Washington State Board of Accountancy (ACB)

2023-2025 Biennium Strategic Plan

Washington State Board of Accountancy (ACB) 711 Capital Way S Suite 400 Olympia WA 98501



Executive Summary

The Washington State Board of Accountancy (The Agency) qualifies, monitors, and regulates Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and the practice of public accountancy within Washington State. The Board of Accountancy also monitors and regulates individuals and firms exercising practice privileges in other states while holding credentials issued by this state and those credentialed in other states exercising practice privileges in this state.

The nine members of the Board, appointed by the Governor, serve as the Rulemaking and Disciplinary body. The Agency is under the direction of the Executive Director, also appointed by the Governor, to employ appropriate personnel to administer the Public Accountancy Act, RCW 18.04, Board Rules, WAC 4-30, and Board policies.

The Agency is funded solely by license and administrative fees paid by CPAs, CPA-Inactive Certificate holders, CPA firms, non-licensee firm owners, and CPA examination applicants.

Agency Mission Statement

Promote the reliability of financial and other information used by decision makers in all types of enterprises and to protect the public by ensuring that:

- Only individuals initially qualified by education, examination, and experience and who possess good character are recognized for the practice of public accounting.
- Only firms meeting the board's criteria for recognition are initially permitted to offer or perform professional public accounting services.
- Individuals and firms recognized by the Board demonstrate continual competency, ethical behavior, and professionalism in the marketplace; and
- Consumer alerts and public protection information is provided to the public.

Goals

- Strive to improve the ease of constituent access to, and the user-friendly nature of, information related to Board and Agency functions, processes, and actions.
- Protect and maintain the security of private personal information that is in the custody of the agency.
- Maintain a robust enforcement effort that responds to complaints in a timely and appropriate manner and completes investigations within agency standards.
- Embed the values of diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of our agency.

Strategic Priorities

- Serve the public by promoting the reliability of financial information issued by Certified Public Accountants or their firms and by regulating the qualifications, conduct, and substantial equivalency of Certified Public Accountants.
- Protect and maintain the security of private personal information that is in the custody of the agency.
- Implement the Public Accountancy Act and Board Rules and Board Policies in a fair and equitable manner.
- Maintain compliance with all other required statues and rules affecting the agency.
- Strive to be an organization that focuses on the well-being and safety of the employees through training, process improvements, and a secure workplace.