

## COLLEGEconnection

JUNE 2024

**Did you know that you have access to current accounting professionals who can give advice and answer questions to help you decide on career paths?**

As a student member, you have access to NCACPA's online community platform, Connect. It's a place where you can interact with accounting professionals, who can help bridge the gap between what you're learning in the classroom with real-world practice. Students have used Connect to ask for career advice, and oftentimes, both CPAs and accounting educators provide valuable insights.

Make the most of your membership and [check out Connect](#) today!

**Getting to 150**

We asked a couple of all-star members to share how they achieved the 30 additional hours needed beyond 120 for licensure—and here's what they had to say!

**Rachel Annelise Chaney, CPA**

Manager | Bernard Robinson & Company, Greensboro  
President | NC CPA Foundation, Inc.

"Many students complete the additional 30 hours with a master's degree, but every student has a different story. For those not sold on a graduate degree as their preferred option, remember that there are many pathways to licensure—community college; a secondary major or minor in a topic you enjoy; a graduate degree in another program. The options are out there if you look for them.

Talk to your peers. Research your options. Go to networking events and ask current CPAs how they did it. Figure out what works best for YOU and go for it. The profession needs your creativity, your ideas, and your insights!"

**Zachary Carver, CPA, CFP**

Director of Tax Services | Cook Wealth Management Group, Raleigh



"There are programs in the works (some that may already be done) that will allow you to complete your 30 hours for a very reasonable price. Do your research and make the best decision for yourself, both financially and academically.

If your ultimate goal is to become a CPA, where you got your credits is not the most important thing, especially once you have your CPA. Some employers may offer tuition reimbursement programs to help fund your education and/or give time off for studying."

**Career Resources from the CAQ's Accounting + Program**

Interested in advice from current accounting professionals? The [first video on this page](#) shares the importance of self-awareness, building connections, and crafting a strong resume. The overall message? Ask questions, explore different paths, and discover what truly ignites your passion within the accounting field.

As one of the state society partners of Accounting +, NCACPA is proud to share these resources with you!

**Meet an NCACPA Team Member**

**Holly Bazemore** is NCACPA's Engagement Manager and in her role, she works with colleges and high schools in our state to connect members with students, helping to generate greater interest in accounting as a career! Interested in being a guest speaker with high school students to share why you are pursuing accounting? [Let Holly know!](#)

*"Being a bridge between curious students and seasoned professionals feels incredibly rewarding. By inviting guest speakers to high schools, I'm not just introducing accounting—I'm showcasing it as an exciting journey worth exploring."*

**Article of the Month**

Take a quick look at this article by the AICPA, "[AI and Accountants: A New Future](#)." Chris Kite, Global Director of Strategy and Operations at Amazon Web Services, shares how AI is optimizing forecasting, analysis, trend identification, security and compliance, and strengthening the work environment for accountants.

And if you're interested in learning more about how the profession is leveraging AI, let us know and we'll match you with one of our upcoming online programs!

**Thank You!**

And let's stay connected:

