

CPA NWT/NU Public Practice Licensing Policy

Determine If You Need a Practice Licence

Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) perform a variety of professional services, some of which may require a practice licence. If you are a partner, shareholder, or proprietor of a firm or professional corporation engaged in public practice in the Northwest Territories (NWT) or Nunavut (NU) (including a CPA practicing as a sole practitioner), you are required to have a licence in your respective category from CPA NWT/NU.

If you are a member who is an employee who has overall engagement responsibility where your activities are included in the definition of public practice, and as such, are subject to practice review, you must have a licence in your respective category from CPA NWT/NU.

Members offering to the public any public practice services will be required to be licenced in public practice, irrespective of remuneration.

Public Practice is defined as providing or offering to provide one or more of the following services to the public:

Public Accounting:

- performing an audit, review, or other assurance engagement governed by standards of professional practice published by CPA Canada or corresponding standards established in a jurisdiction outside Canada, or issuing an auditor's report, a review engagement report, or another assurance report in accordance with such standards;
- issuing any other certification, declaration, opinion or report with respect to the application of financial reporting and accounting standards published by CPA Canada or other Canadian standards published by CPA Canada, or corresponding standards established in a jurisdiction outside Canada;
- performing a compilation engagement;
- preparing a corporate tax return;

Other Regulated Services:

- providing an accounting service, involving summarization, analysis, advice, counsel, or
 interpretation, other than an accounting service which is part of but incidental to the provider's
 primary occupation which is not public accounting;
- providing a forensic accounting, financial investigation, or financial litigation support service;
- providing advice, counsel or interpretation with respect to personal taxation or Canada Revenue Agency matters;
- preparing a personal tax return or other statutory information filing;
 - <u>Personal tax return services</u>: When a member charges a fee and indicates on the tax return that the member or their firm has been paid to complete the tax return, registration is required.
- It is not permissible to also offer/provide 'accounting services' in conjunction with the above services, without being licenced.

The following services are not considered 'Other Regulated Services' under this policy and therefore do not require licencing by CPA NWT/NU. However, CPA NWT/NU still recommends that liability insurance be obtained when performing these services:

<u>Bookkeeping services</u>: Bookkeeping is managing a bank account, without additional journal entries for the period. It is the posting and management of accounts payable and receivables and sales transactions, with no production of financial statements and no accruals are done. Bookkeeping is printing statements from an accounting software system, but not a full and complete set of financial statements. For example, no cash flow statement and no statement of retained earnings is completed.

Categories of Public Practice Licences:

The following are categories of public practice licences:

- a. Audit Licence
- b. Review Licence
- c. Compilation Licence
- d. Other Regulated Services Licence

Individual members, already in practice, will be licensed in a category, based on their current practice area.

Practitioners will need to complete the <u>Annual Reporting Form</u>. To maintain a certain category of licence, a practitioner will be required to have been active in that practice area for the past five years, with consideration of relevant professional development which may have been taken (see Category Licencing Requirements)

Extra-Provincial Licensing

For a member of another provincial body to provide or offer to provide public practice services in the NWT/NU, the firm is required to register with the CPA NWT/NU Registrar and the individual must pay the membership fee but is not required to apply for a public practice licence if in good standing in another province at the time of application. To apply for membership use the Verification of Public Practice Registration Form.

Category Licensing Requirements

Each of the four categories in the Varied Registration Model has education, experience and examination requirements established that must be met in order to be eligible to supply the service.

For each of the following, refer to the <u>NWT/NU Registration Category Requirements for more</u> information:

1. CPA Paths to Public Accounting

Licensing eligibility is based on a member's Education, Evaluation (i.e. Examination) and Experience.

CPA Professional Education Program (PEP) candidates intending to apply for a public accounting licence after certification should follow specific pathways within the certification model that will meet the licensing requirements.

2. CPA Post-Designation

Members who did not fulfill all the requirements as part of their certification as a CPA and subsequently want to pursue a public accounting licence must meet the necessary education, evaluation and experience requirements.

