



Education Foundation Awards \$50,000 in Scholarships

The Education Foundation of the Mississippi Society of CPAs recently awarded \$50,000 in college scholarships for the Fall 2024 term. Founded in the early 1970s, the Foundation seeks to promote accounting education in Mississippi colleges and universities by helping students pursue a CPA career.

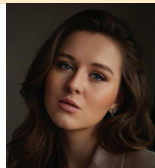
College juniors, seniors, and graduate students representing 8 Mississippi institutions applied for the scholarships, which required submitted essays, transcripts, and resumes. Scholarships worth \$3,500 each were awarded to 14 students and an extra scholarship worth \$1,000 was awarded to the Hamp King Award winner.

This year's scholarship recipients are featured on pages 6 – 8.

Graduate Scholarship Recipients



Olivia Boleware
University of Southern Mississippi
Ralph F. Neely Scholarship



Cameron Cox
Millsaps College



Ryan Elizabeth Holmes
Mississippi State University
Rhyne E. Neubert Scholarship



Lauren Huffstatler
University of Mississippi
James W. Davis Scholarship



Tamera Jackson
Jackson State University



Maeghan Lee
Mississippi College
Edward A. DeMiller, Jr. Scholarship

Undergraduate Scholarship Recipients



Sara Booth
Delta State University



Bryant Buteau
Mississippi State University



Kay-Leigh Jade Hill
Mississippi University
for Women



Anna Grace Purser
University of Southern Mississippi



Preston Speed
Mississippi College



Saydee Taylor
University of Mississippi
Hamp King Award



Alexandria Williams
Jackson State University



Brianna Wilson
Millsaps College

IN MEMORIAM

DAVID JAMES MANIFOLD
Gulfport, MS
Died August 15, 2024



MEMORIAL GIFT

To the
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

In memory of
MARTHA B. "MOLLY" NICKEY
Jackson, MS

by
Jim Koerber
Hattiesburg, MS

In memory of
LOU ANN COUNCE
Booneville, MS

by
William T. Vanstory
Booneville, MS

Reminder

DUES DEADLINE

October 1

To Avoid Late Fees
and Loss of
CPE Discounts



**BOARD OF
GOVERNORS
MEETING**

October 17

3:00 p.m.

MSCPA Office
306 Southampton Row
Ridgeland, MS



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by the
Mississippi Society of
Certified Public Accountants*

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The CPA Newsletter is the official publication of the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants. The Newsletter invites articles of interest to the profession and gives credit to the author; however, it reserves the right to edit articles for correct spelling, wording and punctuation.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily the official policy of the MSCPA. Advertising is accepted in good faith that the product/services are of value stated.

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Member News

Dale Flesher Receives 2024 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award

Dr. Dale L. Flesher was one of two honored by the American Accounting Association as a 2024 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award recipient. Dale has been a faculty member at The University of Mississippi since 1977 and previously taught for nine years at three other schools. A native of Indiana, Dale received bachelor's and master's degrees from Ball State University and a PhD from the University of Cincinnati. He holds CPA, CMA, CIA, CGMA, CGFM, and CFE certificates. He has authored over 400 articles for more than 100 journals. He also published 52 books (in 102 editions) and 100 encyclopedia articles. He has served as editor of the Accounting Historians Journal and the Accounting Historians Notebook. Flesher has won numerous research and teaching awards, including the 2011 AICPA Distinguished Accounting Educator Award, the 2011 Distinguished Research and Creative Achievement Award from Ole Miss, the 2017 SEC Faculty Achievement Award, and the 1990 Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Leon R. Radde Educator of the Year Award. He received the



Thomas Burns Biographical Research in Accountancy Award in 2005 from The Academy of Accounting Historians and The Academy's 2014 Hourglass Award.

Dale is a valuable member of the Society and received the MSCPA Outstanding Educator Award in 1998. He also co-authored our *MSCPA Centennial History: A Century of CPAs in Mississippi, 1920-2020* and received, along with Dr. James Davis and Dr. Annette Pridgen, the Barbara D. Merino Award for Excellence in Accounting History Publication presented by the American Accounting Association in 2022.

MSCPA Members Serving on AICPA Committees and Boards

The following MSCPA members are serving on AICPA committees and boards for May 2024 – May 2025.

