

Measures of National Uniform CPA Examination

(Released on April 23, 2014)

Article 1 The Measures are formulated to regulate the National Uniform CPA Examination (hereinafter referred to as CPA Examination) in accordance with the *Law of the People's Republic of China on Certified Public Accountants*.

Article 2 The Ministry of Finance establishes the CPA Examination Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Examination Committee of MOF) to organize and lead the CPA Examination. The Examination Committee of MOF establishes an office (hereinafter referred to as the Examination Office of MOF) to organize and carry out the work of the CPA Examination. The Examination Office of MOF is based in the Chinese Institute of Certified Public Accountants (hereinafter referred to as CICPA).

The finance departments (bureaus) of all provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government set up local CPA Examination Committees (hereinafter referred to as the Local Examination Committees) to organize and lead the work of the CPA Examination in their respective regions. The Local Examination Committees set up offices (hereinafter referred to as the Local Examination Offices) in local institutes of CPAs to organize and carry out the work of CPA Examination in their respective regions. The Local Examination Offices are based in local institutes of CPAs of each province, autonomous region and municipality directly under the central government.

Article 3 The Examination Committee of MOF is responsible of setting principles on organizing the examination, developing guidelines and policies, reviewing and approving examination outlines, and determining the principles on preparing the exam papers. It is also responsible of addressing key issues related to organizing of the examination, and providing guidance to Local Examination Committees.

Local Examination Committees are responsible of implementing the decisions made by the Examination Committee of MOF and addressing local issues that are key to organizing the examination.

Article 4 A Chinese citizen can apply to take the CPA Examination if he or she:

- (1) has full civil capacity; and
- (2) holds a college degree or above, or has an intermediate professional title or above from accounting or a related profession.

Article 5 People shall not be allowed to take the CPA Examination if he or she:

- (1) has been punished with revocation of the CPA certificate, and the period from the date when the punishment decision is made to the deadline of exam registration is less than five years; or

(2) has been given the penalty of being prohibited from taking CPA Examination for a designated period as a result of violating examination disciplines, and the penalty period does not expire on the date of registration deadline.

Article 6 The CPA Examination comprises of a professional level and a comprehensive level, and the latter can only be taken after the former has been passed.

The professional level covers six subjects, including accounting, auditing, financial management and cost management, corporate strategy and risk management, economic laws, and taxation laws. The comprehensive level covers one subject, namely professional competency.

The examination date of each subject will be specified in the Registration Bulletins published annually by the Examination Committee of MOF.

The examination scope is specified in the CPA Examination outlines published annually by the Examination Committee of MOF.

Article 7 The CPA Examination is in closed-book format, and is computer or paper based.

Article 8 The registration fees are payable at the time of registration for the examination, and the amount should be set in accordance with the applicable provisions formulated by the pricing regulators and financial authorities in each province, autonomous region and municipality directly under the central government.

Article 9 The registration date is specified in the Registration Bulletins published annually by the Examination Committee of MOF. The Local Examination Committees should determine and publish their specific registration dates accordingly.

Article 10 Candidates can either sign up for all six subjects in the professional level when applying for the examination, or sign up for some of the subjects.

Article 11 Candidates who have senior professional titles from accounting or a related profession may apply for exemption from examination of one subject in the professional level which is within his/her particular expertise.

Article 12 The Examination Office of MOF collects and grades all examination papers. The examination results should be affirmed by the Examination Committee of MOF and be published by the Examination Office of MOF.

The test for each subject is based on the 100-point grading system with a 60% pass mark.

Where candidates have doubts over the examination results, they can apply for a

review of the results to the Local Examination Committees where they registered for the examinations, and the Examination Office of MOF should coordinate and arrange the review.

Article 13 The qualified results of each subject in professional level are valid within five consecutive years. The Examination Committee of MOF will issue Certificate of National Uniform CPA Examination (Professional Level) to those who have passed all the subjects in the professional level within five consecutive years.

The Examination Committee of MOF will issue Certificate of National Uniform CPA Examination to those who have passed the comprehensive level examination.

Candidates who have passed all subjects in the professional level may apply for the Certificate of National Uniform CPA Examination (Professional Level) from the Local Examination Offices where they take the examination of their last subject. Those who have passed the comprehensive level examination should apply for the Certificate of National Uniform CPA Examination from the Local Examination Offices where they take the comprehensive level examination.

Article 14 Candidates and organizers of the CPA Examination must abide by applicable regulations and rules, and those who violate the regulations and rules will be punished according to the *Measures for the Punishment of Violations in the National Uniform CPA Examination*.

Article 15 The examination paper, answers for reference, and the grading criteria for the CPA examination are classified as state secrets.

The period during which the examination paper, answers for reference, and the grading criteria of each subject are classified as state secrets starts when the examination papers are being prepared and ends when candidates are allowed to leave the examination venue.

Information related to examination paper preparers and graders and the graded answer sheets are subject to internal management, and are treated as work secrets and should not be disclosed to the public.

Article 16 The *Measures of National Uniform CPA Examination for Residents from Hong Kong S.A.R., Macao S.A.R., Taiwan and Foreigners* will be formulated separately by the Ministry of Finance.

Article 17 The Measures shall take effect from the date of issue, and the *Measures of National Uniform CPA Examination* (No. 1053 Accounting Regulatory Department of the Ministry of Finance (2001)) issued on August 1, 2001 by the Ministry of Finance is simultaneously repealed.

(CICPA organized translation of these Measures into English. The Chinese text is the official version and this English text is for reference only.)