



Graduate Programs in Accounting



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“Penn State is excited to offer the Graduate Certificate in Accounting and the Master of Professional Accounting programs through Penn State World Campus. Now, students who wish to pursue a degree in accounting are not hampered by location or other life commitments.

“These programs can provide you with in-depth knowledge of accounting to enhance your career options, as well as prepare you for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination. If you have an undergraduate degree in accounting, the master’s degree can fulfill the 150 credit hours needed for certification as a CPA in Pennsylvania and most other states.”

—Tom Amlie, Ph.D.
Program Director, Master of
Professional Accounting



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A leader in online learning since 1998

To learn more about graduate programs in
accounting, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/mpacc

Graduate Programs in Accounting

- › Graduate Certificate in Accounting
- › Master of Professional Accounting

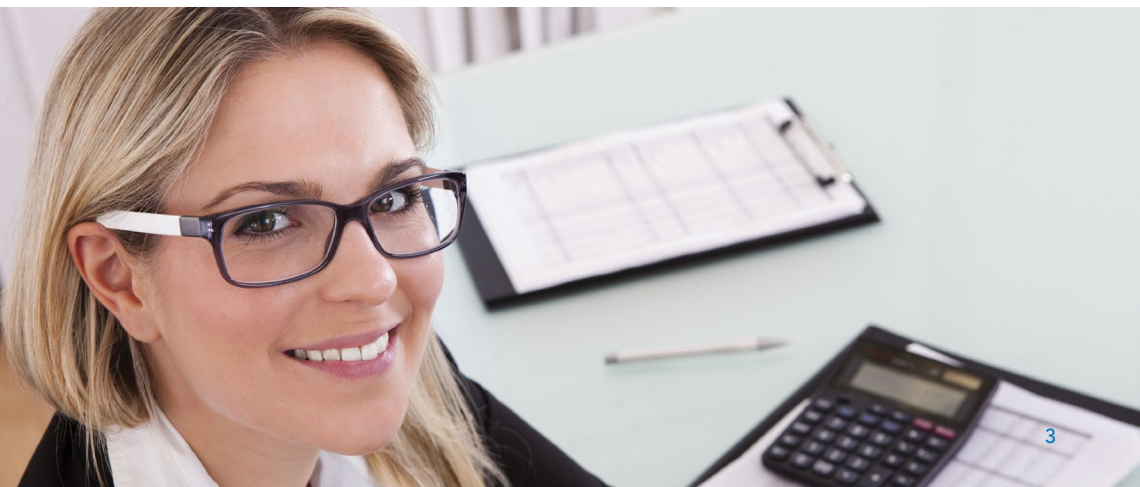
The 12-credit online Graduate Certificate in Accounting offers you the opportunity to learn auditing theory and practice and to gain skills in such disciplines as taxes, decision-making, cost management, financial statements, or reporting. This program also provides a way to acquire additional accounting credits if you are pursuing CPA licensure.

All courses in the graduate certificate may be applied to the Master of Professional Accounting degree. If you are enrolled in the certificate program and wish to have your courses applied to the master's degree, you must submit an application and be admitted to the master's program. Upon admittance to this program, certificate courses you completed with a grade of B or better will be applied to the degree.

The 30-credit online Master of Professional Accounting program can prepare you for a career in auditing and public accounting, industrial and managerial accounting, or governmental and not-for-profit accounting.

This graduate degree program is designed for students who have completed an undergraduate degree in accounting (or equivalent) and who wish to satisfy the educational requirements for CPA licensure in Pennsylvania and most other states. Visit the [ThisWaytoCPA](#) website to view summaries of requirements by state.

The master's program is developed and taught by experienced Penn State faculty with an array of professional, research, and teaching backgrounds.



Curriculum for Graduate Certificate in Accounting

Overview

Penn State's online Graduate Certificate in Accounting is a 12-credit program that uses problem-based learning to provide a strong foundation in accounting theory and practice.

To earn the graduate certificate, you must complete the prescribed 3-credit course and 9 additional credits chosen from the list of elective courses.

