

BIENNIAL REPORT



FY 2023-2024



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Two transitional years for CPAs and candidates

The Virginia Board of Accountancy is pleased to present the biennial report for fiscal years 2023 and 2024, overviewing our work regulating the certified public accountant (CPA) profession.

The last two years brought with them a modified CPA Exam and opened up conversations nationally around how to break down barriers to the profession. Virginia has had a front row seat in those conversations thanks to various board members, past and present, serving in crucial leadership roles. Find out more about the board, its role (pages 3-4) and member appointments on page 13.

The work of the board has matched the pace of change nationally. You can read about a number of initiatives the board passed to help ease the transition to a new exam and make the pathway to CPA fairer on page 12.

The core mission of the VBOA is to protect the citizens of the commonwealth through a regulatory program of licensure and compliance of CPAs and CPA firms. Fourteen dedicated staff members support our board members, exam candidates, license applicants, the public, CPA firms and our almost 30,000 individual CPAs. See the details of our programming beginning on page 5.

In the past two years the board's strategic goals have included reviewing CPE guidelines, updating and clarifying the Code of Virginia, securing a new

licensing system, updating accreditation and exam education requirements, improving the CPA pipeline, evaluating the 150-hour requirement for licensure and reviewing the VBOA's policies and guidance documents. You can see the major changes the board approved on page 12.



NANCY GLYNN, CPA

CPAs, CPA exam candidates, and consumers all benefit from the commitment of our board members. The board is empowered by the Code of Virginia to ensure that persons entering the profession are competent and those holding the CPA credential maintain high standards of personal conduct and competency and are held publicly accountable for their actions.

Our enforcement division is an important component of protecting the public. The work of the enforcement team on accountability is reported on pages 8 and 9.

As we reflect over the last two fiscal years in this report, we hope you will find that while things may be moving quickly, it's been a time of great progress for the commonwealth's CPA profession.

— Nancy Glynn, CPA

STAFF

Nancy Glynn, CPA, Executive Director

Renai Reinholtz, Deputy Director

Matthew Ross, Enforcement Director

Alessandra Gabriel, Information and Policy Analyst

Jeff Good, IT Specialist

Patti B. Hambricht, CPE Administrator

TiNique Stewart, Licensing Support Specialist

Kelsie Mclellan, Enforcement Specialist

Veronica Paulson, Administrative Assistant

Nicole Reynolds, Licensing and Operations Support

Sandra Reysn, Financial and Procurement Coordinator

Michelle Strudgeon, Accounting Analyst

Nicholas Tazza, Manager, Licensing and Examination

Kelli Yoder, Communications Coordinator

The Board of Accountancy

The Board of Accountancy is made up of seven Governor-appointed individuals. The board includes four members who hold Virginia CPA licenses and have been actively engaged in providing services to the public for at least three years; one member who holds a Virginia CPA license and is actively engaged in providing services to the public or to or on behalf of an employer in government or industry for at least three years, one educator in the field of accounting who holds a Virginia CPA license; and one public non-CPA member.

Serving as a board member requires a significant time commitment and true dedication to the profession. Each year the board meets for an average of seven, full-day, in-person board meetings.

Fiscal Year 2023



Fiscal Year 2024



The Board of Accountancy

Fiscal Years 2023, 2024



Wendy Lewis, CPA
Chair FY 2023-24
 Hanover, Virginia

*Term: July 1, 2020-
 June 30, 2028*

Lewis is an office managing partner in KPMG's Audit Practice. She has more than 20 years of experience providing financial statement and audit of internal control services to both public and private companies.



David Cotton
 CPA, CFE, CGFM
 Alexandria, Virginia

*Term: July 1, 2022-
 June 30, 2026*

Cotton is founder and chairman emeritus of Cotton & Company, CPAs. He served on the board of the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants and numerous VSCPA committees,



Nadia A. Rogers, CPA
Vice Chair FY 2023-24
 Blacksburg, Virginia

*Term: July 1, 2019-
 June 30, 2027*

Rogers is an associate professor of practice and director of the Master of Accounting and Information Systems (MACIS) Program at Virginia Tech. Before joining VT, she was in public practice for approximately 14 years.



Dale Mullen
 Public member
 Hanover, Virginia

*Term: March 15, 2022-
 June 30, 2028*

Mullen is a partner in the law firm Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP, and co-chairs the firm's Business and Corporate Law section. He represents clients on federal and state rulemaking and enforcement in the financial regulation industry.