3. Transitional Legacy Licensing

Legacy CA, CGA and CMA members, legacy entry requirements, or equivalents must meet the necessary education, evaluation and experience requirements.

Process of Applying for a Public Practice Licence

For a new applicant:

Apply for a public practice licence as follows:

- Complete the New Applicant Assessment Form
- Send payment, form and all required application documentation to the Registrar at admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org

Once your application has been received and determined to be complete, it will be evaluated and the Registrar will contact you. Depending on the category of licence requested, there may be prerequisites to be completed prior to obtaining the licence for that category.

Once the application is approved and completion of the <u>Verification of Public Practice Registration</u> Form is received, then you will be ready to purchase the professional liability insurance.

You will receive a written confirmation of your practice licence when:

- a) proof of professional liability insurance is provided to the Registrar, and
- b) payment of the public practice fee is received.

The assessment fee is non-refundable and the fee is required for each new application.

For a renewal:

Renew a public practice licence as follows:

Complete the Verification of Public Practice and Registration Form

Send payment, form and all required application documentation to the Registrar at admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org

Professional Liability Insurance Requirements

All members that are engaged in public practice are required to have professional liability insurance per section 2.10 of the Bylaws.

The requirements are as follows:

Members must belong to registered firms and their firm must carry the following minimum levels of professional liability insurance:

- \$1,000,000 per claim if there is one member with a proprietary interest in the firm;
- \$1,500,000 per claim if there are two or three members with a proprietary interest in the firm;
- \$2,000,000 per claim if there are four or more members with a proprietary interest in the firm.

Additionally, each professional liability insurance contract shall be endorsed with the requirements that the insurance company shall notify CPA NWT/NU in writing forthwith of:

- any cancellation or non-renewal of such policy; or
- any insurance coverage which is below the minimum coverage required above.

Members holding a public practice licence must ensure that prior acts and omissions are covered by adequate professional liability insurance either through riders to an ongoing insurance policy or a separate discovery policy, for a minimum of six years after ceasing to be in public practice.

Insurance premiums vary depending on many factors, including the number of CPAs in the practice, total billings, level of risk, and level of insurance you desire. Before your practice licence application can be finalized and before you start engaging in public practice activities, the final confirmation of your insurance coverage with a copy of the notification endorsement must be submitted to the CPA NWT/NU Registrar. The final confirmation can be either:

- A copy of the cover sheet/declaration sheet of your bound insurance coverage and a copy of the required endorsement sheet; or
- Direct confirmation from your insurer (you must contact your insurer and authorize them to release this information to CPA NWT/NU).

You can obtain professional liability insurance coverage through any provider.

Contact information for The Chartered Professional Accountants' Professional Liability Insurance Program, Administered by CPA Professional Liability Plan Inc. is:

By mail:

CPA Professional Liability Plan Inc. (formerly AICA Services Inc.) 277 Wellington Street West Toronto, Ontario M5V 3H2

By fax:

416.204.3418

By email:

services@cpaplan.ca

For inquiries, telephone 416.204.3398 or 1.800.267.4734 or visit www.cpaplan.ca

Request to Amend Category of Public Practice Licence

If a member wishes to request to amend the category of public practice licence:

• Complete the Request to Amend Category of Public Practice Licence Form.

• Sign and submit the completed form to the Registrar at admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org.

Registering a Firm in Public Practice

Per section 3.2 of the Bylaws, all Firms engaging in public practice must be registered with the CPA NWT/NU Registrar. Additionally, all registered firms are required to have one individual licenced in public practice at the highest level of the services being provided by the firm. For example, if your firm engages in auditing then the firm must have one individual licenced in public practice at the audit level.

Register your firm in public practice as follows:

- Complete the <u>Firm Registration Form</u>
- Complete payment online
- Send receipt and form to the Registrar at <u>admin@cpa-nwt-nu.orq</u>

Appointment of Assisting Accountant

A sole practitioner is required to either:

- a. Appoint an Assisting Accountant to be responsible for returning client records in the event of the practitioner's death or incapacity. The appointed Assisting Accountant must be another member in good standing holding a public practice licence; or
- b. Authorize CPA NWT/NU to appoint a member in good standing holding a public practice licence as an Assisting Accountant in the event of the practitioner's death or incapacity.

