

CU DENVER BUSINESS SCHOOL

Accounting Student Handbook



University of Colorado **Denver**

Welcome to the Accounting Department at the University of Colorado Denver



The Accounting faculty and Business School staff are excited to have you on our campus. Accounting professionals are constantly adapting to new rules and regulations and using ever-improving technology to interpret numbers, tackle complex problems and communicate information to investors, creditors, managers and other decision makers. We are here to help you master these skills in order to develop a keen insight into how businesses work. Accounting knowledge is always in demand. With your accounting degree from the CU Denver Business School, you will be, too!

A major priority of our Accounting department is to place students in challenging and rewarding business careers that will utilize their accounting degree. The path to job placement begins well-before graduation so it is never too early to start planning. We have created this guidebook as a resource to reference during your time at CU Denver. Whether you are pursuing a Bachelor's degree and/or a Master's of Science in Accounting, the information contained in this guidebook will help you make informed decisions about your future.

The Accounting faculty, Graduate and Undergraduate Advisors and Business Career Center are here to guide you along your path to a fulfilling career in accounting. Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information.

Carol Callaway Dee
Associate Professor
Director of Accounting
carol.dee@ucdenver.edu
(303) 315-8463

Accounting Career Paths

Curious about different career paths for accounting graduates? Wondering which path is a good fit with your career and lifestyle goals? Although opportunities in accounting are diverse, below is a quick summary of the main career paths for accounting graduates.

Corporate Accounting

Corporate accounting, also known as industry or managerial accounting, encompasses financial reporting, cost accounting, financial planning and analysis, internal auditing and tax. Whether a small family-owned business or a Fortune 500 company, every organization requires accountants to assist with the accounting and financial services that are the backbone of any organization. Working as a corporate accountant provides the opportunity to contribute to the successful operations of the business and to observe practices within an industry. The wide variety of options available in corporate accounting provide the opportunity to experience many different roles within the same organization.

Typical Accounting Certifications in Corporate Accounting

- CPA** — Certified Public Accountant
- CGMA** — Chartered Global Management Accountant
- CMA** — Certified Management Accountant
- CIA** — Certified Internal Auditor

For more information on corporate accounting careers, visit the AICPA website:

aicpa.org/career/careerpaths/corporateaccounting

Government and Not-for-Profit Accounting

Government accounting is essential for transparency and efficiency. Accountants working in government manage budgets, expenses and revenues at the federal, state, county and city levels for organizations such as the military, law enforcement and public schools. Not-for-profit organizations employ accountants to make sure the organizational mission and financial affairs are well run.

Typical Accounting Certifications in Government and Not-for-Profit Accounting

- CPA** — Certified Public Accountant



CU-Denver's accounting programs leverage our unique location in the city of Denver to connect students with the business community, allowing you to explore career opportunities formally through internships, as well as informally at various events hosted by student organizations and local businesses.

- Jenna Burke, Assistant Professor of Accounting

CGMA — Chartered Global Management Accountant

CMA — Certified Management Accountant

CGFM — Certified Government Financial Manager

CPFO — Certified Public Finance Officer

CGAP — Certified Government Auditing Professional

For more information on government and not-for-profit accounting careers, visit the AICPA website at

aicpa.org/career/careerpaths/government or aicpa.org/career/careerpaths/nonprofit.

Public Accounting

Public Accounting firms provide accounting services including audit, tax, and advisory/consulting. Accountants working in audit services review and test the systems, records and accounts of clients to form an opinion on the fair presentation of financials for statement users. Accountants working in tax services complete federal and/or state tax

returns for clients as well as provide tax planning services. In advisory/consulting services, accountants provide advice to clients on their financial investments and work directly with clients to increase efficiency while reducing costs. The services provided by public accounting firms are in high demand. Therefore, public accounting firms are continuously seeking accounting graduates. Public accounting is challenging and rewarding work, and provides dynamic and diverse experiences. Public accounting experience is a springboard for many corporate management positions.

