

Career Guide:

ACCOUNTING

Today's accountants are more than just number crunchers. They help businesses make informed financial decisions. They manage budgets, deal with taxes, prepare financial reports, complete audits and more. And there's always going to be a need for them.

INDUSTRY GROWTH IS TIED TO:

- **Overall economic growth**
As the economy grows, more accountants are needed to prepare and examine financial records.
- **Globalization**
May lead to increased demand for accounting expertise related to international trade, mergers and acquisitions.
- **Tax and regulatory concerns**
Stricter laws and regulations, particularly in the financial sector, will likely increase the demand for accounting services.



11% JOB GROWTH
THROUGH 2024



#6 BEST BUSINESS JOB
(U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT)



BEST JOB PROSPECTS:
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT (CPA)

POTENTIAL CAREERS

- Accountant
- Auditor
- Bookkeeper
- Budget analyst
- Certified Public Accountant
- Chief financial officer
- Controller
- Financial analyst
- Forensic accountant

2016 MEDIAN SALARIES*

- Finance \$72,950
 - Management \$70,790
 - Manufacturing \$69,040
 - Tax prep, payroll and bookkeeping \$68,130
 - Government \$65,820
- *by industry

JOB TASKS AND DUTIES

- Examine financial statements for accuracy and compliance.
- Prepare tax returns and ensure taxes are paid properly.
- Ensure account books and systems meet generally accepted accounting procedures.
- Organize and maintain financial records.
- Assess financial operations.
- Suggest ways to reduce costs and improve profits.



WHAT TO EXPECT IN AN ACCOUNTING PROGRAM

As an accounting student, you'll learn technical skills in financial accounting, auditing and tax and accounting systems. You'll also develop the critical-thinking skills needed to solve complex business problems. You'll gain hands-on experience, conduct accounting research and learn to communicate with a range of business professionals.

ACCOUNTING MAY BE A GOOD FIT IF YOU...

- Are detail-oriented.
- Can handle high pressure situations.
- Value honesty and integrity.
- Follow the rules.
- Have a strong work ethic.
- Enjoy technology and numbers.
- Like working with people.
- Have advanced problem-solving skills.

CLASSES MAY INCLUDE:

- Accounting practices
- Taxation and auditing
- Governmental and managerial accounting
- Probability and statistics
- Calculus
- Finance
- Business management
- Economics
- Business communications
- Business ethics

LOOK FOR A PROGRAM THAT OFFERS:

- Opportunities to gain hands-on experience, such as internships.
- State-of-the-industry facilities and the hardware, software and tools you'll use in the workplace.
- Connections with a variety of local and regional businesses.
- AACSB International accreditation.
- Faculty that includes top professors, experienced executives and practicing business professionals.

To learn about the Accounting program at the University of Northern Colorado, visit us at **[MCB.UNCO.EDU/PROGRAMS](https://mcb.unco.edu/programs)**

Before You Declare Your Major in Accounting:

- Take a career assessment test to match your skills with potential jobs.
- Test out the industry by getting an internship with a local accounting firm or small business or by shadowing an accountant.
- Find a mentor who can give you insider insights on their career and why they love it.

"Don't ever let your business get ahead of the financial side of your business. Accounting, accounting, accounting. Know your numbers."

—Tilman J. Fertitta, American businessman



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