

**Important changes regarding Illinois CPA certificate verifications to the
Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
21 September 2006**

Changes in the Illinois Public Accounting Act signed into law on May 19, 2006, permits sharing of certification data between the Illinois Board of Examiners (Board) and the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (Department). The large certification data transfer and upload was completed the last week of June. As a result, the Department can now verify internally the Illinois CPA certification status of most CPAs. The information provided to the Department included name, address, certificate date of issue, social security number and date of birth. As of the above date, they have data for persons certified through September 15, 2006. Additional transfers will take place every two weeks for new CPAs.

Since this development has yet to be widely publicized, the Board is still receiving requests and fees for certifications. At the present time the Board has opted to send CPA certificate verifications to the Department and return the \$30.00 certification fee. This ensures that the Department has the information they need to process your Registration or Licensure application. There are no provisions for retroactive refunds of fees previously paid to the Board of Examiners. Requests for certificate verifications to other State Boards or entities still require payment of the \$30.00 fee.

If you are completing an application for Registration or initial licensure, do not request verification of your Illinois CPA certificate unless you are sent a deficiency letter from the Department. There may be instances when the Department is unable to verify your Illinois CPA certificate from the data provided, usually due to lack of social security number in our files or name changes. However, in most instances they can still verify your data by name and date of birth. If you are sent a deficiency letter from the Department requesting that you contact the Illinois Board of Examiners to manually provide written verification of your CPA certificate, download the CPA Verification Form from our web site www.ilboa.org and mail or fax to us.

We recommend that you complete the on-line Registration application located at <http://www.idfpr.com/applications/OnlineApps/ApplicationForms/11/239/>. You can register on-line only if your social security number was transmitted to the Department. All persons certified January 1, 1981 or later had social security numbers in our database when the transfer took place. This represents 60,576 Illinois CPAs. If you attempt to register on line and cannot, you will have to complete the paper and pencil application. It is located at <http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/apply/pareg.asp>

Please contact us at help@ilboa.org or 217-531-0950 if you have questions about the verification form. Please direct questions about the Registration or Licensure application to the Department at 217-782-8556.

Sincerely,

Joanne Vician
Joanne Vician
Executive Director