Typical Accounting Certifications in Public Accounting

- CPA** — Certified Public Accountant
- CISA** — Certified Information Systems Auditor
- CIA** — Certified Internal Auditor

For more information on public accounting careers, visit the AICPA website:

aicpa.org/career/careerpaths/publicaccounting

Guidance by Year

It's never too early to start laying the groundwork for a successful career in accounting. Whether you're joining the CU Denver accounting department as a freshman, as a transfer student or as a graduate student, below you will find helpful guidance to consider along your academic journey.



Freshman/Sophomore

Meet with your advisor to map out your degree plan. Call (303) 315-8110 to set up a phone, Zoom or office appointment.

Visit Business Career Center (BCC) on the 4th floor of the Business Building to identify and assess career opportunities and to start building your resume and LinkedIn profile. Contact BCC: bcc@ucdenver.edu.

Sign up for Handshake (CU Denver's Career, Jobs, and Event Information): ucdenver.joinhandshake.com/login.

Learn what is needed for a successful accounting career by utilizing the resources provided in this guidebook, attending Accounting department events and attending the numerous Accounting Student group meetings that are open to all students.

Apply for scholarships:
<https://ucdenver.scholarshipuniverse.com/>.

Connect regularly with your advisor through scheduled appointments or by email:
undergrad.advising@ucdenver.edu.



Junior

If you are a transfer student, **meet with your advisor to map out your degree plan.** Call (303) 315-8110 to set up a phone, Zoom or office appointment.

Complete internship training through either a BCC Career Essentials Workshop business.ucdenver.edu/bcc or the Experiential Learning Center ucdenver.edu/life/services/ExperientialLearning

After completing the training, you will be able to **apply for internships on Handshake.**

Attend Accounting Student Group meetings and events offered throughout the Fall and Spring semesters or join Beta Alpha Psi (BAP).

Start building a professional network by attending *Meet the Firms* in the fall and spring semesters, Business School Career Fairs and Accounting department events.

Apply for Summer Leadership Programs (SLPs) and attend all SLPs to which you are invited.

Interview for internships early in the fall semester.

Complete internships during spring, summer or fall. Multiple internships are encouraged.

Make a plan to successfully complete the 150-hour requirement for CPA licensure.

Meet with your advisor to discuss applying for the **4+1 program.** The 4+1 program allows a seamless transition from the CU Denver undergraduate Accounting program to the MS-ACCT program. Students with a 3.0 GPA in the Intermediate series (ACCT 3220, 3230 and 3320) can request a waiver of the GMAT. For more information about the 4+1 program, contact undergrad.advising@ucdenver.edu.

If you choose to pursue a graduate degree outside of CU Denver, **plan for when you will take the GMAT.**

Apply for scholarships:
<https://ucdenver.scholarshipuniverse.com/>.

Connect regularly with your advisor through scheduled appointments or by email: undergrad.advising@ucdenver.edu.



Senior

Meet with your advisor to make sure you are on track to graduate. Call (303) 315-8110 to set up a phone, Zoom or office appointment.

Be actively involved in the Accounting Student Group or join Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) and/or other student organizations by becoming an officer or joining committees.

Continue building a professional network by attending *Meet the Firms* in the fall and spring semesters, Business School Career Fairs and Accounting department events.

Interview for internships early in the fall semester.

Apply for Summer Leadership Programs (SLPs) and attend all SLPs to which you are invited.

Complete internships during spring, summer or fall. Multiple internships are encouraged.

Plan for when you will take the CPA exam. Many students choose to take the exam while completing their MS-ACCT degree.

Apply for scholarships:

<https://ucdenver.scholarshipuniverse.com/>.

Connect regularly with your advisor through scheduled appointments or by email, undergrad.advising@ucdenver.edu.



Graduate

Meet with your advisor to map out your graduate degree plan. Call (303) 315-8110 to set up a phone, Zoom or office appointment.

Make a plan to successfully complete the 150-hour requirement for CPA licensure. If your undergraduate degree is not in accounting or business, be sure to contact accounting.cpa@ucdenver.edu for help in mapping your prior education to CPA licensure requirements.

Be actively involved in the Accounting Student Group or join Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) and/or other student organizations by becoming an officer or joining committees.

Apply for Summer Leadership Programs (SLPs) and attend all SLPs to which you are invited.

