

LOUISIANA CPA LICENSURE

ACT 653 (HB 548)

MODERNIZING PATHWAYS. EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES. PROTECTING THE PUBLIC.



SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR:
JUNE 2, 2026



EFFECTIVE DATE:
AUGUST 1, 2026

Act 653 (House Bill 548) modernizes Louisiana's CPA licensure laws by creating additional pathways to licensure and updating mobility provisions—while maintaining the high standards of the profession and protecting the public.

THREE PATHWAYS TO CPA LICENSURE

1

TRADITIONAL PATHWAY (RETAINED)



EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree +
30 semester hours
with required
accounting/business
coursework



EXPERIENCE

1 year of qualifying
experience



EXAM

Pass the Uniform
CPA Examination

2

NEW BACHELOR'S DEGREE PATHWAY



EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree
with required
accounting
coursework



EXPERIENCE

2 years of qualifying
experience



EXAM

Pass the Uniform
CPA Examination

3

GRADUATE DEGREE PATHWAY



EDUCATION

Graduate degree in
accounting OR a
qualifying graduate
degree*



EXPERIENCE

1 year of qualifying
experience



EXAM

Pass the Uniform
CPA Examination

**The State Board of CPAs of Louisiana will define qualifying graduate degrees by rule.*

WHAT'S NEW IN ACT 653 (HB 548)?



ADDITIONAL PATHWAY

Allows candidates with a bachelor's degree
to qualify with 2 years of experience (no
150-hour requirement).



MOBILITY MODERNIZATION

Updates Louisiana's mobility provisions
to align with the national CPA mobility
model—making it easier for CPAs to practice
across state lines while maintaining public
protection.



PUBLIC PROTECTION FIRST

All candidates must meet rigorous
education, experience, and exam
requirements.



MORE OPTIONS. SAME STANDARDS.

More flexible pathways, but the same
commitment to excellence and integrity.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU



FOR STUDENTS

More ways to become a CPA in Louisiana.
Plan your education and career path with
greater flexibility.



FOR CPAs & EMPLOYERS

A stronger pipeline of talent and updated
mobility rules that support today's
multi-state marketplace.



FOR THE PROFESSION

A modern, competitive framework that
helps attract and retain future CPAs in
Louisiana.

Watch this quick video to learn about the pathways
available and discover which path may be right for you.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2slWDW2qEHU>