




Washington State Board of Accountancy

Policy Number: 2002-4

Title: International Reciprocity*

Revised: April 26, 2012*

Approved: 
Donald F. Aubrey, CPA, Chair

*This policy rescinds and supersedes any previous Board policy.

Purpose:

To facilitate international reciprocity for professional accountants by recognizing accounting credentials issued by the accounting professions of other countries; specifying reciprocal arrangements for individuals holding a professional accounting designation of other countries seeking a Washington State license; adopting a qualifying examination and passing score; and setting experience standards.

Statutory authority: RCW 18.04.183

- I. **Recognized credentials** - The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) have jointly established the United States International Qualifications Appraisal Board (IQAB) to eliminate impediments to reciprocity. IQAB serves as the link between the accounting profession in the United States and the accounting profession in GATS (General Agreement on Trade in Services) signatory countries and seeks mutual recognition of accounting qualifications.

The Board recognizes the international accounting credentials issued by the professional bodies that have established current mutual recognition agreements (MRA) with IQAB for purposes of issuing a Washington State CPA license under the international reciprocity provision of RCW 18.04.183. The professional bodies holding mutual recognition agreements may be found at <http://www.nasba.org/international/mra>.

- II. **International Qualifications Examination (IQEX)**

The Board requires that individuals applying for a CPA license based on international reciprocity complete a qualifying examination. The Board:

- A. Adopts the International Qualifications Examination (IQEX) prepared and graded by the AICPA as the appropriate examination to test the knowledge of subject

matter unique to the United States, as determined by the AICPA in cooperation with NASBA, of those applicants holding an accounting credential issued by professional credential institutes that have established current mutual recognition agreements (MRA) with IQAB. The Board will continue to recognize passing grades from the predecessor Canadian Chartered Accountant Uniform CPA Qualification Examination (CAQEX).

- B. Accepts International Qualifications Examination (IQEX) grades from examinations administered by other state boards of accountancy or by the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.
- C. Sets the passing score for the IQEX (and its CAQEX predecessor) at 75.

Effective: October 25, 2002

*Revised: April 25, 2011; October 22, 2009; October 17, 2008; July 30, 2004