Submit the Appointment of Assisting Accountant Form to the Registrar at admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org.

Cancellation of a Public Practice Licence

If a member ceases public practice as defined by Section 2.5 of the Bylaws, and would like to cancel their practice licence issued under, they must complete the <u>Annual Reporting Form</u>.

Please send the completed form to the attention of the Registrar at admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org.

If you have questions about cancelling a practice licence, please contact the Registrar.

Practice Review

The Practice Review program fulfills a mandatory requirement for CPA NWT/NU to review all licenced CPAs who perform assurance, auditing and compilation engagements, as well as tax services. CPA NWT/NU Practice Review program plays an essential role in protecting the public by assessing firms' compliance with professional standards, by taking appropriate follow-up or remedial action in instances of non-compliance, and by providing one-on-one education to firms. Reviews for all registered CPA professional accounting firms or professional service providers are to be conducted no less than once every three years.

Professional Development for Licenced Individuals

CPAs working in Public practice have specific professional development requirements (CPD). Refer to the CPD Policy for more information. Public practice licences may be revoked or subject to other action if the requirements of the CPD policy are not fulfilled.

Trust Accounts

If a CPAs working in public practice hold funds in a trust account on behalf of clients, these funds may be assessable to review by CPA NWT/NU.

Policy References:

- All requirements to meet eligibility for public practice are found in the NWT/NU Registration Category Requirements.
- Applicable Forms:
 - New Applicant Assessment Form
 - o Annual Reporting Form
 - o Verification of Public Practice Form
 - o Amend Category of Public Practice Licence Form
 - o Firm Registration Form
 - o Appointment of Assisting Accountant Form



Professional Accounting Firm Varied Registration Category Requirements

AUDIT SERVICES

EDUCATION

Professional Education Examinations:

Successful completion of the assurance and taxation electives, including examinations. If not completed as a part of original certification, CPA is required to complete CPA Canada built-for-purpose course and exam or equivalent.

Legacy electives:

CA – CA education program
CGA – PA1, AU2 and Tax 2
CMA – Audit I. Audit II. Tax I. Tax II. and Tax III

Final Examination:

Successful completion of an approved national final examination (i.e. CFE, UFE, CGA, CMA). In the case of successful completion of the CFE, applicant must demonstrate depth in financial reporting and assurance.

Additional Education Requirements

CPAs who successfully completed the assurance and taxation electives (or built-for-purpose exam) more than five years before applying for PAF registration are required to take additional continuing professional development to ensure current knowledge with no less than one (1) course in each of the following:

- Accounting standards in the relevant framework(s)
- Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS)

An NWT/NU CPA must successfully complete CPA Alberta's "Overview of Public Practice" course (or a course deemed substantially similar).

EXPERIENCE

Duration

24 months of full-time qualifying experience within the most recent fiveyear period. Qualifying experience must be gained through a professional accounting firm with a registered pre-approved program in external audit OR five (5) years of continuous full-time qualifying experience in a professional accounting firm registered to provide audit engagements.

Experience must be under the supervision of a member who practices in the area of audit.

Any experience obtained prior to December 31, 2018 in a professional accounting firm registered to provide audit engagements will be deemed as qualifying experience should it fall within the most recent five-year period upon application.

Chargeable Hours

Demonstrate the following through a professional accounting firm deemed to provide qualifying experience for duration as noted above:

 1250 assurance hours; of which a minimum of 625 hours must be obtained in audits of historical financial information

Competency

Applicant must provide evidence of:

- a core in the financial reporting competency area (requiring experience in at least three financial reporting competency sub-areas)
- a depth in the audit and assurance competency area (requiring that the competencies be developed in all three audit and assurance competency sub-areas, two at Level 2)

Diversity

Diversity of assurance experience to be gained through a variety of audit clients and/or a variety of audit experiences, a part of which may be gained through review clients, to the satisfaction of the Registrar.

