

Starting July 1, 2009, out of state CPAs can practice public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa without Iowa licensure, pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.20 and 193A IAC chapter 20, if all of the following statements are true:

___ 1. **I do not hold an active, unexpired CPA certificate issued by the Iowa Accountancy Examining Board.**

- This may seem obvious, but CPAs who hold an active, unexpired Iowa CPA certificate are treated for all purposes as Iowa CPAs and are not separately subject to the provisions governing a practice privilege, no matter where the CPA's principal place of business is located.
- CPAs who hold an inactive or expired Iowa CPA certificate may exercise a practice privilege, if otherwise eligible.
- Whether an Iowa CPA who is eligible to exercise a practice privilege should apply to become inactive in Iowa or allow the Iowa CPA certificate to lapse depends on whether the CPA anticipates needing an Iowa CPA certificate in the future.
- Some state officials and agencies, such as the Auditor of State and the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, require Iowa licensure for CPAs who perform governmental audits under Iowa Code chapter 11 or perform audits or reviews in connection with grain dealer and grain warehouse licensure.
- The fact that an out of state CPA is eligible to exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code chapter 542 does not prevent a state agency or other client from requiring Iowa licensure for particular engagements.

___ 2. **My principal place of business is not in Iowa.**

- A CPA's "principal place of business" is the primary location from which public accounting services are performed.
- A CPA can only have one principal place of business at any one time.
- CPAs who perform public accounting services at multiple or rotating locations, such as CPAs who perform attest services on assignment as needed in multiple jurisdictions, may designate as their principal place of business the location that most often serves as the CPA's home base of operations.
- CPAs who maintain their principal place of business in Iowa, or who move their principal place of business to Iowa must hold an active, unexpired Iowa CPA certificate in order to practice public accounting in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa.

___ 3. **I hold an active, unexpired certificate or license to practice public accounting as a CPA in the state in which my principal place of business is located.**

- A CPA's right to exercise a practice privilege will terminate if the CPA's certificate or license to practice as a CPA in the state of the CPA's principal place of business lapses or is otherwise no longer in good standing.

___ 4. **My CPA certificate or license is substantially equivalent to a comparable CPA certificate issued in Iowa.**

- The basic qualifications for an Iowa CPA certificate include 150 semester hours of education, a baccalaureate or higher degree, passing the national CPA examination, and one year of qualifying experience or, for an attest practice, two years of qualifying experience.
- Out of state CPAs who were not issued a CPA certificate from a state which is substantially equivalent to Iowa and who do not otherwise satisfy substantially equivalent qualifications, are eligible to exercise a practice privilege if they satisfy the "four-in-ten" rule described in Iowa Code section 542.19(1)(c).

___ 5. **I am authorized to perform in the state of my principal place of business the public accounting services I will perform in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa.**

- A CPA performing attest services in Iowa or for a client with a home office in Iowa must be qualified to perform attest services under the license or certificate issued by the state in which the CPA maintains the CPA's principal place of business.

___ 6. **I do not have an office located in Iowa from which I provide public accounting services while using the title "CPA."**

- Out of state CPAs who maintain an office in Iowa will generally need to be licensed in Iowa.
- CPAs who are otherwise eligible to exercise a practice privilege can, however, practice at the Iowa location of a CPA or LPA firm that holds an Iowa permit to practice, or at the business location of an entity that may practice in Iowa without firm licensure, as long as the public accounting services are provided through the firm or business entity.

___ 7. **All of the following are true:**

A. **I have not been convicted of a felony or any type of crime involving forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, theft, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, or other similar offense, as described in Iowa Code section 542.5(2).**

B. **My CPA certificate or license to practice public**

accounting has not been suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined, including the voluntary surrender of a license to resolve a pending disciplinary investigation or proceeding, by the Iowa Board or a licensing authority in another state, territory, or country, for any cause other than failure to pay appropriate fees.

C. My right to practice public accounting before any state or federal agency, or the PCAOB, has not been suspended or revoked.

D. I have not been denied licensure as a CPA upon application to the Iowa Board or other jurisdiction.

E. Civil penalties have not been imposed against me by the Iowa Board for unlawful practices as a non-licensee pursuant to Iowa Code section 542.14.

F. My authority to exercise a practice privilege has not been revoked in Iowa or another jurisdiction.

- CPAs who are ineligible to exercise a practice privilege based on a criminal conviction or regulatory action that is a ground to deny Iowa licensure or impose discipline against an Iowa CPA may apply for licensure in Iowa. The Board will take action on the application in the same manner applied to all applicants, taking into consideration the facts and circumstances of the crime or regulatory action.
- The purpose of these restrictions is two-fold: preventing those previously denied Iowa licensure or subjected to discipline in Iowa from exercising a practice privilege in Iowa, and assuring the Board, not the practitioner, determines which crimes or regulatory actions preclude lawful practice in Iowa.

____ 8. **All audit, review, or other attest services I will perform in Iowa or for clients with a home office in Iowa will be performed through a CPA firm holding a permit to practice issued by the Iowa Board.**