- **Steven Eilders**, CPA, Manager at BMSS, LLC in Ridgeland, named to the AICPA Emerging Professionals Initiatives (EPIC) Committee
- **Kimberly L. Hardy**, CPA, CFF, Shareholder at Matthews, Cutrer & Lindsay, P.A. in Ridgeland, named to the AICPA Womens Initiatives Executive Committee
- **Jan F. Lewis**, CPA, Tax Member of BMSS, LLC in Ridgeland, elected to the AICPA Board of Directors
- **Charles R. “Charlie” Prince**, Owner of Prince CPA Firm, PLLC in Magee, elected to the AICPA Peer Review Board
- **Cheryl Sykes**, retired CPA in Clinton, named to the AICPA Council - Elected Members
- **Thomas E. “Tom” Walker**, CPA, Corporate Practice Group Partner of Jones Walker LLP in Jackson, named as the AICPA Designated Council Representative



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Lacey Bailey - J.D., LL.M.

Will Janoush - J.D., LL.M.



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Gulfport Office - 1105 30th Avenue, Ste. 204, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501 - Phone: (228) 868-0197



MSCPA Education Foundation Announces 2024 Scholarship Winners

HAMP KING

Scholarship Award



Saydee Taylor

University of Mississippi

Saydee Taylor of Booneville has a 4.0 GPA in accounting

and a 4.0 overall at the University of Mississippi. She serves as Treasurer for Beta Alpha Psi and as Head of Logistics for the Grove Retreat, a campus ministry, and previously served as Head of Finance and Fundraising. Her role involved organizing over seven fundraising events earning over \$10,000 in support. She is on the Chancellor's Honor Roll, a Provost Scholar, and member of the National Society of Leadership and Success and Phi Kappa Phi, and volunteers at the accounting tutoring lab. Outside of college, she is a member of First Baptist Church Oxford where she helps with the youth group, volunteers at the Oxford Food Pantry, and is involved in the Baptist Student Union volunteering to prepare for events, working fundraising events for summer missions, and leading freshmen Bible studies to welcome new students to college. She is also certified in QuickBooks Online.

*The prestigious **Hamp King Award** is given to the most outstanding undergraduate scholarship recipient. This award was established to recognize and honor the memory of the late Hamp King, a CPA who served as Mississippi's State Auditor for many years. The winner receives an additional \$1,000 scholarship and an award plaque.*

UNDERGRADUATE

Scholarship Awards

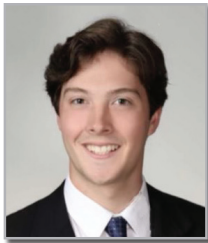


Sara Booth

Delta State University

Sara Booth of Charleston has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a

3.96 overall at Delta State University. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and attends SBA and Finance Club seminars and meetings regularly. She is a volunteer at the Natural Resource Conservation Service office.



Bryant Buteau

Mississippi State University

Bryant Buteau of Madison has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 overall

at Mississippi State University. He is a member of Beta Alpha Psi and has served as House Manager and as Philanthropy Chair for Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. Outside of college, he is involved in Pine Lake Church and its student ministry. His favorite activities are working out, running, and playing tennis or pickleball.



Kay-Leigh Jade Hill

Mississippi University for Women

Kay-Leigh Jade Hill of Eupora has a 3.94 GPA

in accounting and a 3.87 overall at the

Mississippi University for Women. She is involved in the Wesley Foundation and Student Programming Board and is a resident assistant for the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science. Outside of college, she has a cleaning business, dog sits, and volunteers at a ministry where she recently returned from a mission trip.



Anna Grace Purser

University of Southern Mississippi

Anna Grace Purser of Magee has a 3.5 GPA in

accounting and a 3.88 overall at the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a Luckyday Scholar and is an active member of Beta Alpha Psi. She has volunteered at the accounting tutoring lab, Edwards Street Fellowship, Eagle's Nest Food Pantry, Center for Child Development, Southern Pines Animal Shelter, and Seymour's Career Closet. Outside of college, she enjoys horseback riding, fishing, hunting, pottery, traveling, and spending time with her dog. She attends First Baptist Church of Taylorsville.



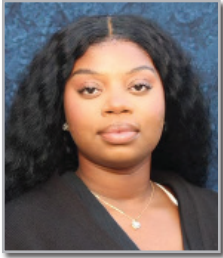
Preston Speed

Mississippi College

Preston Speed of Jackson has a 3.91 GPA in accounting and

a 3.88 overall at Mississippi College. He is a member of the cross country and track teams, School of Business Advisory Board, Student Government

Association, Student Athlete Advisory Committee, and Beta Gamma Sigma. He also serves as President of the Accounting Society. Outside of college, he is a member of Fondren Church and is part of their college ministry.