Interview for internships during spring, summer or fall.

Complete internships during spring, summer or fall. Multiple internships are encouraged.

Continue building a professional network by attending *Meet the Firms* in the fall and spring semesters, Business School Career Fairs and Accounting department events.

Make a plan for when you will take the CPA exam. Many students choose to take the exam while completing their MS-ACCT degree.

Apply for scholarships:

<https://ucdenver.scholarshipuniverse.com/>.

Connect regularly with your advisor through scheduled appointments or by email: grad.advising@ucdenver.edu.



A Guide to Undergraduate Accounting Courses

While it is critical to meet with your advisor to map out your degree plan, below is information on accounting courses that will help guide your path to graduation.

ACCT 3220 Intermediate Financial Accounting I
Fall and Spring

ACCT 3230 Intermediate Financial Accounting II
Fall and Spring

ACCT 3320 Cost Analytics
Fall and Spring

ACCT 4054 Accounting Information Systems
Fall and Spring

ACCT 4410 Fundamentals of Federal Income Tax
Fall and Spring

ACCT 4620 Auditing Theory
Fall and Spring

*Some of these courses may be offered during the summer. It is **vital** to take these courses following a logical progression.*

Accounting Electives

Students who plan to sit for the CPA exam, may want to consider choosing electives based upon which discipline they select for CPA examination, see page 15 for details.

ACCT 4240 Advanced Financial Accounting
Fall, Spring and Summer

ACCT 4370 International Accounting
Fall, Spring and Summer



Business Career Center helps Accounting students prepare for great careers. We can work with you to help you decide what kind of career path you would like to pursue, and create the best strategy to achieve your unique goals. Working with us early is key to your success as accounting recruiting takes place far ahead of their start dates for internships and full time roles. Keeping engaged with Accounting Student Group and their employer events is another wonderful key to your success. Come and see us in our offices on the 4th floor or you can book an appointment with us through Navigate. We're looking forward to working with you!

– Stephanie Sindt,
Business Career Center Director

ACCT 4420 Taxation of Business Entities
Fall, Spring and Summer

ACCT 4520 Issues in Oil and Gas Accounting
Fall

ACCT 4800 Accounting for Government & Nonprofits
Spring

Course scheduling decisions are subject to faculty availability and are subject to change.

Accounting Courses Required for CPA Licensure in Colorado

ACCT 6280 Accounting Ethics
Fall and Spring

and one of the following auditing courses

ACCT 6330 Fraud Auditing
Summer

ACCT 6620 Advanced Auditing and other Assurance Services
Fall and Spring

Undergraduates who wish to accumulate 150 credit hours without earning a MS-ACCT degree may petition to take these

courses. Check with your advisor. These are graduate courses, which are billed at a different tuition rate. Check the [Bursar's website](#) for more information.



Optimal Sequencing of Required Accounting Courses for Undergraduates

Here are outlines the optimal sequencing of accounting courses. Since many courses build on each other, failing to take courses in the recommended sequence could delay your graduation.

Sophomore Semester 1

ACCT 2200 Financial Acct and Financial Statement Analysis
Prereq: MATH 1060 or MATH 1070 or MATH 1080 or MATH 1109 or MATH 1110 or MATH 1130 or MATH 1401 (min grade C-)

Sophomore Semester 2

ACCT 2220 Managerial Accounting and Professional Issues
Prereq: ACCT 2200 (min grade C-)

Junior Semester 1

Course—Prerequisite

ACCT 3220 Intermediate Financial Accounting I
Prereq: ACCT 2220 and BANA 2010 (min grade C-)

ACCT 3320 Cost Analytics
Prereq: ACCT 2220 and BANA 2010 (min grade C-)

Junior Semester 2

ACCT 3230 Intermediate Financial Accounting II
Prereq: ACCT 3220 (min grade C)



Scholarships often have a huge impact on student success. They help alleviate financial burden and allow students to spend more time focusing on their education. The Business School awards almost \$600,000 in scholarships each year, with some scholarships being solely provided to Accounting students. Recipients are often motivated to strive for academic excellence and they carry immense value when mentioned on a resume or in a job interview.

