

University of Mississippi

eGrove

Newsletters

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Historical Collection

11-1982

Accounting Education Update, Number 1, November 1982

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Relations with Educators Division

Follow this and additional works at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/aicpa_news



Part of the [Accounting Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Relations with Educators Division, "Accounting Education Update, Number 1, November 1982" (1982). *Newsletters*. 2366.

https://egrove.olemiss.edu/aicpa_news/2366

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Historical Collection at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newsletters by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.

AICPA Accounting Education Update

A Report on Developments in Education—Prepared by the Relations with Educators Division,
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Number 1

November, 1982

NEW AICPA NEWSLETTER

To improve communication about accounting education developments and issues, the Relations with Educators Division of the American Institute of CPAs is initiating a newsletter that will be distributed to accounting educators, personnel directors, and others interested in accounting education.

Our immediate plan is to issue these newsletters as developments warrant. These will cover such things as accreditation, the five-year professional accounting program, recruiting into the profession, the Institute's personnel testing program, and other matters that may affect accounting education. We hope that by this direct communication channel we can contribute to the strengthening of accounting education through improved cooperation between the academic and the practicing segments of the profession.

AICPA Moves Forward with Revisions of Accounting Tests

The AICPA's Personnel Testing Subcommittee has been very busy the past few years, and some of the fruits of that activity are being introduced this fall in the Accounting Testing Program. They are a revised Level II Achievement Test and a new form of the Orientation Test for use in the professional program (accounting firms and business users). This development follows last year's revision of the Level I Achievement Test to accommodate changes in the content and scheduling of introductory accounting courses. The new Level I battery includes three separate 45-minute forms: financial accounting, managerial accounting, and financial and managerial combined. On the horizon is a new Accounting Aptitude Test expected to be available to college users by mid-1983. More about this new test will appear in a future issue of Accounting Education Update.

The recently introduced Level II Achievement Test, available in a fifty-minute form and a two-hour version, features multiple choice problems in Financial accounting, Auditing, Cost and managerial accounting, Information

systems, and Taxation. Accompanying the long form is a F.A.C.I.T. Profile Analysis, i.e., subscores in each of these five areas of accounting. The test offers colleges and universities an opportunity to compare the accounting achievement of their students with those at other participating schools, and aids faculty members in evaluating their course content. Accounting firms and businesses use the test to evaluate new and continuing staff for placement within the organization. Because the F.A.C.I.T. profile enables an individual to identify areas of strength and weakness, it is a valuable tool for self-assessment, for counseling, and for determining training and continuing education needs.

The new fifty-minute form of the Orientation Test measures vocabulary, reading comprehension, and mathematical skills. It presumes some knowledge of accounting or business experience and can be used by firms as a diagnostic tool. The combination of this aptitude test with the achievement test represents an effective means for assessing the competency of accounting personnel. The student form of the Orientation Test, which also measures verbal and quantitative skills but does not require any business or accounting knowledge, will continue to be available until completion of the Accounting Aptitude Test.

The Personnel Testing Subcommittee, composed of accounting educators and practitioners, determines the content specifications for each of the tests, thus establishing their content validity. While questions for the aptitude tests are prepared by The Psychological Corporation, the testing agency that also administers the program for the AICPA, those for the achievement tests are written by subcommittee members. The questions are then pretested and an item analysis is performed to determine their effectiveness and level of difficulty. Norms for the new tests are established as soon as possible. With the introduction last year of a new answer sheet designed to collect demographic data, it will be possible to update norms more frequently than in the past. And users wanting test results more quickly can, for an added fee, get score reporting by telephone by requesting the new Priority Reporting Service.

For additional information about the program or how to participate, please contact AICPA Testing Project Office, 304 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017, telephone no. (212) 888-3203.

Accounting Accreditation Enters Second Year

After accrediting 35 programs in 18 schools in the first round of accounting accreditations, the AACSB has begun the process of reviewing the self-study reports of twenty-two current year applicants. Campus visitations, which have already begun, will be completed early next year and the newly accredited programs will be announced at the AACSB annual meeting in April. In the meantime, the Accounting Accreditation Committee, with a year's experience behind it, will make proposals for changes in the accounting standards.

Demand Grows for New Recruiting Film

Completed in the fall of 1981, the AICPA's new 25-minute recruiting film, "The Profession of Accounting Is . . .," continues to be in high demand. Designed to interest talented high school and college students in careers as CPAs, this fast-moving film contains a series of vignettes which demonstrate the challenges and rewards of the variety of career paths open to CPAs. Copies of the 16mm film, also available in ¾" videocassette, can be borrowed or purchased for \$200 or \$50 respectively.

Survey to Provide Accounting Education Profile

An AICPA questionnaire has been mailed to over 600 schools to gather information for the 1982-83 statistical survey on accounting education. Conducted every five years since 1967, the survey has been modified to avoid duplication of data collected by other organizations, such as the AAA Administrators of Accounting Programs. The questionnaire, which is being sent to two-year, four-year, and graduate institutions, covers such areas as courses offered and required, teaching hours, admission and retention standards, enrollments, and recent relevant experience. Copies of the survey are expected to be available in the spring of 1983.

Florida CPAs Endorse Five-Year Requirement

In a poll conducted by the Florida Institute of CPAs, 68% of its members indicated that they favor a five-year education requirement to sit for the CPA examination. A Florida law, which was enacted in 1979, will require after August 1, 1983, that candidates have a bachelor's degree and thirty additional semester hours, with a concentration in accounting and business in the total education program. In anticipation of the 150 semester hour education requirement, Florida educators have made good use of the four-year transition period by modifying their curricula to provide the additional education.

In a separate poll conducted for the FICPA, 54% of a random sample of laymen indicated that they favored requiring 150 hours of education for CPAs.

Grants Awarded to Doctoral Candidates

The Grants-In-Aid Selection Task Force awarded \$8,400 to David M. Maloney of the University of Illinois and \$7,700 to Barbara Taylor of Texas Tech University. The AICPA allocates \$37,500 each year for grants. The grants are made semi-annually to doctoral candidates in the dissertation stage whose topics are relevant to the concerns of professional accountants in public accounting, in government, in industry, and in public sector accounting. Since the program was established in 1964, grants have been awarded to 80 doctoral candidates, 62 of which have completed their dissertations and earned their doctoral degrees in accounting. Of the former recipients, 57 have pursued careers in accounting education, and these include five chairpersons and two deans. Applications for the spring awards are due March 1, 1983.

Copyright © 1982 by the
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Inc.

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
1211 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036-8775

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AICPA

AICPA
Accounting
Education
Update