Alexandria Williams

Jackson State University

Alexandria Williams of Jackson has a 3.4 GPA in

accounting and a 3.51 overall at Jackson State University. Alexandria is a member of the Honors College, Accounting Society, and serves as President of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She is a member of the MADDRA Performance Troupe and Transfer Ambassadors. She is also a member of the NAACP and the National Association for Black Accountants. Outside of college, she serves as Youth Choir Director and IT Director at her church and is involved in their health initiative and food pantry ministry.



Brianna Wilson

Millsaps College

Brianna Wilson of Madison has a 3.4 GPA in accounting and a 3.38 overall

at Millsaps College. She is a full-time realtor and a mother of two. She is involved in community outreach with the Central Mississippi Realtors and also volunteers at The Salvation Army while balancing work, family, and education.

GRADUATE *Scholarship Awards*



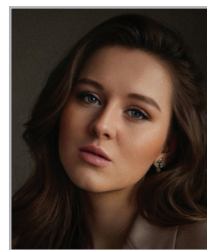
Olivia Boleware

University of Southern Mississippi

Ralph F. Neely Scholarship

Olivia Boleware of Prentiss has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. She graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in May 2024 and began her graduate studies in June 2024. She supported herself financially during college by working at Caleb's Hometown Pharmacy and Covington County Hospital. She also participated in the work study program at Jones College to help alleviate the financial burden. She recently began her career as a tax and assurance intern at Carr Riggs & Ingram. Outside of college, she volunteers at the Jefferson Davis County Library Association and supports Sustaining Grace Ministries, a nonprofit organization that helps rehabilitate drug and alcohol users, in Collins.

The Ralph F. Neely Scholarship was established in 2016 to honor Mr. Neely who was an original Trustee of the Education Foundation when it was founded. Mr. Neely served as MSCPA President during 1966-67.



Cameron Cox
Millsaps College

Cameron Cox of Brandon has a 3.87 GPA in accounting and a 3.84 GPA overall. She graduated

from Millsaps College in May 2024 but began her graduate studies in January 2024 as part of the Early Start Program which allows taking up to two graduate-level courses per semester of the undergraduate degree. At Millsaps,

she participates in career fairs and study groups and volunteers at the VITA Tax Center. She is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and the National Society of Leadership and Success. She was awarded the Stay in the 'Sip Fellowship by the Office of the State Auditor.



Ryan Elizabeth Holmes

Mississippi State University

Rhyne E. Neubert Scholarship

Ryan Elizabeth Holmes of Hattiesburg has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. She graduated from Mississippi State University in May 2024 and began her graduate studies in June 2024. She was involved with numerous organizations on campus, including various honor societies such as Beta Gamma Sigma, Lambda Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, and Beta Alpha Psi. Other organizations included Chi Omega Sorority and Dresses of Hope, which is an organization with the mission of providing prom/homecoming dresses to girls in Starkville and surrounding communities. As an undergraduate, she worked part-time for an investment brokerage firm in Hattiesburg as a marketing associate, as well as, an intern for Ernst & Young in Nashville, TN. Outside of college, she is a member of St. Fabian Catholic Church.

The Rhyne E. Neubert Scholarship was established in 2016 to honor Mr. Neubert who had served as a Trustee of the Education Foundation since inception. Under his investment guidance and expertise, the Fund grew from an original contribution of \$1,000 to its level today. Mr. Neubert served as MSCPA President during 1972-73 and was honored by the MSCPA in 1996 as the Public Service Award Winner for outstanding service to the profession and to his community.



Lauren Huffstatler

University of Mississippi

James W. Davis Scholarship

Lauren Huffstatler

of Coldwater has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. She graduated from the University of Mississippi in May 2024 and began her graduate studies in June 2024. She was a member of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College. She received the Accountancy Alumni Chapter Academic Achievement Award (2023) and the Marcus Elvis Taylor Memorial Award Medal (2024). She was the regional winner in the Deloitte FanTAXtic Competition in 2021 and competed nationally in 2022. She has interned at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and Deloitte. Outside of college, she volunteers at the Oxford Food Pantry and works in the hospitality industry while pursuing her degree.