William R. Brown, CPA
 New Kent, Virginia

*Term: July 1, 2017-
 June 30, 2025*

Brown is the CEO of W.R. Brown & Co., which he established in 1981. He also has 14 years of experience as an arbitrator and spent six years as a mediator.



Angela Rudolph-Wiseman, CPA
 Frederick County, Virginia

*Term: July 1, 2023-
 June 30, 2027*

Rudolph-Wiseman is a principal at Hottel & Willis, P.C., in Winchester, specializing in taxation, consulting, and client advisory services. Prior to that, she served clients in various industries for more than 20 years at Rutherford & Johnson, P.C.



D. Brian Carson
 CPA, CGMA
 Virginia Beach, Virginia

*Term: July 1, 2015-
 June 30, 2023*

Carson is the chief financial officer for Gold Key/PHR Hotels & Resorts. Previously, he was a partner with Goodman and Company, now Dixon Hughes Goodman.



Laurie Warwick, CPA
 Ashburn, Virginia

*Term: July 1, 2016-
 June 30, 2024*

Warwick is an executive director at Ernst & Young in the firm's McLean office, where she's worked since 2002. She serves a broad base of industries, inclusive of private equity, healthcare, professional services and emerging companies.

PROGRAMS

Individual Licensure

About the program

The Board of Accountancy’s individual CPA licensure program reviews applicants to ensure each one has met the qualifications defined by [§ 54.1-4409.1](#). Those that have are licensed and sent wall certificates.

The program also ensures licensees renew their license each year by June 30 as defined by [§ 54.1-4413.2\(B\)](#). If a license expires, former licensees can apply for reinstatement and this program will review each applicant to ensure they meet the requirements as defined by [§ 54.1-4413.2\(D\)](#).

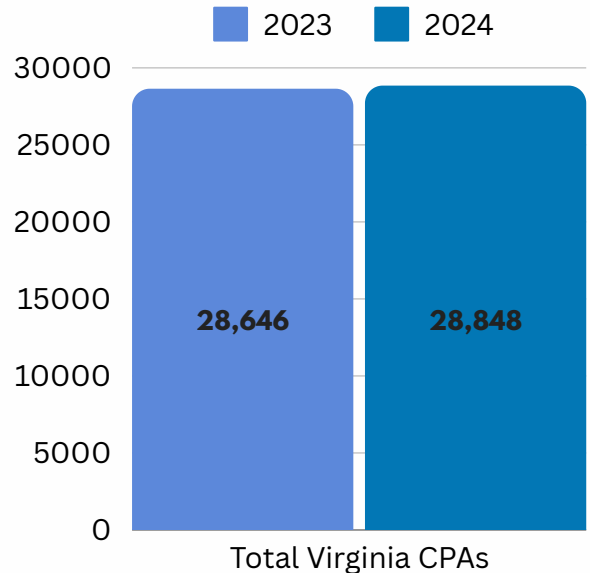
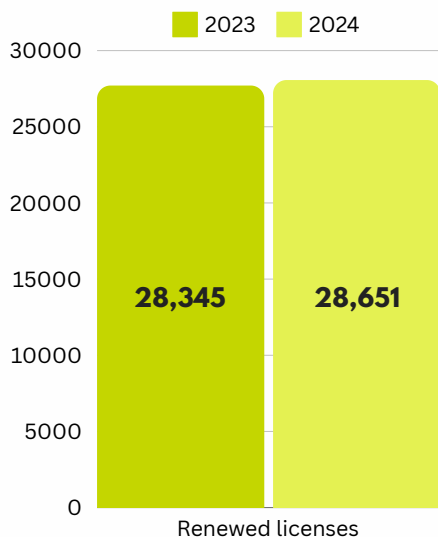
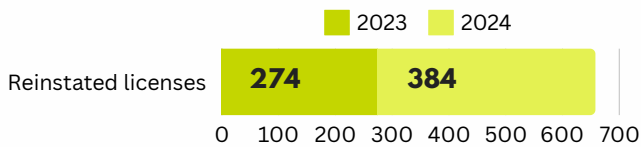
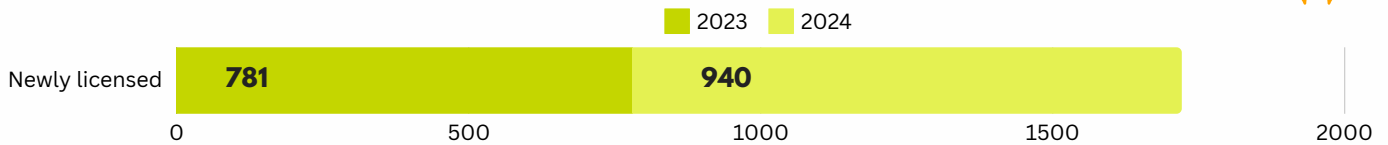