Prescribed Course (3 credits)

ACCT 504—Auditing Theory and Practice

ACCT 550—Professional Responsibilities and Ethics in Accounting

Elective Courses

The elective courses are 3 credits each; select 9 credits from the following:

ACCT 510—Business Tax Planning Theory and Practice

ACCT 561—Financial Statement Analysis II

ACCT 572—Financial Reporting I

ACCT 532—Accounting Information and Decision Systems

B LAW 444—Advanced UCC and Commercial Transactions

ACCT 545—Strategic Cost Management

P ADM 523—Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting

worldcampus.psu.edu/acccert





Curriculum for Master of Professional Accounting

Overview

Accountants and auditors help organizations function efficiently, maintain accurate financial records, and pay the appropriate taxes. If you aspire to play an integral role in the financial success of a business or individual, Penn State's online Master of Professional Accounting program can provide the critical education you need.

In this comprehensive 30-credit program, you will take ten 3-credit courses. The curriculum is carefully designed to include courses that directly address the content critical to your successful completion of the CPA exam.

Courses

ACCT 504—Auditing Theory and Practice

ACCT 510—Business Tax Planning Theory and Practice

ACCT 532—Accounting Information and Decision Systems

ACCT 545—Strategic Cost Management

ACCT 550—Professional Responsibilities and Ethics in Accounting

ACCT 561—Financial Statement Analysis II

ACCT 572—Financial Reporting I

B LAW 444—Advanced UCC and Commercial Transactions

P ADM 523—Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting

ACCTG 803—Capstone Course: Forensic Accounting and Litigation Support

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Why Penn State?

Flexibility and Convenience

Penn State knows that as an adult student, you need flexible and convenient learning options. The online learning format offered by Penn State World Campus makes it possible to fit graduate education into your life. Though courses have fixed start and end dates with assignment deadlines, you decide when to complete your course work.

Reputation

Having a Penn State degree on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to current and potential employers that you are a well-educated professional. No distinction will be made on your official Penn State transcript or diploma that your courses were completed online. Penn State is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and has an outstanding reputation as a research and teaching university.

AACSB Accreditation

Did you know that the AACSB accreditation is the highest recognition that a business school can receive? When recruiters and business leaders learn that you received your degree from an accredited institution, they will know that you've acquired a superior education from a program recognized as one of the best in the world.

Faculty Expertise

All of the courses in the online program are designed and taught by Penn State professors. The program's faculty are known for their exceptional credentials, research, and industry experience, which help them understand your academic needs and career interests.

Learner and Technical Support

You will interact frequently with faculty and other students. Without having to set foot on campus, you will have access to many of the same support services that resident students enjoy, including advising, course scheduling assistance, library resources and databases, and technical support.



Begin Your Application Today

Getting Started

To apply to the Graduate Certificate in Accounting program, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/acctcert

To apply to the Master of Professional Accounting program, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/mpacc

Application Materials

Graduate Certificate

- › completed graduate school application
- › official transcripts from all institutions attended
- › TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable

Master's Degree

In addition to the application materials required for the graduate certificate program, you are also required to submit:

- › GPA and test scores
- › official GMAT or GRE score (Waiver requests are reviewed on an individual basis.)
- › two references
- › résumé

Note: An entering student will have completed a baccalaureate degree in accounting or completed comparable accounting course work. Professionals seeking course work to meet the CPA accounting credit requirements are also good candidates for this program. The prerequisite accounting courses required for admission are available through Penn State World Campus.

- › Financial and Managerial Accounting for Decision Making (generally Principles of Accounting I, covering financial accounting, and Principles of Accounting II, covering managerial accounting, at other universities)
- › Federal Taxation I (covering individual taxation)
- › Cost Accounting
- › Intermediate Financial Accounting I
- › Intermediate Financial Accounting II
- › Auditing

To determine if you have completed the necessary course work to apply to the program, contact the program office at 717-948-6008 for a consultation.

For more information about these application materials, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/mpacc

Contact Us

Program Questions

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Admissions Questions

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