

# ACCOUNTING

## WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH AN ACCOUNTING DEGREE

Accountants work with people, as analysts, planners, and problem-solvers. It is their role to comprehend, analyze, systematize, and portray the degree. The Accounting Profession has several unique certifications including the Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Managerial Accountant (CMA), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and similar credential designations, which have important professional and societal significance. These credentials differentiate accounting from other business disciplines.

To become a CPA in Tennessee, candidates must obtain a baccalaureate degree including 150 semester hours from an accredited college or university. This must include 24 semester hours in accounting and 24 semester hours in business courses. The candidate must then pass the [Uniform CPA Examination](#), pass an ethics examination such as the exam given by the [American Institute of Certified Public Accountants \(AICPA\)](#) with a 90% or better, and complete one year of experience in accounting acceptable to the Board. Information and an application to take the CPA examination may be obtained from the Tennessee State Board of Accountancy.

Once both exams have been passed, the Board is notified and an applicant packet is automatically sent to the individual to apply for the CPA certificate. The CPA applicant must meet the experience requirements set forth by the Tennessee State Board of Accountancy prior to submitting their application for certificate.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- *Auditing - Internal and Independent:* Analyze financial and non-financial information processes and systems; develop and implement procedures that enhance the quality of information provided to decision-makers; assure the integrity of financial reports. Independent auditors typically are CPAs.
- *Consulting -* Design, install and implement accounting and business information systems that efficiently and reliably capture, store, and retrieve performance information. Provide assistance to organizations with management change and other services creating shareholder value. Review and revise computer-programming codes to improve effectiveness.
- *Corporate Accounting -* Operate and maintain accounting information systems, which include the review of computer programming codes. Prepare financial performance reports for equity and bond markets, regulatory agencies, and other external users. Participate on the strategic and tactical management decision-making team. Provide measurement and forecast expertise on organizational policy teams.
- *Tax Consulting Services -* Conduct strategic business planning and analysis that takes into consideration the effect of domestic and foreign tax laws. Prepare compliance reports for individuals and businesses.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS

- A variety of scholarships are available to qualified students majoring in accounting.
- Accounting majors can acquire on-the-job learning through paid internships with the area's major public and private companies. Internships provide an excellent background for making good decisions regarding career choices and increase the ability of participating students to function effectively when they actually begin their career.

## ACCOUNTING ORGANIZATIONS

Several national organizations permit accounting students to interact with executives in the business community. Organizations include The National Accounting Honorary Society (Beta Alpha Psi), The Institute of Management Accounting, The Institute of Internal Auditors, The Black Accounting Association, and The American Society of Women Accountants.

**Course Requirements Major (27 hours),**  
*A minimum 2.25 GPA is required in the major.*

**Valid Catalog: 2012**

ACCT 3011 (3)	Business Law
ACCT 3110 (3)	Intermediate Accounting I (Prerequisite: ACCT 2020)
ACCT 3120 (3)	Intermediate Accounting II (Prerequisite: ACCT 3110)
ACCT 3310 (3)	Cost Accounting (Prerequisite: ACCT 2020)
ACCT 3510 (3)	Federal Income Tax (Prerequisite: ACCT 2020)
ACCT 4020 (3)	Accounting Systems (Prerequisite: ACCT 3110, ACCT 3310)
ACCT 4240 (3)	Audit and Assurance Services (Prerequisite: ACCT 3120, prerequisite or co requisite: ACCT 4020)

Any 2 courses from the following Accounting electives: ACCT 4211 (ACCT 3120), ACCT 4241 (ACCT 4240), ACCT 4300 (ACCT 2020), ACCT 4520 (ACCT 3510), ACCT 4540 (ACCT 3110), ACCT 4625 (corequisite ACCT 3120), ACCT 4911

**Accounting as a Minor (12 hours):** ACCT 3110, 3120, 3310, 3510

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