The James W. Davis Scholarship was established in 2021 to honor Dr. Davis who had served as a Trustee of the Education Foundation since inception. Dr. Davis was long-time professor at Ole Miss, holder of the prestigious Peery Chair in Accountancy, and former Dean of the Patterson School of Accountancy. He was the author of the first MSCPA history in 1977.



Tamera Jackson

Jackson State University

Tamera Jackson of Canton has a 3.83 GPA in

accounting and a 3.38 GPA overall. She graduated from Jackson State University in May 2024 and began her graduate studies in August 2024. She served as Coordinator of Affairs for the JSU Center for Public Trust and was a member of the Accounting Society and Investment Club. Currently, she serves as Crossroads Church of God's Youth President and Praise Dance Ministry Director and is a member of the Helping Hands Ministry.



The **MSCPA Education Foundation** was created in the early 1970s to promote accounting education in Mississippi colleges and universities by helping students pursue a CPA career. Our member contributions allow us to award scholarships each year to accounting college students who have made a commitment to become a CPA. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Maeghan Lee

Mississippi College

Edward A. DeMiller, Jr. Scholarship

Maeghan Lee of

Bude has a 4.0 GPA in accounting and a 4.0 GPA overall. She graduated from Mississippi College in May 2024 and began her graduate studies in August 2024. She was active on campus and served on the School of Business Advisory Council and the Women in Business Board. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Beta Gamma Sigma, and Alpha Chi. She also participated in the Accounting Society and was involved with the Baptist Student Union and Choctaw Chorus. Outside of college, she is the church band's pianist and keyboardist at First Baptist Church of Bude and also plays piano for other churches, nursing homes, weddings, festivals, and funerals. She works in the accounting department at Telapex, Inc. in Ridgeland.

The Edward A. DeMiller, Jr. Scholarship was established in 2016 to honor Mr. DeMiller who was an original Trustee of the Education Foundation when it was founded. Mr. DeMiller served as MSCPA President during 1959-60.



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BOI Reporting Update & Concerns

FinCEN is now connecting with state societies to understand their pain points associated with filing the beneficial ownership information (BOI) reports. As background, as of July, FinCEN has only received approximately 2.5 million reports of the expected 32.6 million reports for this year. FinCEN is now focusing on raising awareness and also trying to understand any hesitation tax preparers may have in preparing the BOI reports.

Information gathered from AICPA membership and other stakeholders indicates that there are 3 main concerns as outlined below.

◆ 30-day Timeframe to Update or Correct BOI Reports

- ◆ The AICPA has had a long position to change the 30-day timeframe to a yearly filing requirement.
- ◆ The current 30-day requirement effectively creates a bifurcated work stream. In some situations, accountants may take on the initial filing, though may decline to engage further with the client on monthly tracking for form updates or corrections. In other situations, some accountants may take on the entire engagement, including filing corrected or updated information. This then creates, effectively, a 30-day tracking requirement for accountants who choose to engage with their client on this work and have no previous model to track their client changes in such a manner to ensure their client remains in compliance with the rule.
- ◆ Annually, tax preparer CPAs meet with small business clients to work through their clients' tax filing needs, and it is in those annual interactions FinCEN BOI information changes will be captured.
- ◆ Creating a 30-day check-in process is not only time-consuming for the CPA, it may also result in an unnecessarily costly engagement for the small business client.
- ◆ It is within FinCEN's ability to change the 30-day reporting timeframe.

◆ Lack of Clarity

- ◆ There are still many pending questions that create areas of uncertainty.
- ◆ The AICPA has continually provided examples of areas where clarity is needed. It is our understanding that FinCEN is open to hearing where clarity is needed and that they are continuously updating the FAQs to reflect their position.

◆ Unauthorized Practice of Law (UPL) and Liability

- ◆ AICPA has been meeting with FinCEN, Congressional staffers and external stakeholders to discuss legislative and regulatory solutions. All parties are working on supporting legislation that would provide safeguards for CPAs who perform the work and including a statement that services under the CTA are not considered UPL.
- ◆ Ultimately, the determination of UPL is at the state level. Mississippi has not provided an opinion, nor is one expected.
- ◆ Maryland and New Jersey have provided opinions stating that services can be performed by a CPA so long as professional judgement is used and to consider an attorney for the complex entity structures.
- ◆ Most recently, the Iowa Supreme Court issued an order to update their rules to specifically state that non-attorneys could provide BOI services, and it would not be considered unauthorized practice of law.