Executive Director Nancy Glynn holds a wall certificate for a newly licensed CPA in Virginia.

By the numbers

In fiscal years 2023 and 2024, the VBOA:

- Approved 1,018 new licensees.
- Processed 56,996 license renewals.
- Processed 658 reinstatements.



PROGRAMS

Firm Licensure

About the program



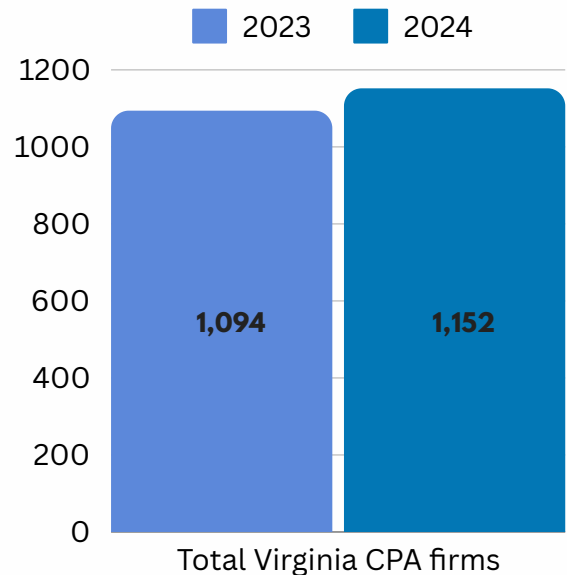
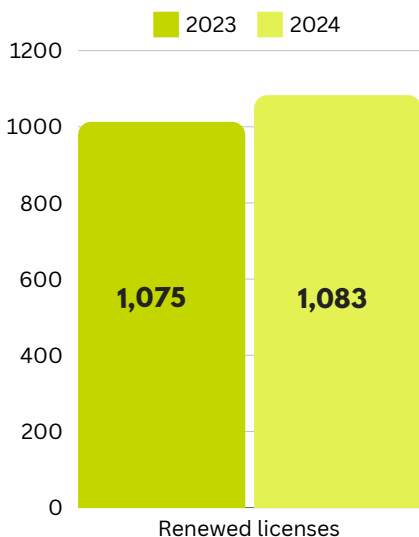
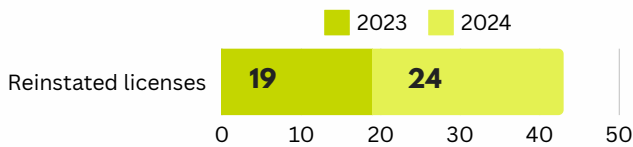
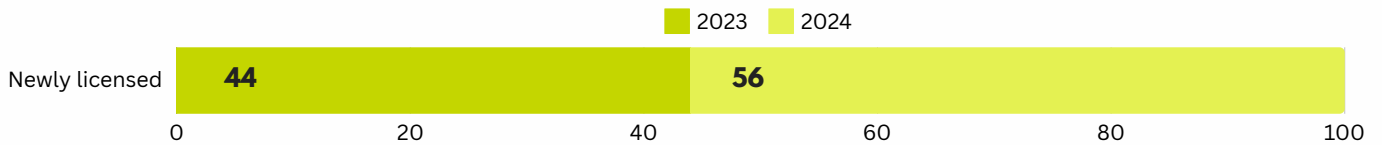
The Board of Accountancy’s firm CPA licensure program reviews applicants to ensure each firm has met the qualifications defined by [§ 54.1-4412.1](#).

The program also ensures firms renew their license each year by June 30. If a license expires, formerly licensed firms can apply for reinstatement and this program will review each application to ensure it meets the requirements. Renewals and reinstatement requirements are prescribed by the board per [§ 54.1-4412.1\(E\)](#).

