

# meet members



## Kyle Auffert

**Job:** Director, Financial Reporting, Hy-Vee, Inc., West Des Moines

**Hometown:** Clarinda

**Alma mater:** Buena Vista University

**Professional/community activities:** ISCPA Taxation Committee co-chair and member of Legislation Committee

**I was inspired to be a CPA:** Because of my high school accounting teacher. I knew I wanted to be in the business school but I didn't know exactly what I wanted to major in until she convinced me accounting was the way to go. Thank goodness for great teachers!

**If I weren't a CPA, you might find me:** Trying to start my own restaurant.

**What message do you have for young people about a career as a CPA?** Expect to work hard and be rewarded for that hard work. The opportunities are endless if you work hard at it.

**How has being a member of ISCPA helped you?** I've become more involved with ISCPA in the last few years and in doing so, I've gained a lot of great contacts and learned a lot by being more involved in conversations. My only regret is not getting involved sooner in my career.

**I am passionate about:** My family, golf, and the Kansas City Chiefs and Royals.

**Favorite thing about your job:** A few things come to mind. First, the shared passion that everyone has for the company. The unique thing about Hy-Vee is all the years of service that you'll see throughout the company as most employees, including myself, grew up working at a local Hy-Vee. I think that experience at a young age instilled that passion for me. Just ask my friends - I give them a hard time when I show up

to a gathering and there's food from another grocery store there. Second, the group of peers that I work with on a daily basis. We've got a young group of really talented people that make going to work fun. Last but certainly not least, I get the opportunity to work with our operations team on a regular basis and provide them the financial information they need to make informed business decisions.

**Have you had any mentors help you along the way?** That's one of the best parts about starting a career in public accounting. I had the chance to work alongside a lot of really smart and personable people at RSM that helped me grow into the professional that I am today.

**When I have free time,** I prefer to be on a golf course. I've been playing since I was a little kid and I love the game. It's also a great way to get away from the office and disconnect for a while. A bad day on the course still beats a good day at work.

**What is your most memorable face palm moment?** I used to have Chiefs season tickets and decided to get rid of them a few years back. Patrick Mahomes became the starting quarterback the following year, so I definitely nailed the timing there.

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*Kyle and his wife Amanda live in Huxley with their son Easton (2) and dog Kacie.*

**First job:** Courtesy clerk at local Hy-Vee

**Best concert you've been to:** Eric Church

**Favorite food:** Ribeye steak

**Favorite app:** Twitter for instant news and entertainment

**Best vacation:** I don't think I could narrow it down to just one, but you can't beat an all-inclusive resort with a big group of family.

**Favorite tv series:** It's a toss-up between Game of Thrones and Breaking Bad for number one. The Office and Friday Night Lights get honorable mention as well.