

## Accounting:

An accounting major focuses on preparing students to manage financial records, analyze financial data, and ensure compliance with regulations. The program covers key areas such as financial accounting, managerial accounting, auditing, taxation, and accounting information systems. Students learn to prepare financial statements, manage budgets, and advise businesses on financial decisions. Accounting professionals are in demand across various sectors, providing critical financial insights for organizations of all sizes.

### Typical Industry Sectors:

- ❖ Public Accounting
- ❖ Corporate Finance
- ❖ Government
- ❖ Nonprofit Organizations
- ❖ Healthcare

### Entry-Level Job Title Examples:

- ❖ Staff Accountant
- ❖ Audit Associate
- ❖ Financial Analyst
- ❖ Internal Auditor
- ❖ Tax Associate
- ❖ Accounting Clerk
- ❖ Account Payable/Receivable Clerk
- ❖ Budget Analyst
- ❖ Financial Planner
- ❖ Cost Accountant

### Skills Needed (Hard):

- ❖ Financial Reporting
- ❖ Accounting Software
- ❖ Tax Preparation and Filing
- ❖ Excel and Spreadsheet Proficiency
- ❖ Auditing and Internal Controls

### Skills Needed (Soft):

- ❖ Problem Solving
- ❖ Analytical Skills
- ❖ Attention to Detail
- ❖ Organizational Skills
- ❖ Time Management

### Further Education/Training:

While a degree in accounting provides the foundation, pursuing professional certifications can enhance your career prospects. The **Certified Public Accountant (CPA)** license is one of the most recognized certifications and may be required for certain accounting roles. Other valuable certifications include **Certified Management Accountant (CMA)**, **Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)**, and **Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)**. Additionally, knowledge of specific accounting software and tax law may be beneficial.

### Student and National Organizations to Join:

- ❖ [American Institute of CPAs \(AICPA\)](#) – The leading professional association for accountants, offering resources, networking, and certification opportunities.
- ❖ Beta Alpha Psi – An international honor society for accounting, finance, and information systems students.
- ❖ [Institute of Management Accountants \(IMA\)](#) – A global association for management accountants, offering resources and networking opportunities.
- ❖ [National Association of Black Accountants \(NABA\)](#) – Promotes the advancement of Black professionals in accounting and finance.
- ❖ [Beta Gamma Sigma](#) – The international honor society serving business programs accredited by AACSB International.