By the numbers

In fiscal years 2023 and 2024, the VBOA:

- Approved 100 new firm licenses.
- Processed 2,158 firm renewals.
- Reinstated 43 firm licenses.




PROGRAMS

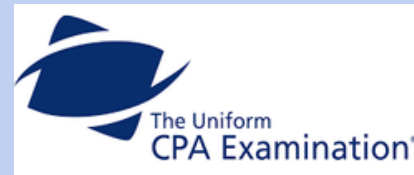
Examination

About the program

The VBOA exam program reviews applications to ensure each has met CPA Exam qualifications as defined by 18VAC5-22-80, then issues a determination of eligibility and reviews any special accommodation requests.

The program works in partnership with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, letting NASBA know when someone has been approved to sit for the exam. VBOA sends NASBA candidate requests for additional exams and for special accommodations and receives exam scores and Notices to Schedule exams from NASBA so that the board can keep track of candidate eligibility to sit for further exams.

[Find out more about the Uniform CPA Exam and the VBOA's role here](#) 



CPA Evolution

On Jan. 10, 2024, a new CPA Exam launched, reworking much of the content, including replacing one section with three sections the candidate can choose between.

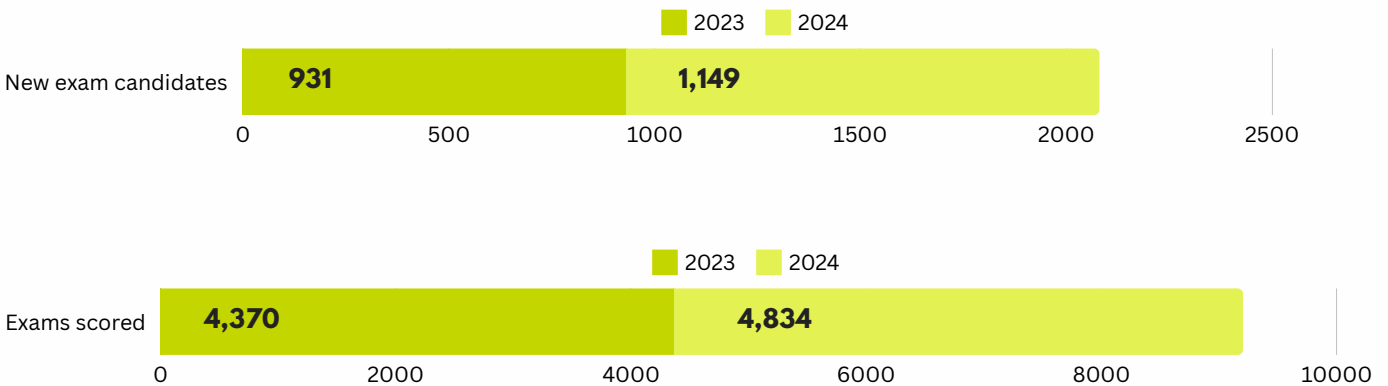
[Learn more here>>](#)



By the numbers

In fiscal years 2023 and 2024, the VBOA:

- Approved 2,080 new exam candidates.
- Received 9,204 section scores from NASBA.



PROGRAMS

Enforcement

About the program

The VBOA enforcement program supports the board’s mission of protecting the citizens of the commonwealth through programs of licensure and compliance by investigating complaints alleging violations of the Code of Virginia [§ 54.1-4400](#) and the board’s regulations contained in [18VAC5-22](#).

