



Summary of revisions to the Uniform CPA Examination® Blueprints Effective January 1, 2019

The AICPA Board of Examiners (BOE) approved revisions to the Uniform CPA Examination® Blueprints (Blueprints) on May 31, 2018. There are no revisions to the Business Environment and Concepts (BEC) Blueprint. The Blueprint revisions apply to the following Exam sections:

- A. Auditing and Attestation (AUD) - The revisions add more detail to the AUD Blueprint on professional skepticism. The revisions do not change the nature or scope of content eligible for testing in the AUD section. Professional skepticism concepts are included throughout and eligible for testing under the current AUD Blueprint.**

- B. Financial Accounting and Reporting (FAR) - The revisions are in response to standard-setting activity related to nongovernmental, not-for-profit financial reporting and become eligible for testing on January 1, 2019.**

- C. Regulation (REG) - The revisions are in response to legislative activity (P.L. 115-97 also known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) and become eligible for testing on January 1, 2019. The revisions:**
 - **Modify terminology in Groups, Topics and representative task statements to address obsolescence resulting from P.L. 115-97.**
 - **Add representative task statements to existing Groups/Topics to address significant new concepts introduced with P.L. 115-97.**

This summary is organized by Exam section. The complete, revised Blueprints may be found in the [CPA Exam Study Materials](#) section of aicpa.org/cpaexam.

A: Auditing and Attestation (AUD)

Area, Group, Topic	Revision
Section introduction	<p>Revised the 2nd paragraph on page AUD2 as follows (new words in italics):</p> <p>Newly licensed CPAs are also required to demonstrate knowledge and skills related to professional responsibilities, including ethics, independence <i>and professional skepticism</i>. <i>Professional skepticism reflects an iterative process that includes a questioning mind and a critical assessment of audit evidence. It is essential to the practice of public accounting and the work of newly licensed CPAs.</i></p> <p>Revised the 2nd main bullet on page AUD3 as follows (new words in italics):</p> <p>Ethics, Independence and Professional Conduct – Requirements under the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct and professional and independence requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), PCAOB, GAO and DOL; <i>concepts related to professional skepticism and professional judgment.</i></p> <p>Revised the 3rd bullet on page AUD4 as follows (new words in italics):</p> <p>Analysis and Evaluation skills, tested in Area II and Area III, involve tasks that require a higher level of analysis and interpretation. These tasks, such as concluding on sufficiency and appropriateness of evidence, frequently require newly licensed CPAs to apply professional <i>skepticism and judgment.</i></p>
Area I, Group B – Ethics, Professional Responsibilities and General Principles – Ethics, independence and professional conduct	<p>Added a new Topic number and name as follows:</p> <p>4. Professional skepticism and professional judgment</p>

	<p>Added remembering and understanding representative task statements under the new topic 4 as follows:</p> <p>Understand the concepts of professional skepticism and professional judgment.</p> <p>Understand personal bias and other impediments to acting with professional skepticism, such as threats, incentives and judgment-making shortcuts.</p>
<p>Area III, Group A – Performing Further Procedures and Obtaining Evidence - Understanding sufficient appropriate evidence</p>	<p>Added an analysis representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Investigate evidence that either contradicts or corroborates management explanations, expectations and other hypotheses throughout an audit or non-audit engagement.</p>
<p>Area III, Group C, Topic 3 – Performing Further Procedures and Obtaining Evidence – Performing specific procedures to obtain evidence - Inquiry of management and others</p>	<p>Revised the analysis representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Analyze responses obtained during structured or informal interviews with management and others, including those in non-financial roles, and ask relevant and effective follow-up questions to understand their perspectives and motivations in an audit or non-audit engagement.</p>
<p>Area III, Group C, Topic 6 – Performing Further Procedures and Obtaining Evidence – Performing specific procedures to obtain evidence - All other procedures</p>	<p>Added an analysis representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Modify planned procedures based upon new information, such as inconsistent explanations, new evidence and environmental cues, to achieve audit objectives in an audit of an issuer or a nonissuer.</p>

B: Financial Accounting and Reporting (FAR)

Area, Group, Topic	Revision
<p>Area I, Group C – Conceptual Framework, Standard-Setting and Financial Reporting - General-purpose financial statements: nongovernmental, not-for-profit entities</p>	<p>Added a new Topic number and name as follows:</p> <p>4. Notes to financial statements</p> <p>Added an application representative task statement under the new topic 4 as follows:</p> <p>Adjust the notes to the financial statements to correct identified errors and omissions.</p>

C: Regulation (REG)

Area, Group, Topic	Revision
Area III, Group B - Federal Taxation of Property Transactions - Cost recovery (depreciation, depletion and amortization)	<p>Revised the 1st analysis representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Compare the tax benefits of the different expensing options for tax depreciation for federal income tax purposes.</p>
Area IV, Group C – Federal Taxation of Individuals (including tax preparation and planning strategies) - Adjustments and deductions to arrive at adjusted gross income and taxable income	<p>Added an application representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Calculate the qualifying business income (QBI) deduction for federal income tax purposes.</p>
Area IV, Group F – Federal Taxation of Individuals (including tax preparation and planning strategies) - Filing status and exemptions	<p>Revised the Group name as follows:</p> <p>Filing status</p> <p>Removed the 2nd remembering and understanding representative task statement.</p> <p>Added a remembering and understanding representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Recall relationships meeting the definition of dependent for purposes of determining taxpayer filing status.</p> <p>Removed the 2nd application representative task statement.</p>
Area V, Group C, Topic 1 – Federal Taxation of Entities (including tax preparation and planning strategies) - C Corporations - Computations of taxable income (including alternative minimum taxable income), tax liability and allowable credits	<p>Revised the Topic name as follows:</p> <p>Computations of taxable income, tax liability and allowable credits</p> <p>Removed the 1st application representative task statement.</p> <p>Revised the 3rd application representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Calculate the credits allowable as a reduction of tax for a C corporation.</p>

<p>Area V, Group C, Topic 2 – Federal Taxation of Entities (including tax preparation and planning strategies) - C Corporations - Net operating losses and capital loss limitations</p>	<p>Revised the 2nd analysis representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Analyze the impact of net operating and/or capital losses during tax planning for a C corporation.</p>
<p>Area V, Group C, Topic 5 – Federal Taxation of Entities (including tax preparation and planning strategies) - C Corporations - Multijurisdictional tax issues (including consideration of local, state and international tax issues)</p>	<p>Added remembering and understanding representative task statements as follows:</p> <p>Identify situations where the base erosion and anti-abuse tax (BEAT) would apply.</p> <p>Identify factors that would qualify income as Foreign Derived Intangible Income (FDII).</p> <p>Define the components of Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income (GILTI).</p>
<p>Area V, Group E, Topic 7 – Federal Taxation of Entities (including tax preparation and planning strategies) - Partnerships - Ownership changes</p>	<p>Revised the 2nd application representative task statement as follows:</p> <p>Calculate the revised basis of partnership assets due to a transfer of a partnership interest for federal income tax purposes.</p>



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