CPAs ON THE MOVE
Substantial Equivalency, Interstate Practice Mobility and Other Legislative Initiatives

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NASBA
Uniform Accountancy Act

In 1984, NASBA and the AICPA published the first joint model bill.

In 1997, NASBA and the AICPA introduced the concept of Substantial Equivalency.
Substantial Equivalency

- Education
- Exam
- Experience
2006 Objectives to Interstate Practice

- Clients to receive timely services from a CPA – regardless of their location.
- Eliminate the hindrances of unnecessary filings/forms/cost.
- Dismantle artificial barriers
- Protect of the public
CPA Mobility

Mobility = The ability of a licensee in good standing to gain a practice privilege outside of their principal place of business without a license, through the process of substantial equivalency.

- Eliminates Artificial Barriers
  - No Notice
  - No Fee
  - No Escape

- Automatic Jurisdiction
  - Strengthen Public Protection
Automatic Jurisdiction
UAA Section 23(a)(3)

An individual licensee of another state exercising the privilege afforded under this section and the firm which employs that licensee hereby simultaneously consents, as a condition of the grant of this privilege:

(A) to the personal and subject matter jurisdiction and disciplinary authority of the Board;
(B) to comply with this Act and the Board’s rules;
(C) that in the event the license from the state of the individual’s principal place of business is no longer valid, the individual will cease offering or rendering professional services in this state individually and on behalf of a firm; and
(D) to the appointment of the State Board which issued their license as their agent upon whom process may be served in any action or proceeding by this Board against the licensee.
CPA Mobility by Year
Where we were in 2008
CPA Mobility by Year
Where we are in 2018
Online Tools to Support Mobility
A non-resident licensee seeking renewal of a certificate in this state shall be determined to have met the CPE requirement (including the requirements of Rule 6-4 (a)) of this rule by meeting the CPE requirements for renewal of a certificate in the state in which the licensee’s principal place of business is located.

(1) Non-resident applicants for renewal shall demonstrate compliance with the CPE renewal requirements of the state in which the licensee’s principal place of business is located by signing a statement to that effect on the renewal application of this state.

(2) If a non-resident licensee’s principal place of business state has no CPE requirements for renewal of a certificate, the non-resident licensee must comply with all CPE requirements for renewal of a certificate in this state.
CPE Reciprocity

* The Boards have not promulgated any rules to implement the statutory provision
** The Board has the authority to determine if the CPE requirements of another state are equivalent to the Board’s requirements
*** The Georgia Board is in the process of having to promulgate rules under its new statute
**** Rhode Island and Virginia have full CPE reciprocity for states with an ethics requirement; this excludes AL, GA, ND, SD, UT and WI
FTC Recognizes Accountancy Accomplishment –

In 1998, to eliminate “artificial barriers to the interstate practice and mobility of certified public accountants” arising from differing state requirements for licensing, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“AICPA”) and the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (“NASBA”) added provisions to enhance interstate mobility to the Uniform Accountancy Act (“UAA”). These provisions, which are based on the substantial equivalency of state licensing standards for individuals, have been adopted by 55 jurisdictions, including 50 states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories. The high level of adoption reflects technological advances that have allowed accountants to provide services across state lines electronically, as well as sustained support from the AICPA and NASBA. In 2014, building on the popularity of the individual mobility initiative, the two organizations added provisions for firm license mobility to the UAA; these have been adopted by 21 states.
CPA Mobility by Year
Where we are in 2018

CPA Mobility

Anticipate Legislation to be filed in 2019