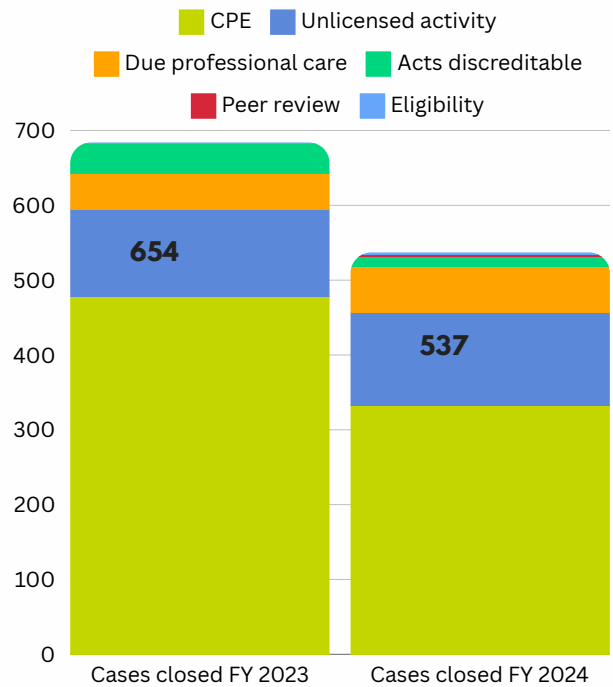
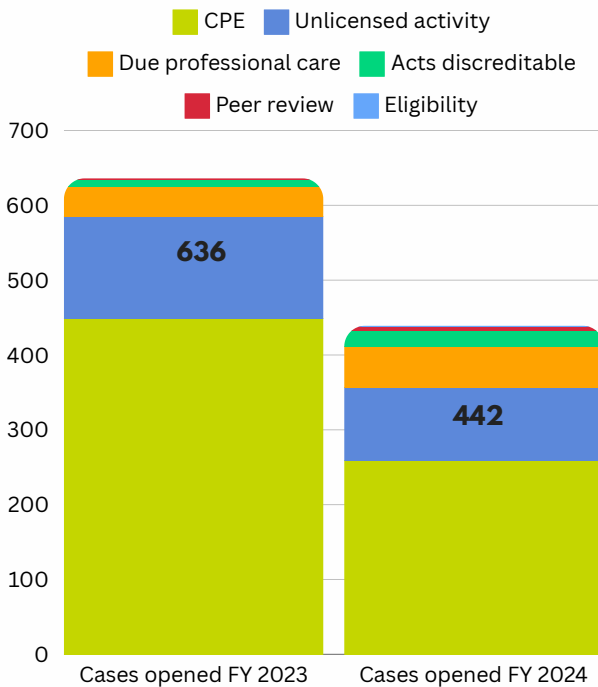
Enforcement has jurisdiction to investigate complaints against licensed CPAs, CPA firms and non-licensees using the CPA title or who advertise or perform services limited to certified public accountants. Enforcement’s role also includes ensuring that licensees are in compliance with the board’s continuing professional education requirements.

Enforcement’s goal is to protect the public by ensuring licensees are in compliance with statutes and regulations applicable to the profession and to ensure that only those individuals and firms that have a license hold themselves out to the public as CPAs or CPA firms.

By the numbers

Opened enforcement cases: **1,078**

Closed enforcement cases: **1,191**



Average days to resolve case:

- 2023: **138**
- 2024: **110**



PROGRAMS

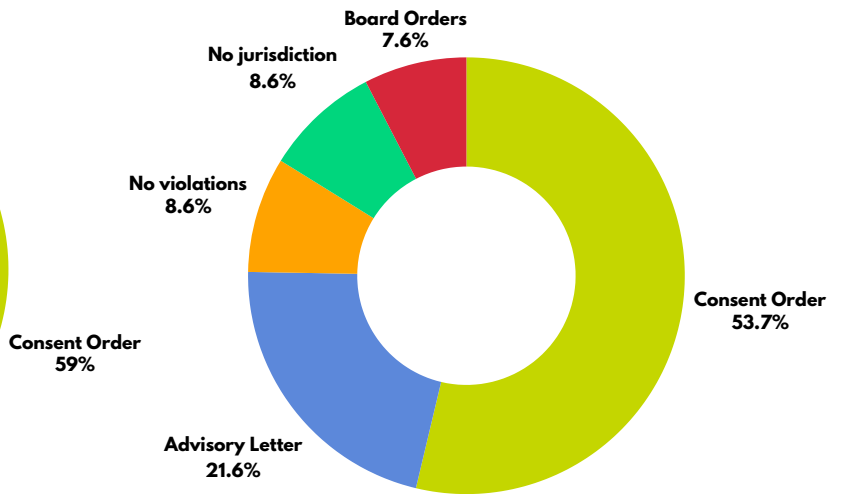
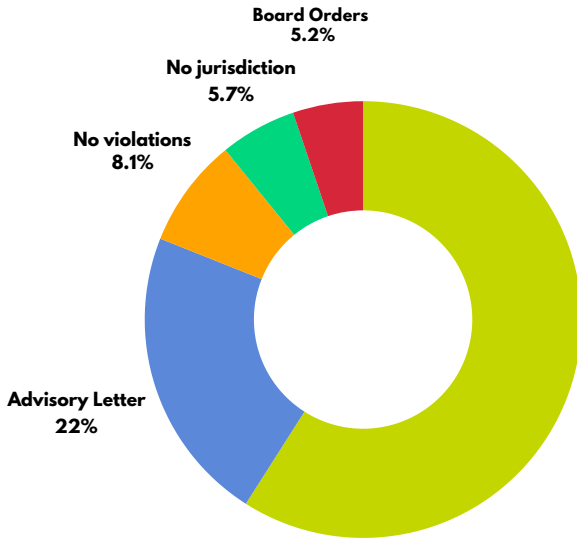
Enforcement