REVIEW SERVICES

EDUCATION

Duration

EXPERIENCE

Professional Education Examinations:

Successful completion of the assurance and taxation electives, including examinations. If not completed as a part of original certification, CPA is required to complete CPA Canada built-for-purpose course and exam or equivalent.

Legacy electives:

CA – CA education program
CGA – PA1, AU2 and Tax 2
CMA – Audit I, Audit II, Tax I, Tax II, and Tax III

Final Examination:

Successful completion of an approved national final examination (i.e. CFE, UFE, CGA, CMA). In the case of successful completion of the CFE, applicant must demonstrate depth in financial reporting and assurance.

Additional Education Requirements

CPAs who successfully completed the assurance and taxation electives (or built-for-purpose exam) more than five years before applying for registration are required to take additional continuing professional development courses to ensure current knowledge with no less than one (1) course in each of the following:

- Accounting standards in the relevant framework(s)
- Assurance course covering Canadian Standard on Review Engagements (CSRE)

An NWT/NU CPA must successfully complete CPA Alberta's "Overview of Public Practice" course (or a course deemed substantially similar).

24 months of full-time qualifying experience within the most recent five-year period. Qualifying experience must be gained through a professional accounting firm with a registered pre-approved program in review and/or external audit **OR** five (5) years of continuous full-time qualifying experience in a professional accounting firm registered to provide review and/or external audit engagements.

Experience must be under the supervision of a member who practices in the area of assurance.

Any experience obtained prior to December 31, 2018 in a professional accounting firm registered to provide review and/or external audit engagements will be deemed as qualifying experience should it fall within the most recent five-year period upon application.

Chargeable Hours

Demonstrate the following through a professional accounting firm deemed to provide qualifying experience for duration as noted above:

 1250 assurance hours; of which a minimum of 625 hours must be obtained in providing assurance of historical financial information

Competency

Applicant must provide evidence of:

- experience in at least three financial reporting competency sub-areas
- experience in at least two competency sub-areas (both at Level 2) from the audit and assurance competency area
- depth in one competency area (at their choice)

Diversity

Diversity of assurance experience to be gained through a variety of assurance clients and/or a variety of assurance experiences, to the satisfaction of the Registrar.

COMPILATION SERVICES

EDUCATION

EXPERIENCE

Professional Education Examinations:

Successful completion of the taxation elective, including examination. If not completed as a part of original certification, CPA is required to complete the tax elective from the CPA Western School of Business (CPAWSB), or equivalent.

Legacy electives:

CA – CA education program CGA – PA1 and Tax 2 CMA – Tax I, Tax II and Tax III

Final Examination:

Successful completion of an approved national final examination (i.e. CFE, UFE, CGA, CMA). In the case of successful completion of the CFE, applicant must demonstrate depth in financial reporting plus one other depth area.

Additional Education Requirements

CPAs who successfully completed the taxation elective more than five years before applying for registration are required to take additional continuing professional development courses to ensure current knowledge with no less than one (1) course covering compilation engagements.

An NWT/NU CPA must successfully complete CPA Alberta's "Overview of Public Practice" course (or a course deemed substantially similar).

Duration

24 months of full-time qualifying experience within the most recent five-year period. Qualifying experience must be gained through a Pre-approved Program in a professional accounting firm OR through the Experience Verification Route gained in a professional accounting firm registered to provide any professional accounting practice services.

Experience must be under the supervision of a member who practices in the area of compilation.

Chargeable Hours

Demonstrate the following through a professional accounting firm deemed to provide qualifying experience for duration as noted above:

625 hours in compilation

Hours spent on the audit or review of historical financial information are accepted as compilation hours.

Competency

Applicant must provide evidence of:

- experience in at least three financial reporting competency sub-areas
- depth in one competency area (at their choice)

Diversity

Additional experience in tax and advisory services to the satisfaction of the Registrar.

OTHER REGULATED SERVICES (INCLUDING PUBLIC PRACTICE SERVICES)

EXAMINATION

EXPERIENCE

Professional Education Examinations:

Where the member will be providing taxation services: successful completion taxation elective, including examination. If not completed as a part of original certification, the CPA is required to complete the tax elective from the CPAWSB, or equivalent.

Legacy electives:

CA – CA education program CGA – PA1 and Tax 2 CMA – Tax I, Tax II and Tax III

All other regulated services excluding taxation: None

Final Examination:

Successful completion of an approved national final examination (i.e. CFE, UFE, CGA, CMA).

Additional Examination:

Where the member will be providing **taxation services**: If taxation elective was not completed as a part of original certification, the CPA is required to complete the tax elective from the CPAWSB, or equivalent.

All other regulated services excluding tax: None

Additional Education Requirements

Where the member will be providing **tax services**: Successful completion of no less than one (1) course in the area of tax specific to the nature of the business in the intended areas of practice

Where the member will be providing other regulated services, **excluding tax service**: evidence satisfactory to the Registrar of continuing professional development to the satisfaction of the Registrar or Registration Committee that the member has depth of knowledge required to provide services in the intended areas of practice.

An NWT/NU CPA must successfully complete CPA Alberta's "Overview of Public Practice" course (or a course deemed substantially similar).

Duration

24 months of full-time qualifying experience obtained through a registered professional accounting firm and within rolling five-year period. Experience must be under the supervision of a member who practices in the area(s) of practice.

Chartered Professional Accountants of the Northwest Territories/Nunavut P.O. Box 128, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N1

Phone No: 867.873.5020 | Fax: 867.873.4469 | Email: admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org



Under the authority of the Transitional Steering Committee of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, each member who wishes registration as a professional public accountant must demonstrate evidence of meeting any education and experience requirements. In conjunction with this requirement, each CPA member that is a partner, proprietor, equity shareholder or has responsibility for an entire public accounting engagement, must complete the following form and provide information as presented.

public accounting engagement, must complete	e the following form and provide inform	mation as presented	d.		
Section 1 - MEMBER INFORMATION					
Last Name:	First Name:_				
CPA Canada ID #:	Phone No.:	()			
Designation CPA, CGA	CPA, CMA	CPA, CA	СРА		
Section 2- REASON FOR ASSESSMENT					
New Sole-Proprietor New Partnership New LLP New Professional Corporation					
Name of Partner(s) (if applicable):					
Section 3 – PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE	HISTORY				
a) have you been a partner and/or prop within the last five (5) years?	rietor of a registered professional	accounting firm	Yes	No	
b) have you acquired at least 24 months of full-time practical experience within the most recent five (5) years under the supervision of a member (CPA) who is registered to conduct practice in the area(s) you plan to engage?					
c) have you acquired at least 2,500 overall chargeable hours?				No	
d) have you acquired at least 1,250 chargeable hours in assurance?				No	
e) have you acquired at least 625 hours of audit of historical financial information?					
Section 4 – PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE	SUMMARY				
 a) Provide information pertaining to ful most recent five (5) years. 	II-time practical experience you ha	ave obtained in pu	ıblic accounting	within the	
Professional Accounting Firm/ Employer	Position Title (e.g. Manager, Team Leader)	Start Date (mm dd yyyy)	End Date (mm dd yyyy)	Full-Time or Part-Time (e.g. FT, PT)	

- b) A detailed chronological Curriculum Vitae (CV) which includes the following information is to be submitted:
 - The name and locations of all employers (current and previous)
 - The position/title held at each employer
 - The duration of each position/title with beginning and end dates
 - A description of each position/title and the nature of the experience gained



