

193A—21.8(542) Relationship between Iowa licensure and the exercise of a practice privilege.

21.8(1) *Active Iowa licensees.* An Iowa CPA firm holding an active permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7 will be treated for all purposes as an Iowa licensee and is not subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 542.20.

21.8(2) *Lapsed Iowa licensees.* An Iowa CPA firm holding a lapsed permit to practice under Iowa Code section 542.7 is not authorized to perform attest or compilation services or to otherwise practice public accounting using the title “CPAs,” “CPA firm,” “certified public accountants,” or “certified public accounting firm” unless the firm is eligible to exercise a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20. The following provisions apply to firms holding a lapsed Iowa permit to practice when exercising a practice privilege:

a. In a disciplinary investigation or proceeding alleging unlicensed practice or improper use of title, the board will consider whether the lapsed licensee, at the time of the events at issue, satisfied the conditions for a practice privilege under Iowa Code section 542.20 and complied with all rules applicable to the exercise of a practice privilege.

b. The firm will take reasonable steps to avoid public confusion over licensure status.

c. Violations of Iowa laws or rules by a firm holding a lapsed permit to practice will be prosecuted as disciplinary proceedings against a licensee under Iowa Code section 542.10 and, when appropriate under the factual circumstances, may also or alternatively be prosecuted under the provisions of Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15.

21.8(3) *Former Iowa licensees.* A CPA firm that held an Iowa permit to practice at one time that has been revoked or surrendered in connection with a disciplinary investigation or proceeding is barred from performing any act or practice for which Iowa firm licensure is necessary and is further ineligible to exercise the practice privilege described in Iowa Code section 542.20. Violations of Iowa Code chapter 542 or board rules by such a firm are subject to the criminal, civil and administrative remedies described in Iowa Code sections 542.14 and 542.15, and may also be prosecuted as disciplinary proceedings under Iowa Code section 542.10 if the license remains subject to reinstatement under 193A—subrule 7.6(3).

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