





Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants

Winter 2024

Accounting Students Participate in ARCPA Day of Service

Accounting students from various universities participated in the Arkansas Society of CPAs Day of Service on Friday, November 22, 2024. The Day of Service allows CPA members and their colleagues, staff, and accounting students around the state to participate in any public service activity of their choice on that date or other date they choose. The event emphasizes that CPAs are involved in their profession as well as their communities.

Thank you for participating in

CPA

SERVICE

Arkansas Society of CPAs

Thank you to the students and faculty that participated in this year's Day of Service!

Beta Alpha Psi Alpha Iota Chapter—University of Arkansas in Fayetteville
Beta Alpha Psi Epsilon Pi Chapter—UA Little Rock
Beta Alpha Psi Nu Eta Chapter—UA Fort Smith

Beta Alpha Psi Theta Lambda Chapter—University of Central Arkansas

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith's Nu Eta Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi partnered with the ARCPA Western Chapter to collect donations for the UAFS Dave Stephens

Lion Pride Food Pantry. The students collected and distributed food and supplies to help fill the pantry.

Arkansas Beta Alpha Psi students from the four chapters (Fayetteville, Conway, Fort Smith, and Little Rock) partnered with Landmark CPAs to make toiletry and snack bags for families staying at Ronald McDonald Houses. To participate or collaborate with a CPA firm for this event next year contact Robin Harris at rharris@arcpa.org.



ARCPA Mock CPA Exam Hosted by Surgent

Are you truly ready to pass the CPA Exam? Have you studied enough? Are you focusing on the right material? There is only one way to find out, give it a try! Sign up for the free virtual event on <u>Wednesday, February 12, 2025</u>.

Students and non-certified Associate members are invited to participate in a live 4-hour mock CPA Exam (virtual) workshop hosted by the Arkansas Society of CPAs and Surgent CPA Review. This unique opportunity will allow you to experience what it is like to sit for any CPA Exam section as you immerse yourself in questions pulled from the actual CPA Exam Blueprints. Plus, you will receive your own personalized ReadySCORE (an accurate measurement of your actual exam score) and a detailed report showing your areas of strength and weakness for that section.

Don't go into exam day unprepared. Find out if you are ready - sign up today for this free virtual event!

To Register: https://www.arcpa.org/become-a-cpa/mock-cpa-exam





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For questions, contact Robin Harris at ARCPA (501) 664-8739, or email rharris@arcpa.org



Jaye Gasaway, CPA

Jaye Gasaway, CPA, is a Partner/Owner of Gasaway & Company, CPAs. He Corporate Controller for Central States Manufacturing, in Tontitown. He is a native of Mansfield, AR and an alumnus of the University of Arkansas Fort Smith and the University of Central Arkansas. Gasaway is serving a three-year term on the ARCPA Board of Directors as its Treasurer.

What is your first experience or favorite memory of your involvement with ARCPA?

The ARCPA day of service with my previous firm, Garland & Greenwood. Rocky Goodman is the managing partner, and he sets a great example of giving back and serving others. I also enjoyed volunteering with all the people at the firm - it was a fun and rewarding experience.

What favorite activities/hobbies/volunteerism do you do in your spare time?

I enjoy a lot of hobbies (probably too many) which include golf, food & wine, travel, running, weightlifting, music, and spending time with family. I also do some volunteering with The Hat Club when time allows, usually in the summer and fall.

Best advice for students about becoming a CPA, or taking the CPA Exam?

There is no easy path to becoming a CPA, but if you show up and put in the work, you will get there. My advice to those taking the exam is to manage



your time efficiently and effectively, and study as much as possible. Make sure you don't neglect your personal life, your friends, or your hobbies.

Why did you become a CPA?

I became a CPA because I like numbers, rules, and order. I knew becoming a CPA would be difficult and I always enjoy challenging myself in my work and hobbies. I like to set lofty goals for myself, and when I was a sophomore in college, my goal was to become a CPA and pass the CPA exam on the first try (came very close to succeeding on that one). Equally important to me, I like working with a wide variety of people and clients and being in public practice allows me to interact with all kinds of different folks.

ARCPA **President and** Staff

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Guide to Public Accounting Booklet Now Online

The Guide to Public Accounting Firms is a booklet which is printed annually and distributed to ARCPA student members and department heads of colleges and universities in the state. It contains a directory of public accounting firms where students may seek internships or employment. The Guide includes articles on the CPA Exam and offers information for employment search, writing a resume, interview tips, and more. Check it out! View the Guide online at www.arcpa.org then click on the Students menu,





Applications Open Now for AICPA Scholarships

Applications for various AICPA scholarships are now open! Students may apply now for the following scholarships:

- AICPA Foundation Scholarship for Future CPAs, \$5,000-\$10,000
- AICPA/PCPS George Willie Ethnically Diverse Student Scholarship, \$10,000
- AICPA Foundation Scholarship for Minority Accounting Students, \$2,500-\$10,000
- AICPA Foundation Two Year Transfer Scholarship, \$5,000



For eligibility information or to learn more: https://www.thiswaytocpa.com/education/aicpa-legacy-scholarships/ click on the name of each scholarship in the list to view the requirements and to apply online.