Melissa Galvagni,
 Program Manager

ACCT 4054 Accounting Information Systems

Prereq: ACCT 3220, (min grade C), ISMG 2050 (min grade C-)

Senior Semesters 1 and 2

ACCT 4410 Fundamentals of Federal Income Tax

Prereq: ACCT 3220 (min grade C)

ACCT 4620 Auditing Theory *Prereq: ACCT 3220 (min grade C) and Coreq: ACCT 4054*

At least one Accounting elective: Your choice

ACCT 4240 Advanced Financial Accounting
Prereq: ACCT 3230 (min grade C)

ACCT 4370 International Accounting
Prereq: ACCT 3220 (min grade C)

ACCT 4420 Taxation of Business Entities
Prereq: ACCT 4410 (min grade C)

ACCT 4520 Issues in Oil & Gas Accounting
Prereq: ACCT 3220 (min grade C)

ACCT 4800 Accounting for Government & Nonprofits
Prereq: ACCT 3220 (min grade C)



Accounting Graduate Degrees

Whether you are considering CPA licensure or just looking to accelerate your accounting career, a Master's degree in Accounting will help you achieve your goals. The MS Accounting degree requires 30 credit hours of graduate work. As a current CU Denver accounting student, you can seamlessly transition from your undergraduate program into the graduate accounting program.

What is the 4+1 Program?

The 4+1 program allows CU Denver students early admission into the MS Accounting program in their fourth or final year as an undergraduate. There are two benefits to our 4+1 program. First, CU Denver accounting students with a 3.0 or higher GPA in their undergraduate intermediate accounting series (ACCT 3220, ACCT 3230, and ACCT 3320) can be accepted into the program without taking the GMAT exam. Second, some students can take two graduate level courses in their senior year, with those six credit hours counting toward both the undergraduate and MS degrees. With the assistance of undergraduate advising (undergrad.advising@ucdenver.edu), you can select two graduate accounting courses that will take the place of two undergraduate accounting courses.

When should I apply to the 4+1 Program?

You should apply to the 4+1 program when you have one academic year remaining in your undergraduate degree. In addition, you must have successfully completed the intermediate accounting series (ACCT 3220, ACCT 3230, and ACCT 3320). Please contact your advisor for application details and deadlines.

"Be intentional, bold, and uncomfortable, and find ways to meet people who will change your life professionally and personally. Create conversations and relationships to further your career."

Doug Slaybaugh,
Member CU Denver
Accounting Advisory Council

I'm a Senior about to graduate. Does that mean I can't pursue a graduate degree in Accounting at CU Denver?

No! While you might not be able to take advantage of the 4+1 program, you can still earn your MS degree with us. CU Denver accounting students with a 3.0 or higher GPA in their undergraduate accounting courses can be accepted into MS Accounting program without taking the GMAT exam.

Do I have to finish my 4+1 degree in five years?

No. Many students complete the 30 credit hours of their MS degree in one calendar year (taking classes in Fall, Spring and Summer) while others choose to complete their degree at a slower pace.

Will the two 4+1 courses double count toward the 150 credit hours required for CPA licensure?

No. Please contact your advisor to determine if you will benefit from taking the two graduate courses as an undergraduate.

I want to pursue CPA licensure but want to take a break from school before I enroll in a graduate program. Is that a good idea?

While the idea of taking a break may sound appealing, statistics show that it's not a good idea. Even if you want to delay earning your graduate degree, you can sit for the CPA exam after earning your bachelor's degree. We highly encourage you to take the CPA exam directly after completing your undergraduate degree. CPA exam pass rates steadily decline for every year after graduation.



A Guide to MS Accounting Courses

MS-ACCT students come from a wide variety of academic backgrounds. Therefore, it is critical to meet with your advisor to map out an individualized degree plan.

NOTE: The following may not apply to you if you were admitted under an older degree plan. Check with your advisor.

