Accreditation Council for Accountancy and Taxation Fact Sheet

The Accreditation Council for Accountancy and Taxation (ACAT) is an independent accrediting and monitoring organization affiliated with the National Society of Accountants (NSA). ACAT accredits professionals in independent practice who have demonstrated measurable knowledge of the principles, practices, and ethical standards of accounting, taxation, information technology, and related financial services.

ACAT is a nationally recognized credentialing organization and offers four credentials:

- Accredited Business Accountant (ABA)
- Accredited Tax Advisor (ATA)
- Accredited Tax Preparer (ATP)
- Accredited Retirement Advisor (ARA)

Individuals who hold these credentials have demonstrated their knowledge and competency through a regimen that includes education, experience, and examination on topics that include substantial taxation and ethical components. To maintain their credentials, they comply with rigorous annual continuing professional education requirements. ACAT credentials are recognized for licensing or regulatory purposes in many states.

Accreditation provides evidence to clients, potential clients and the public that the accredited professional has met the national standard for the knowledge that underlies the accounting and taxation field. Certified individuals demonstrate mastery of a broad range of knowledge of accounting procedures and practices as well as the field of taxation by passing the ACAT certification exams.

Because ACAT certification is voluntary, the choice to become certified demonstrates individual pride in the profession, the desire to be recognized for mastery of the principles of accounting and taxation, and an ongoing commitment to quality client care. Certification can be a means for upward mobility, a condition for employment, a route to higher pay, and a source of recognition nationwide.

For more information, visit www.acatcredentials.org or contact ACAT at 888-289-7763 or email: info@acatcredentials.org.