FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing Statement:	Lisa Benefield	Dept.:	Executive Office
Phone:	504-372-6726	Office:	Office of the Governor/ State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana
Return Address:	601 Poydras Street	Rule Title:	LAC 46:XIX
	Suite 1770		Certified Public Accountants, Comprehensive Rule Revisions
	New Orleans, LA 70130	Date Rule Takes Effect:	Upon Promulgation

SUMMARY
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 961 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The State Board of Certified Public Accountants anticipates one-time costs of approximately $2,000 associated with public notice, rule publication, and, if necessary, attorney fees for guidance during the promulgation process. However, implementation of the proposed rule can be accomplished utilizing existing personnel, procedures, and resources and will result in no fiscal impact. No ongoing costs are anticipated.

The proposed revisions update the Board's rules to conform with the Louisiana Accountancy Act, as amended by Act 653 of the 2026 Legislative Session. The revisions address licensure, CPA examination requirements, continuing professional education, practice privileges, firm permits, statutory references, and related terminology and reporting requirements.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule may result in a slight increase in revenue from additional CPA licensure applications under the third pathway. Any increase is expected to be modest in the near term and cannot be reasonably quantified.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

The proposed rule is expected to provide an economic benefit to individuals seeking CPA licensure by establishing an additional pathway that allows qualifying accounting graduates to obtain a bachelor's degree without completing an additional 30 college credit hours or a master's degree. This change is expected to reduce education-related costs and allow eligible individuals to enter the workforce sooner and begin obtaining the required professional experience. The specific amount of savings will vary by individual and cannot be reasonably estimated.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule is expected to have a positive effect on competition and employment by expanding the pathway to CPA licensure and reducing barriers to entry. The additional pathway may increase the supply of licensed CPAs available to public accounting firms and business and industry employers.

Signature of Head or Designee

Lisa Benefield, Executive Director
Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee

9/4/2026
Date of Signature

, Deputy Fiscal Officer
Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

9/8/2026
Date of Signature

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The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed rule updates the Board's rules to conform with the Louisiana Accountancy Act, as amended by Act 653 of the 2026 Legislative Session. The revisions establish a third pathway to CPA licensure, revise CPA examination requirements, clarify continuing professional education and practice privilege requirements, update firm permit provisions and statutory references, and remove outdated provisions. The rule also updates terminology and references to national accounting regulatory resources.

B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The proposed action is necessary to update the Board's rules to conform with the Louisiana Accountancy Act, as amended by Act 653 of the 2026 Legislative Session. Additional revisions are necessary to remove outdated language and update references to amended state statutes.

C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No. This proposed rule will not result in any increase in the expenditure of funds.

(2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) _____ YES. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) _____ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

D. Compliance with Act 98 of the 2025 Regular Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in either the expenditure of state funds or an economic impact involving costs to regulated entities estimated at $200,000 or more per year or $600,000 or more over three years?

(a) _____ YES. (proceed to question D.2 on this page)

(b) ___X___ NO.

(2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, was there a fiscal note for the enacted legislation that required this action (attach documentation)?

(a) _____ YES, and all cost impacts were contemplated in the Fiscal Note.

(b) _____ YES, but cost impacts exceed those contemplated in the Fiscal Note.

(c) _____ NO.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29
PERSONAL SERVICES	$0	$0	$0
OPERATING EXPENSES	$0	$0	$0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	$0	$0	$0
OTHER CHARGES	$0	$0	$0
EQUIPMENT	$0	$0	$0
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
POSITIONS (#)	**0**	**0**	**0**

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

   There are no anticipated costs.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29
STATE GENERAL FUND	$0	$0	$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	$0	$0	$0
DEDICATED	$0	$0	$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	$0	$0	$0
OTHER (Specify)	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

   The State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana needs no additional funding to implement the proposed action.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

   There is no anticipated cost or savings to local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

   Not applicable

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29
STATE GENERAL FUND	$0	$0	$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	$3,300	$3,520	$3,960
DEDICATED	$0	$0	$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	$0	$0	$0
LOCAL FUNDS	$0	$0	$0
TOTAL	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

The addition of a third pathway to CPA licensure is expected to result in a modest increase in licensing fee revenue. Based on approximately 153 new CPA licenses issued in FY 2026, excluding reciprocal and transfer-of-grades applicants, a projected 10 percent increase in new licensees in FY 2027 would result in approximately 15 additional licensees. Based on a $100 application fee and a $120 renewal fee, the additional licensees are estimated to generate approximately $3,300 in additional revenue.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

Individuals seeking CPA licensure will be directly affected by the proposed third pathway. No additional costs, forms, or paperwork are anticipated. Qualifying candidates may experience cost savings by avoiding up to 30 additional college credit hours and may enter the workforce sooner to obtain the required professional experience.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

Not Applicable

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

The proposed rule is expected to have a positive, but modest, effect on competition and employment by expanding access to CPA licensure. The additional licensure pathway may increase the supply of licensed CPAs available to public accounting firms and business and industry employers. The specific impact cannot be reasonably quantified due to uncertainty regarding utilization of the new pathway.