Prerequisites

ACCT 6031 Intermediate Financial Accounting I
Fall and Spring

ACCT 6032 Intermediate Financial Accounting II
Fall and Spring

ACCT 6140 Fundamentals of Federal Income Tax
Fall and Spring

Prerequisites do not count toward the required 30 credit hours for the MS-ACCT degree; graduate students may be able to take the accounting prerequisites at the undergraduate level. Check with your advisor.

MS Accounting Core

ACCT 6020 Auditing Theory
Fall, Spring and Summer

ACCT 6054 Accounting Information Systems
Fall and Spring

ACCT 6150 Taxation of Business Entities
Fall, Spring and Summer

ACCT 6250 Seminar: Financial Accounting
Fall and Spring

ACCT 6260 Managerial Analytics for Accountants
Fall and Spring

ACCT 6280 Accounting Ethics
Fall and Spring

ACCT 6620 Advanced Auditing and other Assurance Services
Fall and Spring

MS Accounting Electives

Students who plan to sit for the CPA exam, may want to consider choosing electives based upon which discipline they select for CPA examination, see page 15 for details.

ACCT 6024 Advanced Financial Accounting
Fall, Spring and Summer

ACCT 6080 Accounting for Government & Nonprofits
Spring

ACCT 6285 Accounting and Finance for Sustainability
Spring

ACCT 6330 Fraud Auditing
Summer

ACCT 6340 Financial Statement Analysis
Fall and Spring

ACCT 6370 International Accounting
Fall, Spring and Summer

ACCT 6400 Taxation of C Corporations and Shareholders
Fall

ACCT 6410 Advanced Tax for Individuals
Spring 2024 - last semester offered

ACCT 6450 Tax Research
Fall

ACCT 6480 Partnership Taxation
Spring

ACCT 6510 Advanced Systems and Analytics for Accountants
Spring

ACCT 6520 Issues in Oil and Gas Accounting
Fall

Course scheduling decisions are subject to faculty availability and are subject to change.



Accounting Student Group

The accounting student group is a student-led organization aimed at developing professional skills and connecting you with your peers and local firms looking to hire our students. **All students are welcome to attend meetings and events.** Benefits of attending include building a professional reputation, networking opportunities, employment opportunities, and an enhanced university experience. While each of these benefits serves a unique objective, networking proves to be one of the greatest benefits as it is the soundest way to secure Summer Leadership, internship, and career opportunities.

There is an option to become an official member of the Beta Alpha Psi international honors organization for accounting student group members that meet academic, professional, and volunteer requirements. Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) is the premier professional business and financial information honorary organization. BAP is internationally recognized and a signal to future employers of a student's academic excellence, professionalism, and ethics. Requirements for membership include:

You are seeking a degree in business with a declared emphasis in accounting, finance or information systems.

You have completed two years (60 credit hours) of collegiate business and non-business courses.

You have completed, or are currently enrolled in 3000-level courses.

You have a cumulative GPA in all courses of at least 3.0 or attained at least a 3.25 cumulative GPA in the most recent 30 semester hours.

Applications to join BAP are accepted during the beginning of both spring and fall semesters. For more information contact Carolyn Gleason, the CU Denver Chapter faculty advisor, at carolyn.gleason@ucdenver.edu.



BETA ALPHA PSI
The International Honor Organization for
Financial Information Students and Professionals

Beta Alpha Psi is a student organization designed to help students in three areas: professionalism, service, and networking. Meetings are primarily focused on professional development. Students regularly participate in service activities in the Business School, on the CU Denver campus and in the Denver community. All of these activities include the business community and are coupled with specific networking and recruiting events hosted by BAP.

**Carolyn Gleason,
Accounting Instructor**



Summer Leadership Programs and Internships

What are Summer Leadership Programs (SLPs)?

Summer Leadership Programs are traditionally one to two-day programs hosted by individual public accounting firms. They are typically hosted in the firm's office where participants engage in activities with the firm's professionals to learn more about the industry, the firm, its culture and services. Not all firms offer SLPs and some will only have internship opportunities.

Why is it Important to Attend SLPs?

