



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACAT Announces 2010 Accountancy and Taxation Accreditation Exam Dates

WASHINGTON, DC, March 2, 2010 — The Accreditation Council for Accountancy and Taxation® (ACAT) has announced its 2010 examination schedule for accountants, tax preparers and students seeking to earn the ABA Accredited Business Accountant/Advisor® (ABA) and Accredited Tax Preparer® (ATP) credentials.

ACAT accreditation provides evidence to clients, prospective clients, employers, and the public that the accredited professional has met national standards and has a mastery of accounting and taxation procedures and practices.

Both the Comprehensive Examination for Accreditation in Accountancy (ABA) and the Accredited Tax Preparer® (ATP) exam can be taken between May 22 – June 12, 2010 and between November 19 – December 11, 2010 at LaserGrade test sites across the United States. The ABA exam is a seven-hour exam that tests the technical proficiency of candidates in financial accounting, financial reporting, financial statement preparation, taxation, business consulting services, business law and ethics. Emphasis is on a practical approach to public accounting.

The exam is divided into two parts: Practice 1 and Practice 2. **Practice 1** consists of 100 multiple choice questions to be completed in 3.5 hours. It covers financial accounting and financial statement preparation, presentation and reporting. **Practice 2** consists of 100 multiple choice questions to be completed in 3.5 hours. It covers the following topics: taxation, business law, business accounting and ethics. The blueprint for the ABA exam with information on topic areas is on www.acatcredentials.org. The ABA is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), an

independent resource recognized as the authority on accreditation standards for professional certification organizations and programs.

The Accredited Tax Preparer[®] (ATP) is a leading national credential for tax practitioners who demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the existing tax code and the preparation of individual tax returns with an expertise in comprehensive 1040 issues including supporting schedules, self-employed returns, and ethics. The 3.5 hour examination consists of 100 multiple-choice questions which test proficiency in taxation and ethics. The blueprint for the ATP exam with more information on topic areas is on www.acatcredentials.org.

ABA and ATP candidates must pass the exam and meet and experience requirements to earn the credentials.

The exam fee for both Practice 1 and Practice 2 of the ABA exam is \$285. The exam fee for one part of the exam, either Practice 1 or Practice 2, is \$200. The ATP exam fee is \$200.

ACAT has engaged Professional Credential Services, Inc. (PCS) for application processing and computer-based testing examination administration. Visit www.pcshq.com to register; click on the “Applicant Information” tab on the left side of the screen, scroll down to “National,” and click on “ACAT” to find information about the exams.

The National Society of Accountants (NSA) offers a preparatory course study guide for both Practice 1 and Practice 2 of the ABA and for the ATP exam. ACAT offers an ABA Preview Exam, a 200-question self-study, self-graded exam that mirrors the topics and question format of the ABA exam.

For more information about the exam and ACAT credentials, visit www.acatcredentials.org or call 888-289-7763.

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ACAT is an independent accrediting and monitoring organization affiliated with the National Society of Accountants. ACAT accredits professionals in independent practice who have demonstrated measurable knowledge of the principles, practices, and ethical standards of

accounting, taxation, information technology and related financial services. For more information, visit www.acatcredentials.org.

NSA and its affiliates represent 30,000 members who provide accounting, auditing, tax preparation, financial and estate planning, and management services to approximately 19 million individuals and business clients. Most members are sole practitioners or partners in small- to medium- size accounting firms. NSA protects the public by requiring its members to adhere to a strict code of ethics. For more information, visit www.nsacct.org.