By the numbers

How cases were resolved

FY 2023

FY 2024

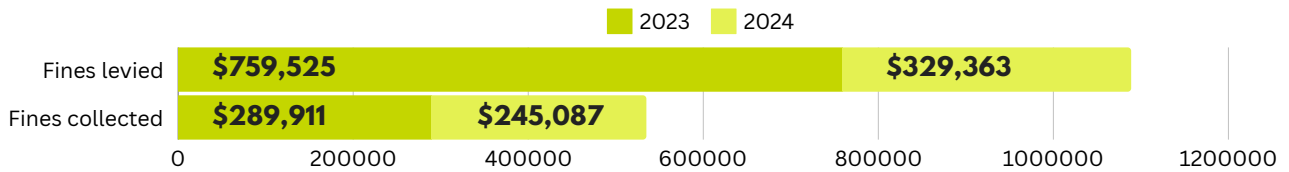


Penalties

The VBOA may impose penalties in accordance with Code of Virginia § 54.1-4413.4. Penalties range from a reprimand, accelerated peer reviews, satisfactory completion of additional or specific continuing professional education, suspension or revocation of a Virginia license, loss of privilege to perform services in Virginia, and/or a monetary penalty up to \$100,000 for each violation.

All penalties collected are deposited into the state literary fund and not available to the VBOA as operating funds. The VBOA levied \$759,525 and \$329,363 of monetary fines in FY23 and FY24 respectively.

In fiscal years 2023 and 2024:



Financial summary

Audit Report Summary

Through the end of fiscal year 2023, the VBOA was required to prepare annual financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and was audited annually by the Auditor of Public Accounts, or legally authorized representatives, or by a firm selected by the VBOA through a competitive procurement, in accordance with Code of Virginia § 54.1-4420 (which has since been repealed).

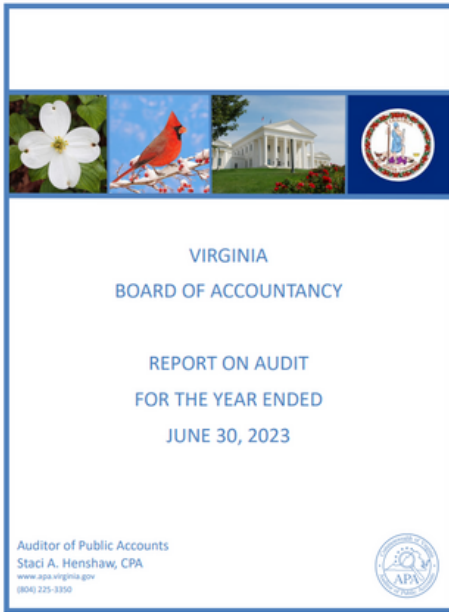
The following summaries are presented for the audit reports issued during this reporting period.

Financial statements

The Auditor of Public Accounts Audit Reports on the VBOA’s financial statements, dated June 24, 2022, and Aug. 3, 2023, respectively, state, “In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of Accountancy as of June 30, 2021, and June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the operating fund for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”

Internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters

The Auditor of Public Accounts Audit Reports on the internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters, dated June 24, 2022, and Aug. 3, 2023, did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that were considered to be material weaknesses and disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.