Networking is a crucial step to achieve success in accounting. By attending SLPs, students differentiate themselves from their peers by developing necessary relationships with accounting professionals. Successful completion of an SLP provides an advantage in securing an internship opportunity, which

Gaining experience, whether through internships, SLPs, or other means, is the best way to apply the concepts being taught in the classroom. They each hold insight for a variety of company and career pathways found within accounting. These early career opportunities allow us to further connect with peers and begin to form our own roots within the community. CU Denver - Beta Alpha Psi's chapter is also a great aid to bridge the gap from student to professional with a good idea of pathways and where they can take you.

**Michael Cronce,
MS Accounting Alumni**

leads way to a full-time position. SLPs serve as a unique way to grow as a professional, secure a spot within a firm and have an exciting, engaging experience. Every SLP is different and involvement in several (as many as possible) is encouraged.

When do I apply for SLPs?

Recruiting for SLPs occurs primarily in the spring semester. Apply for SLPs as early as your Sophomore year. Graduate students can apply near the start of their MS-ACCT program. For additional information regarding SLP opportunities contact Business Career Center at bcc@ucdenver.edu.

What are Internships?

While SLPs are unique to public accounting, internships are available in public accounting, corporate, government and non-profits.

Internships provide generous compensation and valuable work experience, and may result in full-time jobs after graduation. Also, students can earn academic credit from their internship experience (ACCT 3939/5939).



Internships

Busy Season Internships in Public Accounting

All internships provide valuable insight into the real-world, day-to-day practices of public accounting. However, the need for staff and abundance of work during busy season (typically January through April) make these internships ideal for employers and students. Busy season internships can be more indicative of what to expect as a full-time staff. If you choose to pursue an internship during busy season, consider adjusting

My internship experience at a small public accounting firm transitioned me from an accounting student to a professional. It was exciting to work with real clients and understanding the industry on a deeper level. As a result, I gained confidence in my abilities, and I was offered a permanent job at a big four accounting firm before I graduated.

Joseph Horejs
MS Accounting Alumni

your course schedule such as taking classes online and/or over the summer.

When do I apply for Internships?

Recruiting for internships occurs throughout the year, and many will be offered as a result of attending a SLP. For those firms not offering SLPs, you will apply directly to their internships for the following year. Apply for internships during your Junior and/or Senior year. Graduate students can apply throughout their MS-ACCT program. For additional information regarding internship opportunities, contact Business Career Center at bcc@ucdenver.edu or Paul Worthman of the Experiential Learning Center at paul.worthman@ucdenver.edu.

Public accounting process



Corporate, government, and non-profit process





The CPA Exam and Colorado CPA Licensure

The Certified Public Accountant (CPA) credential is the most prestigious and well-recognized credential in accounting. CPAs are always in high demand and they earn more and have more opportunities than their peers without CPA licenses. The first step to becoming a CPA is passing the Uniform CPA Examination. However, the CPA exam is just one of the four E's to CPA licensure – Education, Examination, Ethics and Experience.

Navigating the rules for CPA licensure can be daunting. The Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA): Colorado State Board of Accountancy Rules are referenced throughout this section of the guidebook. See the full rules colorado.gov/pacific/dora/accountancy_laws. This document includes a summary of the above rules and is not all encompassing. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the full rules to ensure you comply.

Here are the educational requirements to be eligible to take the CPA exam and for CPA licensure.

Education Requirements to Take the CPA Exam

120 semester credit hours and completed Bachelor's degree

27 semester credit hours in Accounting (DORA: 2.4.A)

No duplication of courses

21 hours must be above the introductory level

3 hours must be in Auditing (covering U.S. GAAS)

Grade earned must be C or higher

21 semester credit hours in Business courses (DORA: 2.4.B)

No more than 6 hours can be in any single subject area

Education Requirements for CPA Licensure in Colorado

150 semester credit hours (DORA: 2.5.A)

33 semester credit hours in Accounting (DORA: 2.5.B)

No duplication of courses

27 hours must be above the introductory level

6 hours must be in Auditing (3 hours covering U.S. GAAS)

3 hours must be in Accounting ethics

Grade earned must be C or higher

27 semester credit hours in Business courses (DORA: 2.5.C)

No more than 9 hours can be in any single subject area

The deciding body on what courses will or will not be accepted is the Colorado State Board of Accountancy, not CU Denver. It is your responsibility to ensure you meet the requirements for exam and licensure. CU Denver cannot advise you on courses taken at other institutions. If you have transfer credits or did not earn your undergraduate degree at CU Denver, you should seek guidance from your prior institution regarding those credits.

As mentioned previously, the rules and requirements for CPA licensure can be difficult to understand and apply to your particular background. In addition to this guidebook, there are numerous resources both within and outside CU Denver to help you ensure that you are well informed and prepared.

For questions about a career as a CPA, contact BCC at bcc@ucdenver.edu or accounting faculty members.

For questions about CU Denver coursework as it applies to CPA exam and licensure, contact accounting.cpa@ucdenver.edu.

For information on CPA licensure, visit thiswaytocpa.com or nasba.org/exams/cpaexam/Colorado



New CPA Exam Format - Effective 2024

Effective 2024, the AICPA and the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) is making major changes to the CPA Exam format and content. The intent of these changes is to ensure newly licensed CPAs possess the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in the profession in the present and future. The new exam framework employs a “Core-plus-Disciplines” model and is illustrated by the following AICPA/NASBA diagram.



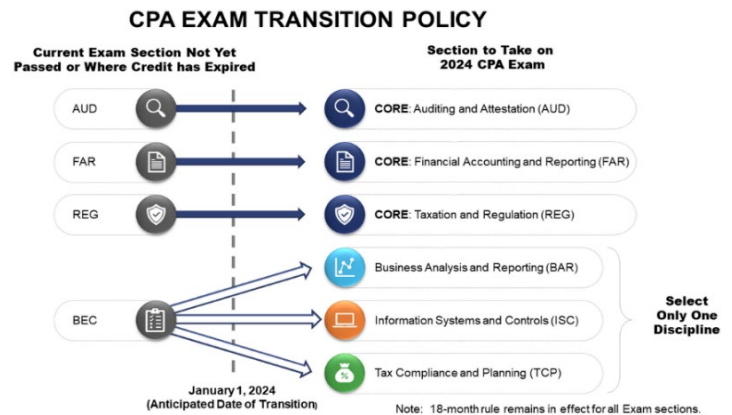
The current CPA Exam tests competencies in four sections: audit (AUD), regulation (REG), financial accounting and reporting (FAR), and business environmental concepts (BEC). Similar to the current exam, the candidate must demonstrate proficiencies in the following Core topics: auditing, accounting, and tax, including a recognition of the impact technology has on these areas. In addition, each candidate chooses one Discipline in which to demonstrate deeper knowledge:

- Business Analysis & Reporting (BAR).
- Information Systems and Controls (ISC).
- Tax Compliance & Planning (TCP).

Regardless of the discipline chosen, successful completion of the Exam leads to the same CPA license, with the complete responsibilities, rights and privileges available to all CPAs.

Candidates are Potentially Subject to the CPA Exam Transition Policy

If you receive passing (unexpired) credit for all four CPA Exam sections by December 31, 2023, you are not subject to the new Exam requirements. If you will still be working your way through the CPA by January 2024, then you will be subject to the Exam transition policy which is illustrated by the following AICPA/NASBA diagram.



It is important that you understand of these changes affect your path to CPA licensure. Further details are available at <https://evolutionofcpa.org/>

Suggested courses for CPA exam disciplines:

Business Analysis & Reporting (BAR)

- ACCT 4240/6024** Advanced Financial Accounting
- ACCT 4370/6370** International Accounting
- ACCT 6340** Financial Statement Analysis

Information Systems and Controls (ISC)

- ACCT 4240/6024** Advanced Financial Accounting
- ACCT 6260** Managerial Analytics for Accountants
- ACCT 6510** Advanced Systems and Analytics for Accountants

Tax Compliance & Planning (TCP)

- ACCT 4420/6150** Taxation of Business Entities
- ACCT 6400** Taxation of C Corporations and Shareholders
- ACCT 6480** Partnership Taxation



Academic Integrity

Academic integrity in the university context has two purposes. Students need to do their own assignments to learn the necessary skills to be able to be successful as Accounting professionals. Students also need to develop an ethical perspective which will allow them to make ethical decisions in both their personal and professional lives.

