

IMPORTANT NOTICE

BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

New License Requirement

Effective June 17, 2003 and pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes section 436B-10 and federal law, it is the policy of the State of Hawaii ("**State**") Board of Public Accountancy ("**Board**") that, in addition to meeting the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure, an applicant for a Hawaii public accountant's license is required to be either **a United States citizen, a United States national, or an alien authorized to work in the United States.**

This means that, even if an applicant meets the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure, that applicant shall not be issued a license if that applicant is not a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, or an alien authorized to work in the U.S.

However, the Board will issue the applicant a **conditional approval** that signifies that the applicant has met the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure; provided that this conditional approval shall **not** be considered a license to engage in the profession and shall **not** authorize the applicant to work in our State. To obtain authorization to work in our State, the applicant shall be required to contact the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services ("**BCIS**"). In addition, federal law [45 U.S.C. 666 (a)(13)(A)] requires that once an applicant is authorized by the BCIS to work in the U.S., the applicant must supply his/her Social Security Number ("SSN") so that states can use this information for child support enforcement purposes.

Once the applicant submits evidence to the Board that the BCIS has authorized the applicant to work in the U.S. (without conditions or other encumbrances), **provides a SSN**, and meets all of the licensing requirements in effect at that time (including, but not limited to, the requirement that the applicant has not been convicted of any crime that is directly related to the profession), the applicant shall be issued a full and unrestricted license.

This conditional approval shall be valid for two (2) years. An applicant must obtain the appropriate BCIS authorization within this two (2) year period in order to have a license issued. If the applicant is unable to meet this deadline, the applicant may be required to reapply for licensure and meet all of the requirements in effect at that time.