\$ 1,170.42	\$ 2,480.03	\$ 72,627.04
\$ 1,131.77	\$ 2,518.68	\$ 70,108.36
\$ 1,092.52	\$ 2,557.93	\$ 67,550.43
\$ 1,052.66	\$ 2,597.79	\$ 64,952.64
\$ 1,012.18	\$ 2,638.27	\$ 62,314.37
\$ 971.07	\$ 2,679.39	\$ 59,634.98

2015	32	60	25
2016	44	48	34
2017	50	35	60
		27	78

MONTHLY BUDGET

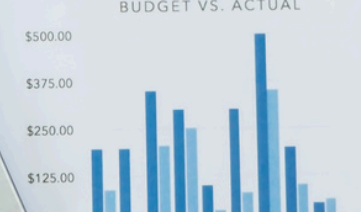
FINANCIAL

each category in the Summary By Category table below. Use the Budget vs. Actual sheet to see how your actual spending compares to your budget.

For each category in the Summary By Category table below, use the Budget vs. Actual sheet to see how your actual spending compares to your budget.

BUDGET VS. ACTUAL

BUDGET VS. ACTUAL



Financial summary

Operating Fund

Ensuring the fiscal integrity of the VBOA’s operations is an essential protection function.

The Operating Fund is the primary operating fund for the VBOA. It is the policy of the VBOA to begin the fiscal year with funds in the operating account equal to the annual, board approved, operating budget. Funds exceeding this amount shall be maintained in the Trust Account. Any additional transfers during that fiscal year from the Trust Account to the operating account requires additional board approval.

In accordance with Code of Virginia, [§ 54.1-4405.1](#), the purpose of the Trust Account is to provide a supplemental source of funds to the VBOA on a timely basis for:

- Its use in the study, research, investigation or adjudication of matters involving possible violations of the provisions of this chapter or regulations promulgated by the VBOA.
- Any other purpose that the VBOA determines germane to its statutory purpose.

The VBOA annually evaluates the balance in the Trust Account to determine if a fee adjustment is necessary.

During FY23, the VBOA transferred **\$193,303** to the Operating Fund from the Trust Fund. During FY24, the VBOA transferred **\$141,788** to the Trust Fund from the Operating Fund.

Financial summary: Cash basis

	FY 2023	FY 2024
Revenue from operations*	\$2,232,824	\$2,183,451
Expenditures	(\$2,119,526)	(\$2,277,547)
Cash transfers out**	(\$11,983)	(\$11,983)
(Deficit)/Surplus	\$101,315	(\$106,079)
Appropriation	\$2,767,913	\$2,767,913

*Does not include interest earnings allocated by the State Comptroller.

**Transfers required by the respective Appropriations Act.

Cash balances:

	FY 2023	FY 2024
Operating Fund	\$2,909,701	\$2,911,316
Trust Account	\$3,205,952	\$3,494,965
Total cash available	\$6,115,653	\$6,406,281

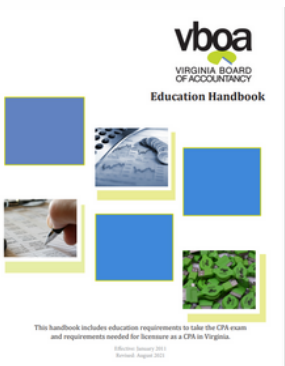
Significant accomplishments

Board CPA Evolution actions

The board made the following changes throughout 2023, ahead of CPA Evolution to ease the transition:

- **Credit relief initiative** - The VBOA approved credit relief for those who had a credit that expired between January of 2020 and Nov. 30, 2023, and was not replaced with a new passing score. This was an expanded version of NASBA’s Credit Relief Initiative, a response to disruptions exam candidates faced during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **30-month credit approval** - The board approved a motion permanently changing the credit earning window from 18 to 30 months for all credits earned after Jan. 9, 2024. Any credits that were still active on Dec. 15 were also extended to have a lifespan of at least 30 months.
- **Re-exam fee suspension** - The board temporarily suspended the \$20 fee associated with re-exam requests until at least Jan. 1, 2025.

Updated VBOA educational requirements to sit for the exam



The [VBOA Education Handbook](#) explains the requirements for taking the CPA exam and licensure. Two versions of the handbook are in effect while the changes outlined in the chart on [page 7](#) are phased in.

The new version took effect July 1, 2023, and the previous version will expire June 30, 2025.

Three VBOA meetings were hosted on college campuses:

- Hampton University – March 27, 2023
- University of Virginia – Dec. 1, 2023
- Norfolk State University – April 12, 2024



Board Chair Wendy Lewis talks with Norfolk State University students April 12, 2024.

CPE penalties changed

The board voted to restructure the [penalties for CPE deficiency](#), removing or lowering some of the smaller deficiency fines, for all new cases as of Sept. 28, 2023.