Until further filing guidance or changes are released, the reports should be filed as currently required whether a firm decides to submit the reports for their clients, use a third-party for reporting, or advise their clients of another avenue.

TYPES OF REPORTS

◆ Initial Report

- ◆ If the entity is formed on/after January 1, 2024, and before January 1, 2025, the report must be filed within 90 days of the date of formation.
- ◆ If the entity was formed before January 1, 2024, the report must be filed no later than January 1, 2025.
- ◆ If the entity is formed on/after January 1, 2025, the report must be filed within 30 days of the date of formation.

◆ Updated Report

- ◆ Must be filed within 30 days of change to previously submitted information.
- ◆ NOTE THIS IS NOT AN ANNUAL FILING

◆ Corrected Report

- ◆ Must be filed within 30 days after the reporting company becomes aware or has reason to know that information contained in a report was inaccurate when filed.



MEET THE FIRMS

The MSCPA visited many universities for their annual "Meet the Firms" events. These events served as a pivotal bridge between aspiring accounting students and the vast realm of possibilities within the accounting field. Students had the opportunity to engage with seasoned professionals, gaining invaluable perspectives on the diverse career paths available within the accounting industry, which could potentially lead to internships or even full-time employment down the road.

OLE MISS

YCPA President Andres Posada, Board member Karis Pannell, and Noah Davis attended Meet the Firms hosted by the University of Mississippi on August 29. Also pictured is the future building of the Patterson School of Accountancy (*Credit: Ole Miss*).



MISSISSIPPI STATE

YCPA Vice President John Luley and Secretary Landon Weaver attended Meet the Firms hosted by Mississippi State University on September 4. Also pictured are MSU's Director of the Adkerson School of Accountancy Shawn Mauldin and MSCPA President/CEO Karen Moody.



MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

YCPA Secretary Landon Weaver and Board members Lauren Wray and Brooke Stanley attended Meet the Firms hosted by Mississippi College on September 5. Also pictured is scholarship recipient Maeghan Lee.



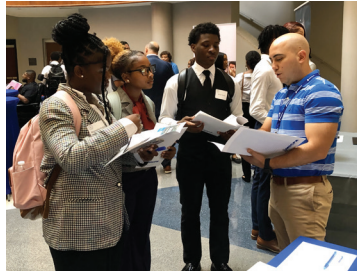
SOUTHERN MISS

YCPA President Andres Posada, Treasurer Bradley Floore, and Caitlin Chancellor attended Meet the Firms hosted by the University of Southern Mississippi on September 5. Also pictured are MSCPA President/CEO Karen Moody, USM President Joe Paul, and School of Accountancy Director Blaise Sonnier.



JACKSON STATE

YCPA President Andres Posada and President/CEO Karen Moody attended Meet the Firms hosted by Jackson State University on September 10. Also pictured is Bobbie Daniels, JSU Interim Chair of the Department of Accounting, Finance, and Entrepreneurship.



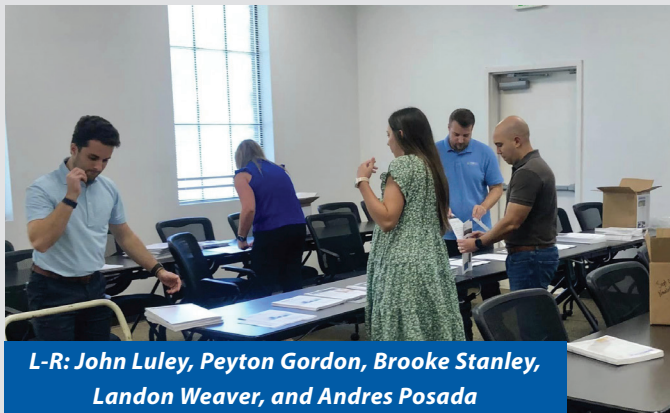
MILLSAPS

YCPA President Andres Posada and Board member Lauren Wray attended Meet the Firms hosted by Millsaps College on September 17. Also pictured is Guy McClain, Associate Professor and Director of BBA in Accounting and Master of Accounting Programs.



