



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation

PAT QUINN
Governor

BRENT E. ADAMS
Secretary

DANIEL E. BLUTHARDT
Director

Date: December 15, 2009

LICENSED CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNT
ADDRESS LINE 1
ADDRESS LINE 2
ADDRESS LINE 3
ANYTOWN, IL 60606

See FAQ #2

Dear Public Accounting Licensee:

As a condition of granting a renewal on or after July 1, 2012, [Section 16 \(e\) of the Public Accounting Act](#) requires firms and sole practitioners who provide **services requiring a license under the Act** to complete a peer review during the immediately preceding 3-year period in order to renew their license.

In order to prepare for that process and ensure compliance with the Public Accounting Act, we would appreciate your cooperation by completing the attached survey. **The completed survey should be returned in the enclosed self-addressed envelope no later than January 15, 2009.**

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please do not hesitate to contact the Department at 217-782-0458.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Bluthardt
Director
Division of Professional Regulation
Department of Financial Professional Regulation

This is a
typographical error
and should read
January 15, 2010

Enclosures (2)

Peer Review Survey Questions

Separate and apart from a separately licensed firm. See FAQ #1

Pursuant to subsection (3) of Section 16 of the Illinois Public Accounting Act, firms or sole practitioners who provide services requiring a license under the Act shall complete a peer review during the immediately preceding 3-year period in order to renew their 2012 license.

See FAQ #2

1) Do you provide licensed services under your own individual license? Yes No

2) If yes, please indicate which of the following services you provide:

- a. Audits in accordance with Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) standards.....
- b. Engagements in accordance with Government Auditing Standards (i.e., the Yellow Book).....
- c. Audits in accordance with Statements on Auditing Standards (SASs).....
- d. Examinations of prospective financial statements in accordance with Statements on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAEs).....
- e. Other engagements in accordance with Statements on Standards for attestation Engagements (SSAEs).....
- f. Reviews in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services.....

3) Are you an owner in or work for a firm that provides licensed services under the Act? Yes No

4) If yes, please fill out the section below regarding the firm:

Firm name _____

Firm license # _____

City _____

State _____

See FAQ #2

Printed Name

Signature

Date

IDFPR Peer Review Survey - Frequently Asked Questions

#1 Q: What is the purpose of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) survey? Why am I receiving it?

A: In 2006, [legislation](#) was passed **requiring** all public accounting firms and sole practitioners who provide services requiring an Illinois license to undergo a peer review every three years. The law brought Illinois into line with 44 other states and the Uniform Accountancy Act (UAA). The first such reviews will take place during the 2009 - 2012 licensing cycle.

As part of this process, IDFPR decided to survey **all** individual licensees in order to determine (1) whether they perform services requiring an Illinois license under their own individual license (i.e., separate and apart from any licensed firm with which they may be associated) and (2) whether they work for a firm performing such services.

Based on the results of the survey, IDFPR will determine which firms and sole practitioners not already enrolled in an approved peer review program need to do so in order that they might be scheduled for a peer review in anticipation of their 2012 license renewal.

#2 Q: What are “services requiring an Illinois license?”

A: Section 8 of the Illinois Public Accounting Act defines licensed services as “any report expressing or disclaiming an opinion on a financial statement based on an audit or examination of that statement, or expressing assurance on a financial statement.”

As a result, licensed services for purposes of subsection 16(e) of the Act include only audits or reviews of historical financial statements or examinations of prospective financial statements. It does not include compilation or tax services. Therefore, while you may be licensed in order to practice before the IRS, such services are not included in the Section 8 definition or subject to peer review under subsection 16(e) of the Act.

#3 Q: If I or my firm perform licensed services and are not already enrolled in an approved peer review program, when will I be required to undergo peer review and what engagements will be covered?

A: Once the aforementioned survey has been completed, IDFPR will send enrollment forms to all firms and sole practitioners who perform services requiring a license and who are not already enrolled in an approved peer review program. IDFPR will also assign peer review due dates for 2010, 2011 and 2012 such that the reviews are spread evenly across the current licensing period. In most instances, the period covered by the review will be the 12-month period ending six months prior to the review due date. For example, if your firm is assigned a due date of June 30, 2011, the period covered will most likely be January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010. Engagements selected for review will be client periods ending during the review year.

#4 Q: If I or my firm do not perform licensed services or is already enrolled in an approved peer review program, can I ignore the survey?

A: No, all individual licensees must complete and return the survey.

For additional information: <http://www.icpas.org/hc-peer-review.aspx?id=5503>
