

Committees...Your connection to

General Purpose of Committees

Committees are the professional workforce of the Iowa Society of CPAs. However, committees may not set policies, or make financial or other commitments for ISCPA, without prior approval from the board of directors. The Society performs most of its service to members, the profession, and the general public through its committees. The effectiveness of these services depends primarily on how well our committees carry out their assigned tasks and to what extent they exercise imagination and good judgement in doing so. Time commitments vary with each committee.

Career Awareness

Purpose: To attract students to the accounting profession by making them aware of the ever-expanding world of accounting and related consulting areas. To honor top Iowa post-secondary accounting students.

Projects:

- Offer a biennial career awareness conference for post-secondary students as deemed appropriate.
- Recruit students to the CPA profession and work with AICPA in its recruitment efforts.
- Publish annual fall newsletter for college accounting majors.
- Offer the AT Network with e-mentoring component to student affiliates.
- Post related internships on ISCPA website.

Estimated time: 8 hours for 3 to 4 meetings and 6 hours for conference.

Continuing Professional Education

Purpose: To provide learning opportunities for members to improve professional proficiency and increase the quality of their services.

Projects:

- Address the CPE needs of various segments of the membership by offering courses, conferences, and seminars that meet those needs.
- Evaluate course descriptions for group study programs available.
- Offer self-study opportunities to members.
- Solicit and review CPE courses recommended by other committees.
- Work with other organizations to provide joint CPE programs.
- Research and offer alternatives to the current CPE delivery system.

Estimated time: 3 to 6 hours for 2 meetings.

Exempt Organizations

Purpose: To serve as an information-sharing resource for members serving or employed in the exempt organizations arena and to analyze and recommend educational opportunities in not-for-profit accounting, auditing, government compliance, and taxation.

Project:

- Plan the annual conference for exempt organizations.

Estimated time: 5 hours for 2 to 3 meetings.

Family & Workplace Issues

Purpose: To provide a forum for members to address issues encountered in attempting to balance their professional and personal lives. To foster awareness of family and workplace issues as they relate to the accounting profession.

Projects:

- Offer related projects and programs.
- Conduct research or survey groups on family and workplace issues.
- Provide related articles for ISCPA members.

Estimated time: 6 hours for 3 to 4 meetings.

Financial Literacy

Purpose: To change people's lives by providing basic financial tools to individuals.

Projects:

- Develop and/or promote financial literacy programs.
- Assist with financial literacy efforts at Iowa colleges and universities.
- Inform members about various opportunities to promote financial literacy programs and encourage them to participate.
- Evaluate related projects and programs developed by others, especially state CPA societies.
- Support national Feed the Pig program.

Estimated time: 8 hours for 3 to 4 meetings and 6 hours for projects.

Governmental Auditing & Accounting

Purpose: To encourage excellence in performance of professional services related to auditing and accounting for governmental units. To work with appropriate regulatory bodies. To provide relevant educational opportunities.

Projects:

- Plan the annual governmental conference.
- Monitor changes or proposed changes in governmental auditing requirements, at both the federal and state level, and establish a vehicle for informing members of those changes.
- Work with the state auditor's office in planning and offering educational programs for members.
- Review descriptions of governmental CPE courses and provide recommendations to CPE committee.

Estimated time: 5 hours for 3 meetings.

Insurance Industry

Purpose: To provide a forum and relevant educational opportunities for members in the insurance industry.

Projects:

- Plan the annual insurance industry conference.
- To identify other educational opportunities of interest to accountants in the insurance industry.

Estimated time: 8 hours for 4 to 5 meetings.

Legislation

Purpose: To assist in the formulation of ISCPA legislative policy and the execution of such policies as authorized by the board of directors. To provide financial support to candidates for the Iowa Legislature through ICPA/PAC.

Projects:

- Submit a proposed legislative agenda to the board of directors.
- Keep the membership informed of proposed legislation of interest during each session of the Iowa Legislature.
- Update the Key Person Contact Program with the goal of having at least one CPA key contact for each member of the Iowa General Assembly.
- Identify candidates for the Iowa General Assembly who should be supported by ICPA/PAC.

Estimated time: 3 hours for 1 meeting.

Membership & Member Benefits

Purpose: To encourage CPAs and others in the profession in Iowa to join ISCPA and to retain current ISCPA members. To provide and maintain a high quality, member benefit package and to evaluate such on an ongoing basis.

Projects:

- Recruit new members from current Iowa CPAs and successful candidates completing the Uniform CPA Examination.
- Offer networking and leadership development events for successful CPA exam candidates, new CPAs, and new members.
- Offer projects and programs to retain members and show appreciation for those who are active in the Society.
- Review current and proposed member-buying and affinity programs, and make recommendations to the board as needed.

Estimated time: 6 hours for 3 to 4 meetings and 7 hours for projects.

Peer Review

Purpose: To administer peer reviews of Iowa CPA firms in accordance with standards promulgated by AICPA. To educate members on the value of the peer review process.

Projects:

- Administer the peer review program and conduct oversight, within the established guidelines.
- Provide information, as needed, to the membership concerning the Peer Review Program.
- Administer Facilitated State Board Access (FSBA) in accordance with AICPA guidelines.

Estimated time: 16 hours of meetings.

Practice Review

Purpose: To assist members in improving the quality of their practices by providing feedback of an educational nature on the financial statements they issue.

Project:

- Review financial statements submitted to the committee and prepare written comments as required.

Estimated time: No meetings; 3 to 6 hours for reviews (4 each).

Public & Professional Relations

Purpose: To promote the value of the CPA to the business community, potential CPA professionals, and the general public in order to advance the professional success of ISCPA members.

Projects:

- Participate in an ongoing image enhancement campaign.
- Offer public awareness and/or community service projects.

Estimated time: 8 hours for 4 meetings.

Social Technology Task Force

Purpose: To advance the professional success of our membership by educating, promoting, and advocating social technology.

Projects: Assessing ISCPA Facebook and Twitter presence, reviewing other social media venues for future participation, developing related policies and guidance, and undertaking additional projects as deemed appropriate by the task force.

Estimated time: 6-8 hours for 3 to 4 meetings.

Taxation

Purpose: To offer technical assistance to members and keep them informed of significant changes in taxation laws. To increase public understanding of the CPA's special competence in the field of taxation.

Projects:

- Provide related articles and timely email notices to ISCPA members.
- Maintain relationships with governmental agencies, i.e., the Iowa Department of Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service, by meeting with representatives on an ongoing basis.
- Update the *Legislator's Tax Guide* for Iowa legislators.
- Review proposed changes to administrative rules and assist the Iowa Department of Revenue in drafting proposed administrative rules, as deemed appropriate.
- Encourage committee members to participate in the Tax Consultation Service and promote the service to members.
- Monitor proposed federal and state tax legislation as needed.
- Update the annual tax tips brochure for members and the public.

Estimated time: 6 hours for 3 to 4 meetings and 4 hours to meet with Iowa Department of Revenue.