

THE FUTURE OF PHILIPPINE ACCOUNTING EDUCATION

A CALL TO ACTION FOR ACADEME, INDUSTRY, AND GOVERNMENT

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The Stakes Are Too High

The education sector is responsible for 100% of our nation's CPAs, yet it remains the smallest segment of our professional body. This is an economic imperative, not just an academic concern.

A Quartet of Interconnected Issues

Low Passing Rates

Persistently low CPALE passing rates signal deep systemic challenges.



Talent Shortage

A declining enrollment and "brain drain" are creating a critical shortage of CPAs.



Skills Mismatch

A gap exists between academic theory and the practical, tech-driven skills the market demands.



Tech Disruption

Automation is fundamentally redefining the role of the accountant from compliance to analysis.

Challenge 1: The CPALE Crisis

**20–
35%**

Typical Passing Range

A Symptom of Systemic Issues

- National rates have dipped as low as 14.32%.
- A significant majority of schools fall below the national passing rate.
- Many institutions have even registered zero passers.

Challenge 2: The Critical Shortage

41%

Drop in Enrollment

A Leaking Talent Pipeline

- A 35% decline in board examinees (2019-2023).
- Only ~199,000 CPAs produced in 100 years.
- This shortage directly impacts the health and compliance of our nation's SMEs.

Challenge 2: The "Brain Drain"

-  Filipino CPAs are lured by global opportunities and remote work.
-  Seeking better compensation and improved work-life balance.
-  Candidly, the underpayment of local accountants exacerbates this exodus.

Challenge 3: The Skills Mismatch

The "Old" Model

Curriculum often focuses heavily on:

- Theory and Rote Memorization
- Compliance and Bookkeeping
- Leads to "job mismatch" for graduates.

The "New" Demand

The modern profession demands a:

- **Strategic Business Advisor**
- Mastery of IT & Accounting Software
- Advanced Analytical Skills
- Critical Thinking & Communication

Challenge 4: Technological Disruption

Technology is redefining the role of the accountant.

Automation handles: Manual tasks like data entry and reconciliation.

Accountants must focus on: Higher-value work like data analysis, strategic planning, and business insights.

Our curriculum must evolve to build these practical, digital competencies.

Our Proactive Initiatives

Faculty Empowerment

Strengthening our educators through:

- Accounting Research International Summit
- Specialized Faculty Development Trainings
- Research 101/201 Webinars
- Train the Trainers Projects

Student Pipeline Development

Building student capabilities via:

- Accounting Students Research Festival
- ASEAN Future Sustainable Leaders Case Competition
- Building research, presentation, and sustainability expertise.

A Call for Collective Commitment

Our path forward lies in unwavering collaboration between the academe, the government, and the private sector to build a stronger, more diverse pipeline of future CPAs.

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Questions & Discussion