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Section 5 – AREAS OF PRACTICE	
Which of the following areas of practice do you plan to engage	in? (check all that apply):
FOUNDATIONAL AREAS:	
Audit engagement	Compilation engagement
Review engagement	Accounting services
Specified auditing procedures	Advice, interpretation, or filing of tax returns or other statutory information filing
OTHER AREAS:	
Business valuation	Forensic accounting, financial investigation or financial litigation support services
Insolvency	or illiancial illigation support services
Are you registered / licensed in another province to provide the	se services? Yes No
If yes, in which province(s) are you registered to provide these	services?
Section 6 – EDUCATION AND CONTINUING PROFESSION Under the NWT/NU Policy, an applicant must provide continuing professional development in each of the foundational firm plans to conduct practice.	le evidence of recent and relevant education and
FOUNDATIONAL AREAS:	OTHER AREAS:
Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS)Corporate taxation	 Forensic accounting, financial investigation or financial litigation support
Personal taxation	Business valuation
 Compilation standards Accounting Standards Canadian Standards for Review Engagements (CSRE) 	 Insolvency practice, including acting as a trustee in bankruptcy, a liquidator, a receiver, or receiver- manager
EDUCATION – Please indicate which of the following courses	s and examinations you have completed.
CPA PEP Taxation Module	Legacy CGA AU2 – Advanced External Auditing *transcript required
CPA PEP Assurance Module	Legacy CGA TX2 – Advanced Taxation *transcript required
CFE - depth of Assurance & Financial Reporting	Legacy CMA Canada – Audit I & II *transcript required
Legacy CA Education Program	Legacy CMA Canada – Taxation I, II & III *transcript required



Foundational area as identified above	Education (course and examination)	Date(s)	Hour(s)	Course provider
		_		
CONTINUING PROFESSION OF PROFE	DNAL DEVELOPMENT – Provide informe in that was completed within the LA	nation regarding ST FIVE (5) YEA	relevant CF RS .	PD in the areas of praction
Area of practice	CPD activity			Course provider, source
as identified above (co	ourse, conference, seminar) and topic	Date(s)	Hour(s)	or audience



Section 7 – ENGAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY DETAIL	S	
Identify the function and the report signing authority that yesigning authority identified below must coincide with the in		
Function - Identify one function from the following		
,		- General – combination of areas - Other
Report Signing and/or Approval – check ($\sqrt{\ }$) each service accounting firm	e you will be authorized to sign o	on behalf of the professional
Compilation (NTR) Report Yes No		
Auditor's Report Yes No Review Engagement Report Yes No		
Section 9 – MEMBER DECLARATION		
I authorize CPA Northwest Territories/Nunavut to obtain status, as you require to determine my eligibility to Registration Committee may request additional informmeeting when my assessment is being considered.	conduct the services indicated	d above. I understand that the
Signature	Date	
SUBMIT to CPA Northwest Territories/ Nunavut offic	•	

Chartered Professional Accountants of the Northwest Territories/Nunavut P.O. Box 128, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N1 Phone No: 867.873.5020 | Fax: 867.873.4469 | Email: admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org



Section 8 - ASSESSMENT FEE

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\$ 100.00	Assessment Fee - Due and payable upon submission of Assessment form		
5.00	Taxes on Assessment Fee (GST [# 10690 4295 RT0001)		
\$ <u>105.00</u>	Total owing upon submission of Assessment form (non-refundable)		
Payment me	thod:		
□ Visa	□ MasterCard □ Cheque − Personal /Corporate (circle one) Payable to: CPA Northwest Territories/ Nunavut		
Card numb	ber Exp. Date		
lame of card	tholder		



Assisting Accountant Appointment

In accordance with CPANWT/NU Bylaw, I,	, as
required for my public practice licence in NWT/NU,	choose one of the following options:
Option A: By initialing here	
I appoint the following CPANWT/NU member, who Northwest Territories or Nunavut and has agreed to responsible for returning client records in the even	o the appointment, as an Assisting Accountant to be
Name:	Address:
Firm:	
Email Address:	
Telephone:	
My appointment is effective until a new appointme	ent of Assisting Accountant is provided to CPANWT/NU
Option B: By initialing here	
I authorize CPANWT/NU to appoint a member in go Assisting Accountant in the event of my death or in	
	Assisting Accountant for reasonable out of pocket ce, such as travel and miscellaneous office expenses.
My office address is:	
DATED atin the Province	of Northwest Territories, this day of
PUBLIC PRACTITIONER:	
Name	
Signature of Public Practitioner	
CPANWT/NU ID Number	

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WHO TO CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (If other than the Assisting Accountant)
Name:
Relationship:
Address:
Telephone:
Email Address:

Please scan and email the completed form to admin@cpa-nwt-nu.org.