# Career Guide – Accounting

Accounting jobs are found in nearly all corporate, public sector, and non-profit organizations. There are over 46,000 US public accounting firms. Key areas include audit, tax, and corporate accounting. A CPA designation is required for most public accounting firm jobs and will also help you maximize a career in corporate accounting.

## Career To Do List

### First Year

- Take MGMT 1200: Career & Professional Development, first or second semester
- Complete required courses including your introductory Accounting courses
- Explore career options and work with BCC to develop resume and LinkedIn profile
- Apply in the fall and spring for public accounting firm Summer Leadership and exploration days, your first steps in the public accounting recruiting process.
- Apply in the fall and spring for business-related summer internships. Pay attention to your GPA, a 3.0 or greater is key

### Sophomore

- Take required upper-division Accounting and business classes
- Fine-tune resume & LinkedIn profile with new project experience; attend BCC Workshops
- Attend Meet the Firms event and apply in the fall (August – October) for summer internships. Many accounting internships are filled by November. Attend Career Fairs and Employer Spotlights
- Accounting Summer Programs and internships are critical to landing a full-time role

### Junior

- Complete remaining required classes, as well as Accounting electives
- Consider an additional internship and fill experience gaps with academic projects; keep your eye on job postings, target specific employers and roles
- Update your resume and LinkedIn profile; attend an Interview Prep Workshop, Employer Spotlights, and Career Fairs – develop your network and refresh your connections
- If you are a Senior, consider applying for the MS Accounting program to meet the 150 credit hour CPA requirement. Some public accounting firms require that all academic requirements for CPA licensure are met before starting a full time position
- Prepare for the CPA exam

### Senior & Grad Program

- Take MGMT 1200: Career & Professional Development, first or second semester
- Complete required courses including your introductory Accounting courses
- Explore career options and work with BCC to develop resume and LinkedIn profile
- Apply in the fall and spring for public accounting firm Summer Leadership and exploration days, your first steps in the public accounting recruiting process.
- Apply in the fall and spring for business-related summer internships. Pay attention to your GPA, a 3.0 or greater is key
- Accounting Summer Programs and internships are critical to landing a full-time role

## Additional Accounting Career Information

- BCC CPA Exam Eligibility Requirements Document – business.ucdenver.edu/bcc (Resources)

## In Demand Skills

- Advanced Microsoft Excel; Microsoft Access, SQL; Financial Modeling
- Accounting Packages: SAP, Oracle, Workday, XBRL, Great Plains (Microsoft Dynamics)

## Accounting – Certifications and Licenses

- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Certified Management Accountant (CMA)
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)
- Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA)
- Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)
- Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP)
- Certification in Financial Forensics (CFF)
- Accreditation in Business Valuation (ABV)
- Certified Financial Planner (CFP)
Internships
Accounting internships and/or part time jobs are critical and will help you acquire valuable skills. Summer Leadership programs and internships can lead to full-time positions.

Career Prep
It is important to learn how to excel in the job search process. It will help you get the job you deserve. Understand the public accounting recruiting process and timeline.

Academic
Take classes and complete projects in your area of emphasis. Be diligent to ensure you are taking the right courses to meet CPA exam eligibility and licensure requirements. Make your GPA count. 3.0+ is preferred for Accounting students.

Accounting Clubs & Events
CU Denver Business School – Beta Alpha Psi (highly recommend)
Colorado Society of Certified Public Accounts, Student Membership
Attend Accounting program events, Employer Spotlights, Career Fairs, and Meet the Firms events to network with employers

Accounting Job Titles – Early Career
Audit/Assurance Associate
Tax Associate
Advisory Associate
Staff Accountant
Cost Accountant
Forensic Accountant
Compliance Accountant
Budget Analyst
Credit Analyst
Treasury Analyst
Internal Auditor
Bank Auditor
IRS Agent
Cost Estimator
Wealth and Trust Advisor

Accounting Employers
Public Accounting Firms
   Tax, Audit, Advisory
Public and Private Corporations
Government Agencies and Universities
Non-Profit Organizations
Startups
Banks – Retail, Commercial, Investment
Financial Services | Investment Services
Private Equity and Venture Capital Firms
Consulting Firms