Cheating

Cheating hurts everyone at CU Denver because it undermines academic integrity, creates mistrust between students and with faculty, and it fosters unfair competition.

Cheating can include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments without faculty permission, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery or falsification of assignment results, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty (e.g., by sharing assignment solutions or exams with others or on homework sharing sites), and unfair competition.

Academic honesty is required in all work submitted for grading. Unless the instructor specifies an assignment is a group assignment, you must solve all assignments without the help of others. For example, you must not look at your classmate's solutions to homework problems or purchase solutions from a homework site. However, you may discuss assignment specifications (not solutions) with others to be sure you understand what the assignment requirements are.

Consequences of Cheating

The minimum consequence for cheating is zero on the assignment. Cheating on an exam will result in you failing the course. Multiple instances of academic dishonesty can result in suspension, and/or expulsion. If you are an international student, you may even lose your visa status if you fail a class or are suspended for academic dishonesty.

Ignorance of these rules is not an excuse and will not lessen the penalty.

Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

If you use content from outside sources, such as your textbook or on-line resources, you must properly cite the source. Not citing it constitutes plagiarism. Similarly, your group projects must list everyone who participated.

If a friend is struggling with an assignment do not share your solution with them. Chances are they will submit all or part of your assignment solution and both of you will be guilty of academic dishonesty. Instead, urge them to contact the instructor or point them to a relevant example.

Your instructor is free to override parts of this policy for particular assignments. To protect yourself: (1) Ask the instructor if you are not sure what is permissible. (2) Seek help from the instructor or TA, as you are always encouraged to do, rather than from other students. (3) Cite any questionable sources of help you may have received.

For more information on university academic honesty policies, see the CU Denver catalog (catalog.ucdenver.edu) and the CU Denver academic integrity website: www.ucdenver.edu/student/health-wellness/student-conduct/academic-integrity.



Concluding Remarks and Advice

Practice professionalism. This applies not only for interactions with recruiters and accounting professionals, but also for faculty, staff and fellow students. Communicating professionally (e.g. no text language in emails) is essential for success and should be practiced throughout your academic career.

Regularly check your CU Denver email account for important emails from advising, BCC, the Accounting department, etc. Provide email responses in a timely manner.

Connect with Accounting faculty for valuable industry information, career guidance, recruiting advice and other forms of mentorship.

If you are an international student, utilize the services offered by the CU Denver Office of International Affairs. They can be reached at internationalaffairs@ucdenver.edu or ucdenver.edu/academics/internationalprograms.

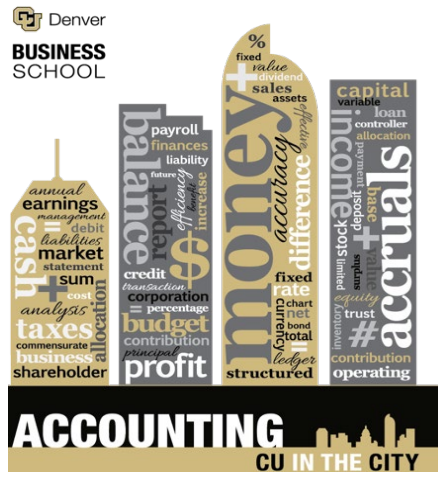
“Dress for your day” is a common policy for public accounting firms. Use discretion when deciding on attire

and follow dress codes provided for individual events. When in doubt, over dress!

Always look for networking and recruiting opportunities. Building a professional network is essential to succeed in the accounting profession. Do not underestimate the importance of connecting with recruiters and professionals.

Write “thank you” notes to all interviewers, recruiters and professionals involved in the recruiting process. An email is acceptable, but a handwritten note is more impactful.

Remember, this is a challenging program and there are resources available to ensure success. Ask as many questions as it takes to find the information you need to succeed. CU Denver provides a unique opportunity to access some of the greatest businesses in Denver with its central location. All of the faculty and staff are here to assist you in tapping into all of the resources the university has and opportunities the city has to offer.



Accounting
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