ACCOUNTING CAREER PATHWAY – Public Accounting

The public accounting pathway involves providing expert accounting, tax, 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.



18-24 credits

Accounting Clerk
Accounting Technician

Associate's*

60 credits

Accounting Clerk
Accounting Technician
Audit Associate
Staff Accountant

Helpful Certifications

Certifications help document special expertise. The following

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

Notes:

- *- Students who do not have a bachelor's degree and want to begin with the MC Accounting Certificate or potentially pursue an Associate's or Bachelor's degree at a 4-year institution should talk to an Advisor about potential transferability issues prior to enrolling.
- ^- Accountants providing services to the public must hold the designation of CPA and be licensed in the state where they practice. See: AICPA Licensure Requirements

Bachelor's

120-150 credits

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

Complimentary Studies

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

Master's

36 credits

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

Career Transitions

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

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