# ACCOUNTING

## What can I do with this degree?

### AREAS

#### PUBLIC ACCOUNTING
- Auditing/Accreditation Services
- Tax
- Environmental Accounting
- Forensic/Investigative Accounting
- Information Technology Services
- International Accounting
- Personal Financial Planning

#### CORPORATE ACCOUNTING
- Financial Management
- Financial Reporting
- Internal Auditing
- Cost Accounting
- Tax Planning
- Budget Analysis

#### GOVERNMENT
- Auditing
- Financial Reporting
- Financial Management
- Budget Analysis
- Research

#### EDUCATION
- Teaching
- Research
- Consulting

### EMPLOYERS

#### PUBLIC ACCOUNTING
- Public accounting firms:
  - Large, multinational
  - Regional
  - Local
  - Sole practitioners

#### CORPORATE ACCOUNTING
- Companies of all sizes, in all industries

#### GOVERNMENT
- Federal agencies and departments including:
  - Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - Internal Revenue Service
  - Department of the Treasury
  - General Accounting Office
  - Office of Management and Budget
  - Securities Exchange Commission
  - State and local agencies

### STRATEGIES

- Public accounting firms hire candidates who meet the educational requirements for sitting for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam: 150 hours of education including 24 hours of accounting, i.e. the equivalent of an undergraduate degree in accounting.

- State laws govern the practice of accountancy and specify the requirements to be eligible to sit for the CPA exam. In most states, the State Board of Accountancy has a website that outlines those requirements.

- Many managers in corporate settings obtain an MBA degree after several years of work experience.

- Become familiar with the government application process.

- A Ph.D. in Accounting or a DBA, Doctorate in Business Administration, in accounting is generally required.

- Maintain a high g.p.a. and secure strong faculty recommendations for admittance into graduate school.
**NON-PROFIT**

Accounting  
Internal Audit  
Financial Planning  
Budgeting  
Money Handling  
Record Keeping

**EMPLOYERS**

Social service agencies and organizations  
Hospitals  
Public school systems  
Universities and colleges  
Religious organizations  
Libraries and museums  
Political parties  
Labor unions

**STRATEGIES FOR PLACEMENT IN ACCOUNTING**

- Earn good grades. Grades are an indicator of technical competence in accounting and of a person’s work ethic.
- Actively participate in student organizations to develop leadership skills.
- Develop excellent computer skills.
- Learn to work well within in a team.
- Develop strong communication skills.
- Gain work experience and information about careers through internships.
- Join Beta Alpha Psi, the honorary fraternity for accounting and finance information professionals, to gain knowledge about the accounting profession.
- Certifications available through the Institute of Internal Auditors or the Institute of Management Accountants may increase job marketability in some areas of accounting.
- Accounting students should develop their analytical, critical-thinking and problem solving skills. Develop high ethical standards.
- Accuracy and attention to detail are important traits for accountants.
- Accounting is a versatile degree. Students who graduate with a major in accounting may find jobs in many areas of business including: sales, production management, client management, product development, procurement, general management, banking and financial planning.