How is a Job different from a Career?

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What does it mean to have a career with a CPA license?

*Source: CalCPA Quest Magazine

Today's CPA: The Modern Business Quarterback



A quarterback has to make quick decisions, change the play, analyze the defense, manage time and constantly communicate and coordinate many moving parts.

Today's CPA must analyze the client's situation, develop and recommend solutions, as well as communicate and coordinate efforts with others—usually in challenging or crisis situations with unrealistic deadlines.

As a CPA, you are in the driver's sear of your career. You're not just limited to one specific task or job skill. A CPA license allows you to branch out into a variety of fields such as financial planning, fraud, auditing, taxation, business consulting, estate planning, forensics and nonprofit work. There will be a tremendous amount of opportunity in each of these fields.

Taking the new Uniform CPA Exam means going beyond the traditional accounting,tax and audit subjects. You must have knowledge of computer information systems, finance, estate tax, economics, marketing, business consulting, international accounting, managerial accounting, business law, software, research and writing skills.

A CPA does not need to have a master's degree in each subject, but you should have a basic understanding of the trends in the business world. It's a challenging and rewarding profession, and a career that brings all the glory—and pitfalls—the modern quarterback experiences. If you like pressure, opportunity, a lifetime of learning and—most important—career options, then the CPA license is what you need to become the "business quarterback."

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