YCPA NETWORK PREPARES FOR MEET THE FIRMS

MSCPA Young CPA (YCPA) Board members convened on August 26 at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland to prepare informational packets for distribution at upcoming Meet the Firms events. Packets include essential information about the organization, career opportunities, and resources for students aspiring to pursue the accounting profession.



L-R: John Luley, Peyton Gordon, Brooke Stanley, Landon Weaver, and Andres Posada



SAVE THE DATE! YCPA CHRISTMAS SOCIAL



Wednesday, December 18, 2024

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Georgia Blue • Madison, MS

Students are invited!

Speaking Opportunities

MSCPA is always eager to explore new speakers and topics to keep our programs engaging and up-to-date. If the topics listed below align with your expertise, or if you have a fresh idea that could benefit the profession, we encourage you to reach out and propose a session.

AUDIENCE: The attendees are CPAs and other financial professionals working in either professional service firms or corporate finance/business.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS: We are looking for speakers who can address attendees at seminars or conferences for a duration of 2, 4, or 8 hours.

SPEAKER QUALIFICATIONS: Speakers should be senior management level. Our audiences have 10+ years of experience and expect to hear from someone at their level or higher. Speakers should have a proven track record of knowledge and presentation skills.

To be considered, please contact:

Ellen Vaughn, MSCPA Director of Education
evaughn@ms-cpa.org • 601-856-4244

FIELDS OF STUDY: MSCPA is always looking for new trending topics to supplement our traditional offerings. Current fields of study include:

- Accounting & Auditing (A&A)
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Consulting Services
- Cybersecurity
- Estate & Financial Planning
- Government
- Health Care
- Information Technology (IT)
- Management
- Personal Development
- Real Estate
- Taxation
- Valuation & Litigation



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CHAPTER NEWS

CENTRAL CHAPTER LUNCH & LEARN

The MSCPA Central Chapter hosted a Lunch & Learn event on Tuesday, August 27, at the MSCPA office in Ridgeland. The event kicked off with catered lunch, providing attendees the chance to network and connect with fellow CPAs and finance professionals. During the event, President **Lydia Windham** presented **Mary Margaret White** with an award for Dedicated Service in recognition of her role as President for 2023-2024 and as Vice-President of Programs from 2020-2023. Attendees then heard from **Steve Given** from Pileum Corporation who led a session, *CrowdStrike: What Went Wrong, and What Can We Learn from It?* Following that, **Steven Mulhollen** from Mississippi College led a session on *Competencies Needed in the Workforce from Newly Licensed CPAs*.



Central Chapter Officers: Ashley Herring, Wil Crawford, Lydia Windham, and Phillip Chu (not pictured Peyton Gordon)



Vice-President of Programs Wil Crawford with Steven Mulhollen



President Lydia Windham and Mary Margaret White



Vice-President of Programs Wil Crawford with Steve Given



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This unique opportunity will allow you to experience what it is like to sit for any CPA Exam section as you immerse yourself in questions pulled from the actual CPA Exam Blueprints. Plus, you will leave the session with your own personalized ReadySCORE™ (an accurate measurement of your actual exam score) as well as a detailed report showing your areas of strength and weakness for that section.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024 • 12:00 PM

There is no cost to participate, but registration is required.

Don't go into exam day unprepared – find out if you're ready by registering today!

To register, visit bit.ly/3zhKqKQ or scan the QR code.

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, November 13.

Students and Young Professionals are invited to participate!



CONFERENCES

GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING & AUDITING CONFERENCE

MSCPA hosted the 40th Annual Governmental Accounting & Auditing Conference Thursday and Friday, August 15-16. We heard from speakers **Rob Aucoin**, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC; **Becky Hammond**, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC; **Melisa Galasso**, Galasso Learning Solutions, LLC; **Leigh E. Taylor**, Forvis Mazars; **Thomas Chain**, Office of the State Auditor (OSA); **Mason Herrin**, HORNE; **Jon McCormick**, OSA; **Misty Monroe**, Mississippi Office of the Attorney General; and **Brandi Conico**, Bridgers, Goodman, Baird & Clarke, LLC. Thursday evening, a reception was held honoring Eugene “Buck” Clarke, IV, MSCPA’s 2024 Public Service Award recipient. Thank you to our Silver Sponsor, **Harper, Rains, Knight & Company, P.A.**, the Governmental A&A Committee, Chair **Billy Morehead**, Millennial Chair **Phillip Chu**, and the **Office of the State Auditor** for making this conference possible.

