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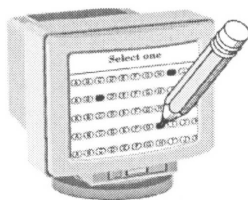
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American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Computerization Implementation Committee

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CIC Alert

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Issue Forums

As the Joint AICPA/NASBA Computerization Implementation Committee (CIC) moves forward in investigating issues related to a computer-based Uniform CPA Examination, it continues to seek the advice and assistance of various interested parties. Towards that end, the CIC has begun conducting Issue Forums to gain the insights and perspectives of key constituencies involved in, and affected by, the computerization of the exam. The purpose of an Issue Forum is to facilitate the development of policies and procedures for the successful transition to a computerized examination.

Benefits of the Issue Forum Approach

Bringing together a representative sample of interested parties to provide their perspective and recommendations on key transition policies and procedures will accomplish a number of key objectives. For example, this process will help:

- Ensure a smoother, surprise-free transition to a computer-based Uniform CPA Examination.
- Engage those who will be most affected by the transition in the process.
- Provide the best possible administrative and logistic structure for the computer-based examination.
- Ensure that the processes before, during, and after the exam are of the highest possible quality.
- Identify policies and procedures previously unnecessary in a paper-and-pencil environment.

The First Issue Forums

To date, three Issue Forums have been held, bringing together, in total, administrators and board members from 21 states.

Issue Forum # 1 dealt with **conditioned candidates**—those who will have received credit for two or three sections of the pencil-and-paper examination when the computer-based test is instituted.

Issue Forum #2 focused on **security, ADA compliance, and site irregularities** related to a computer-based examination.

Issue Forum #3 zeroed in on **results reporting, retake, reapplication, and candidate reviews and appeals.**

Using The Findings

Each Forum, upon completion of its one- or two-day deliberations, provides a detailed report of its findings and recommendations to the CIC.

Once a specific examination model has been defined, the CIC will formulate a proposal incorporating these findings.

These proposed policies and procedures will be issued to key constituencies, including administrators and board members of all 54 jurisdictions, for review and comment.

The CIC will employ a variety of communications vehicles, such as presentations, reports, and small group discussions to ensure the broadest participation in the formulation of policies and procedures involved in the transition to a computer-based examination.

In formulating policies in areas such as legislation and ADA compliance, the CIC will harness, as needed, the assistance of legal and legislative specialists at the state and national levels.

We Welcome Your Participation

If you would like to participate in future Issue Forums, or become more actively involved in the transition process, please contact Anat Kendal (201-938-3555 or akendal@aicpa.org).

From the Desk of Anat Kendal

On behalf of the CIC, I would like to express our thanks and gratitude to all of you who have participated in the Issue Forums. Your groundbreaking work will be invaluable as we work together to develop the policies and procedures related to a computer-based examination.

I would also like to extend an open invitation to readers of the *CIC Alert* to become involved in the transition process. Contact me by fax at 201-938-3443 or phone at 201-938-3555 so we can discuss specific ways in which you might enjoy participating.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anat Kendal".

Anat Kendal
Director, Exam Reformation and
Computerization

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The Joint AICPA/NASBA Computerization Implementation Committee (CIC) issues the *CIC Alert* periodically. If you would like additional copies, or have questions or comments on this newsletter, contact Anat Kendal by writing to: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Harborside Financial Center, 201 Plaza Three, Jersey City, NJ 07311-3881; by calling 201-938-3555; by faxing 201-938-3443; or by e-mailing akendal@aicpa.org.

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