Code of Virginia changes passed

The board approved code revisions through S.B. 463 and H.B. 1337, passed by both chambers and signed by the governor, effective July 1, 2024. The revised code (§2.2-204, §2.2-211, §19.2-389, §54.1):

- Revised definitions to align with current professional standards and the Uniform Accountancy Act.
- Codified VBOA reporting change from the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to the Secretary of Finance.
- Clarified the VBOA can permit certain biographical references to CPA licensure.
- Clarified when a Virginia license is required by a firm and the criteria for a Virginia firm license.



Engagement

Board member engagement

NASBA board members

- Stephanie M. Saunders, CPA, of Virginia Beach, and former chair of the VBOA, acceded to the office of chair from vice chair in 2024.
- Laurie Warwick, CPA, became the Middle Atlantic regional director for 2024. She also serves as the 2023-2024 chair of the NASBA Audit Committee.



Saunders



Warwick

NASBA 2024 committee appointments

- William Brown, CPA - Enforcement Committee
- David Cotton, CPA, CFE, CGFM - Regulatory Response Committee
- Dale Mullen - Legislative Support Committee
- Nadia Rogers, CPA - Uniform Accountancy Act (UAA) Committee
- Laurie Warwick, CPA - Audit Committee
- Nancy Glynn, CPA - Executive Directors Committee

Board Chair Wendy Lewis

Board Chair Wendy Lewis shared her CPA journey as the guest speaker at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Business annual Accounting Department Luncheon Dec. 8, 2023.

Lewis spoke to VCU accounting students, alumni, faculty and local accounting professionals about her career, which began at Virginia Union University and has so far encompassed over 26 years at KPMG, where she was recently named a managing partner.

Lewis was also named to the [100 People to Meet in 2024](#) list in "Virginia Business," where she is described as "the first Black woman to become the Virginia Board of Accountancy's chair."

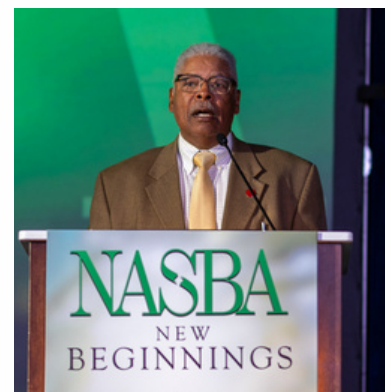


Lewis presents at the VCU Accounting Department Luncheon Dec. 8, 2023.

Dickerson received NASBA Distinguished Service Award

Tyrone E. Dickerson, CPA, of Richmond, who served eight years on the VBOA, with two years as chair, received the 2023 National Association of State Boards of Accountancy Distinguished Service Award. This award honors individuals who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment and dedication to enhancing the mission of NASBA.

In recent years, Dickerson served on the NASBA Board of Directors as director-at-large, treasurer and Middle Atlantic regional director. He is a former chair of NASBA's Administration and Finance Committee, CBT Administration Committee, CPE Committee, Diversity Committee and CPE Standards Working Group. He is a former member of NASBA's Relations with Member Boards Committee and Enforcement Resource Committee.

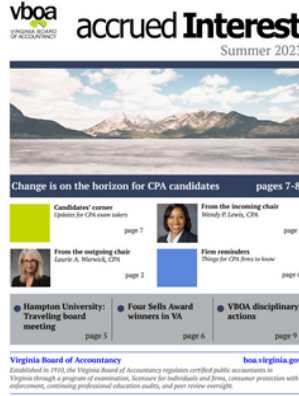


Dickerson receives NASBA award.

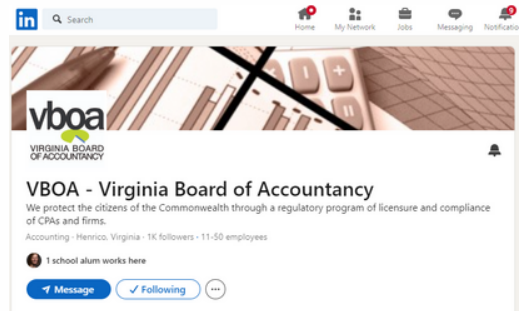
Engagement

Communications

The board publishes a newsletter twice a year. Here are the four issues from fiscal years 2023 and 2024.



Find VBOA on:



CONTACT

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