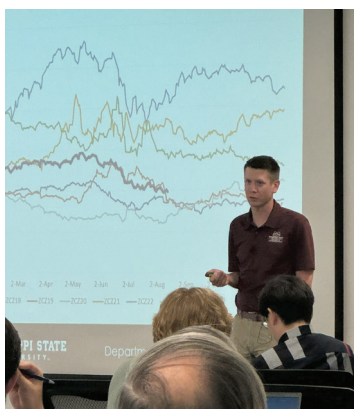
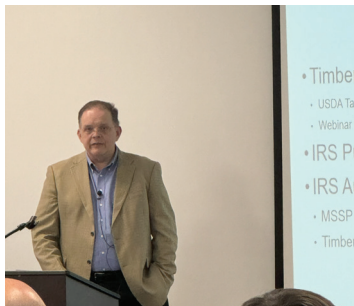


Governmental A & A Committee



AGRICULTURE AND FARM ACTIVITIES CONFERENCE

MSCPA hosted our Annual Agriculture and Farm Activities Conference Thursday, August 20. We heard from speakers **Roger McEowen**, Washburn University School of Law; **Michael D. Hill**, Forvis Mazars; **Will Maples**, Mississippi State University; **Dr. Kevin Kim**, Mississippi State University; and **Eric Nash**, U.S. Department of Labor/Wage and Hour Division. Thank you to all of our sponsors and speakers for making this a great conference. Special recognition to members of **Molpus** for helping run the conference.



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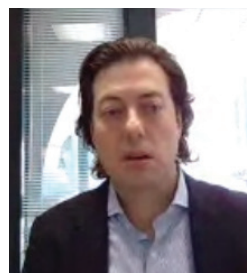


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BANKING AND FINANCE CONFERENCE

MSCPA hosted the Annual Banking and Finance Conference on August 22. Attendees heard from speakers **Jeff Fair**, American Planning Corporation; **Robbie Barnes**, PriorityOne Bank; **Charles W. Nicholson**, Community Bank; **Adrian Sandel**, UMB; **Gordon Fellows**, Mississippi Bankers Association (moderator); **Dudley Carter**, Stifel; **Shaun Harms**, Forvis Mazars; **Nikki Henning**, BankPlus; **Bradley Floore**, HORNE (moderator); and **Christopher Olsen**, Olsen Palmer. Thank you all of our sponsors, to the Banking Committee, Co-Chairs **Bradley Floore** and **Steven Cooksey**, and Millennial Chair **Dylan Edwards** for organizing a successful conference.



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Blockchain: Current Applications of Importance for CPA's

Thursday, November 14 • 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Cryptocurrency Insight: Evolution, Impacts, and Future Adoption

Thursday, November 14 • 1:00-4:00 p.m.

A CPA Primer on Data Analytics with Practical Examples

Friday, November 15 • 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Future is Now: AI, Machine Learning & Natural Language Processing

Friday, November 15 • 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Register today at ms-cpa.org!

In-person attendance is encouraged as Marc will be traveling from Alabama to share his expertise with us firsthand.



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AICPA & NASBA Seek Input on Proposed Additional Pathway to CPA Licensure

In a joint effort to support the next generation of accountants while maintaining accounting's rigorous public protection mandate, the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) have proposed an initiative aimed at helping Certified Public Accountant (CPA) candidates meet initial licensure requirements. The CPA Competency-Based Experience Pathway would provide an additional option for candidates to demonstrate their professional and technical skills after earning a bachelor's degree and meeting their state's requirements for accounting and business courses.

Designed to increase flexibility for candidates, respond to market conditions, and protect the public, the pathway allows candidates to meet the final stretch of licensure requirements by exhibiting competencies according to a model framework that has been developed by AICPA and NASBA. The framework was developed with significant input and advice from a diverse cross-section of the profession, including members of an AICPA and NASBA working group made up of practitioners, regulators, academics, and state society leaders.

"The proposed pathway encompasses the perfect mix of flexibility for CPA candidates while maintaining rigor for public protection," said NASBA President and CEO Daniel J. Dustin, CPA. "We look forward to the input and direction from the 55 U.S. Boards of Accountancy on this important and necessary framework to strengthen the CPA pipeline."

Attaining the competencies is expected to take most candidates a year but there is flexibility in the timing for completion. Candidates pursuing this additional pathway would also be required to complete a separate year of general experience and pass the CPA Exam. Competencies would be verified in the workplace by licensed CPAs.

