ACCOUNTING CAREER PATHWAY – Public Accounting

The public accounting pathway involves providing expert accounting, tax and auditing services to individuals, businesses, non-profits, and government entities. Some firms may provide business advisory services*. Public accounting firms range in size from sole practitioners, local, and regional firms, to large international companies like Deloitte, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Ernst and Young.

Certificate

18-24 credits

Accounting Clerk
Accounting Technician

Associate's

60 credits

Accounting Clerk
Accounting Technician
Audit Associate
Staff Accountant

Bachelor's

120-150 credits

Staff Accountant
Auditor
Tax Associate
Certified Public
Accountant**
Business Advisory
Associate*

Master's

36 credits

Certified Public
Accountant**
Manager (Audit, Tax,
Business Advisory)
Partner*

Helpful Certifications

Certifications help document special expertise. The following

- The Association of International Certified Professional Accountants (AICPA)
- National Association Of Enrolled Agents (NAEA)
- Enrolled Agent (IRS)
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)
- Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)

Note: ** Accountants providing services to the public must hold the designation of CPA and be licensed in the state where they practice. See: <u>AICPA Licensure Requirements</u>

Complimentary Studies

Finance, business analytics, data analytics, information systems, and cybersecurity.

Career Transitions

Financial
Analyst/Planner
Business Analytics
Professional
Researcher
Management Consultant
Policy Analyst
Educator

(opportunities in other sectors: corporate, nonprofit, government)