Connect With ARCPA on Social Media



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Arkansas Society of CPAs

Student Conferences Discounts

Student members may attend ARCPA conferences for just \$15! (we're not kidding!) Meet and network with professionals and prospective future employers at any of these ARCPA events for \$15 each:

- End of Busy Season CPE & Fish Fry
- Industry Commerce & Banking Conference
- Equip Conference
- Fraud Conference
- Agriculture Conference
- AR Federal Tax Institute Call ARCPA to register: (501) 664-8739 or (800) 482-8739.

Becker CPA Review

Arkansas Society of CPAs associate or student members can receive a discount on the Becker Professional CPA Review for the full 4-part review course. Save \$300 off of the full 4-part review of either Live, Online, or self study review course format. Becker CPA Review classes correspond with the exam testing windows that you select.

Becker.

For more information on this member service, or to access ARCPA preferred pricing with Becker, ARCPA members should visit the partner page https://www.becker.com/arcpaPP.

CPA Review Courses



Surgent CPA Review

Surgent CPA Review can help students prepare for the CPA Exam-during or after their undergraduate or graduate education. The 100% online course utilizes a state-of-the-art adaptive learning platform that shortens study time and improves retention allowing students to prepare and pass faster! Enrollment includes access to 350+ 20 minute-or-less video lectures, a test bank of over 7,700 multiple-choice questions, over 400 simulations, customized study guides, and unlimited practice exams.



ARCPA members receive a 35% discount on the Surgent CPA exam review course! These state-of-the-art online lectures provide a customized study program, access that doesn't expire, and a pass guarantee with every course. Studying with Surgent means less stress for you—and a faster path to passing the CPA Exam. Learn more: www.surgentcpareview.com/partners/arkansas-society-of-cpas/

UWorld CPA Review

ARCPA members save 20% off the Unlimited access course! Prepare to pass the CPA Exam with exceptional course materials that make difficult concepts easy to understand. Proven with a 91% pass rate, we proudly serve the accounting profession's top educators, employers and professional organizations to ensure success for future CPAs.



Learn more, at https://accounting.uworld.com/cpa-review/lp/partner-organizations/

5 Podcasts Modern Accounting Students Should Follow

Accounting can be a great career to pursue, and a major in accounting is the first step on that career path. The field has many topics to follow and study, and students can often feel overwhelmed by the amount of information out there. What are the most important topics in accounting, and how can students learn more about them? Podcasts can be an excellent source of relevant and interesting information and trends.

There are many successful accountants who are happy to share their knowledge and abilities through podcasts, and these can be a great supplement to your education. Listening to podcasts is a way to stay current with changes in the accounting field. Consider adding these five podcasts to your listening library:

1. Accounting Play

A website that offers accounting training, including games and quizzes, for students. Its podcast covers a variety of topics ranging from introductory lessons on accounting basics and concepts, job interviews, introductions to C-corporations, and more. Host John Gillingham is a certified accountant, and he recollects and shares the challenges he faced when he was new in the field. The variety of topics available on Accounting Play help students learn many different aspects of this career field to improve their professional versatility as accountants. These topics make it the top podcast for accounting students. Episode length varies widely from 17 to 45 minutes.

2. Accounting Best Practices

The accounting podcast of Accounting Tools. Host Steve Bragg is an author and entrepreneur with excellent insight into the accounting world. He strives to keep his podcast current and informal, making it easy for busy students to digest. He has also been hosting since 2006, so the podcast has a vast episode library. It has over 5 million downloads, which shows that it is a popular podcast among accounting students. The podcasts are 10 minutes or less and cover topics like accounting technology, how to close books, crypto, and more.

3. The ACCA Podcast for Students

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) provides a wide range of services and information to students, the ACCA Global offers a large selection of podcasts to help students better understand their role in the accounting world. Because accounting students are the main focus of this podcast, it not only includes topics on accounting and business, but it also covers help with studying for accounting coursework. Because ACCA helps with certification, this is a primary topic of the podcast. Expert tutors are among the guests on this podcast, and students will also find tips on job seeking after graduation. This podcast has practical advice that students can use to further their accounting careers. Episodes are 10 to 20 minutes in length.

4. College Info Geek or now known as The Inforium

Teaches college students how to be effective in their studies and life. Though the podcast has since evolved into The Inforium, which covers more than just college life, College Info Geek has 300 episodes focused entirely on college and academia. Though this podcast is not accounting specific, it is highly informative about the practical things that college students need to know to succeed in their studies, and thus it deserves a spot on this list. The hosts also keep it fun, which makes it even more appealing to students who are constantly receiving information. Episodes are long, sometimes over an hour, so students should plan sufficient time to listen.

5. The Bean Counter

This podcasts focus on teaching accounting students and recent graduates how to have a successful career in the field. Host Andrew Argue covers everything from how to build a resume, write a cover letter and ace the interview to learning about alternative careers in the accounting field, including building a successful career from the ground up. It also has advice for current accountants who need to expand their portfolios. The practical career-focused advice on this podcast makes it a must-listen for the modern accounting student. The average length of this podcast is 30 to 45 minutes.

Credit: Wilmington College



Arkansas Society of CPAs

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