Public input on the proposed model competency framework and other aspects of the potential additional pathway can be submitted through December 6.

"Our goal is to ensure that accounting professionals have the necessary experience, knowledge, and competencies to handle the complex nature of CPA work, while also providing paths to licensure that reflect market conditions and make licensure as accessible as possible," said Susan Coffey, CPA, CGMA, the CEO of Public Accounting for AICPA. "Feedback from the profession is essential to building a workable pathway."

The competency framework at the heart of the proposal includes seven professional and three technical competencies. Candidates would be required to exhibit all professional competencies and at least one of the three technical competencies, which would be verified by one or more evaluators in their organization.

Professional competencies are spelled out in areas such as ethical behavior, critical thinking, and communication. Technical skills are in audit and assurance, tax, and financial reporting.

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MSCPA will send more information via email once available.

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MSCPA ANNUAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024

IN-PERSON OR LIVESTREAM
AT THE MSCPA TRAINING CENTER IN RIDGELAND

This event is designed to approach critical topics from the perspective of a CFO, controller, manager or accountant from the inside of a business or industry position.

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Agenda

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 7:45 a.m. | Breakfast & Networking |
| 8:30 a.m. | Cybersecurity Insurance & the General Requirements
<i>TBD</i> |
| 9:25 a.m. | Enterprise Cybersecurity Best Practices in a Connected World
<i>Jim Essig, Microsoft</i> |
| 10:20 a.m. | Break |
| 10:30 a.m. | Minimizing Risk in Health & Welfare Benefit Plan Administration
<i>Gilbert Van Loon, Butler Snow</i> |
| 11:30 a.m. | Lunch Break |
| 12:15 p.m. | Hiring & Recruiting Talent: Traditional & Non-Traditional Methods
<i>Katherine Dehmer, C Spire; Kim Joiner, Southern Farm; Steven Mulhollen, Mississippi College; and Fred Sutphen, Orsborn, Sutphen & O'Neil, P.A.</i> |
| 1:15 p.m. | Labor Law & Legislative Update from DOL
<i>Eric Nash, Department of Labor</i> |
| 2:15 p.m. | Break |
| 2:25 p.m. | Insurance Market Update
<i>David Browning, Mississippi Insurance Department</i> |
| 3:25 p.m. | What CFOs, Controllers, & Executives Should Know in Treasury Management in Today's Times
<i>Beth Ikerd and Bonny Henderson, Renasant</i> |
| 4:15 p.m. | Door Prizes & Adjourn |

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MSCPA ANNUAL ACCOUNTING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2024

This annual event updates accounting educators on accounting industry trends and equips them to help their students succeed.

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM at the MSCPA Training Center in Ridgeland!

AGENDA:

CREDITS: 8

REGISTER: [MS-CPA.ORG](https://ms-cpa.org)

COST: \$100

**In-Person
Attendance
is strongly
encouraged!**

7:45 a.m.	Breakfast & Networking
8:30 a.m.	AI for Educators <i>Thomas G. Stephens, K2 Enterprises</i>
10:10 a.m.	Break
10:20 a.m.	Tulane's ELE Program <i>Christa Payne, SoPA; and Christine Smith, Tulane University</i>
11:10 a.m.	AICPA Update on Alternative Pathways to CPA Licensure <i>Jan F. Lewis, BMSS Advisors and CPA's</i>
11:55 a.m.	Announcement of Outstanding Educator Award <i>Shawn Mauldin, Committee Chairman</i>
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:00 p.m.	Vendor and Sponsor Presentations
1:30 p.m.	Evolving the Accounting Landscape: Modernizing Education to Inspire the Next Generation <i>Mark Edmonds, University of Alabama at Birmingham</i>
2:45 p.m.	Break
2:55 p.m.	Mississippi State Board of CPAs Update <i>Sharee Brewer, Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy</i>
3:25 p.m.	Pipeline Strategies to Boost Accounting Enrollments, Curricular Issues in Light of the New CPA Exam + More <i>Bob Braun, Southeastern Louisiana University; Shawn Mauldin, Mississippi State University; Guy McClain, Millsaps College; Billy Morehead, Mississippi College; Dave Nichols, University of Mississippi; and Blaise Sonnier, University of Southern Mississippi</i>
4:40 p.m.	Door Prizes & Adjourn

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