 15 graduate hours with various requirements, and have good standing.	The accrediting body has changed it's name to "The Higher Learning Commission" Consider deeming a person with a BA from a business school that is AACSB accredited qualified for examination and a master's degree from a business school that is AACSB accredited as qualified for licensure. The Board may also want to consider deeming a person who's program of study (e.g. accounting program), not school of business, was accredited by ACBSP to have the same qualifying status as a person who's school of business was accredited by AACSB. This is the standard approach used by other Board's throughout. Consider removing the degree requirement. Our universities have used a tremendous amount of resources to determine which courses qualify for transfer and which do not. If the accredited school deems the course qualified, and lists it on their transcript, then consider accepting it based on Other jurisdictions accept the recommendation of equivalency by the international evaluator. We require it, but do not accept the equivalency. We should consider following in step with the other jurisdictions and accept a foreign education that has been deemed equivalent by our approved evaluators as equivalent. If the evaluator advises us that the unaccredited education is not equivalent, then we should consider using this process for the applicant to prove up his or her credentials.
61H1-27-002(8)	Concentrations in Accounting and Business	Rule Amendment	Update		Rule does not distinguish between those licensed in certain foreign countries.	Consider amending rule to state those who hold licenses from programs approved by IQAB shall be deemed to have an accredited degree.
61H1-27-004(1)	One Year of Work Experience	Rule Amendment	Update			



Economic Impact	Highly Technical or Complicated

