

# Explore a career in Accounting

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## WHAT IS ACCOUNTING?

- The design and implementation of financial and cost accounting system, both budget and actual
- Monitoring of operations through assembling, analyzing and interpreting the essential dollars and cents information of the organization
- The maintenance and analysis of records, to provide the planning, control and evaluation necessary to improve financial operations

## PREPARATION

- Success in accounting requires keen analytical abilities and a willingness to stick with a problem until a solution is found
- An accountant should like detail and working with figures, but does not need an extensive background in mathematics
- Most employers require a four-year college background with 30 semester hours of accounting
- Eligibility to sit for the CPA certification in several states including Ohio requires a minimum of 150 semester hours .

## CAREERS

**Cost Accountants:** Determine costs associated with high volume production of goods, analyze cost per unit analysis, set pricing structures, establish margins

**Staff Accountants:** Handle basic accounting

**A/P and A/R Professionals:** Manage high volume purchasing activity - incoming and outgoing payments for products/services

**Auditor:** Obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements, whether caused by error or fraud; includes opportunities in public accounting or as internal auditors within a company

**Tax:** Specialize in application of tax rules & regulations for a company's tax processes

## HIRING COMPANIES

ArcelorMittal • Citigroup • Crowe • Deloitte • EY • Grant Thornton  
JPMorgan Chase • KPMG • Nationwide • Ohio Department of  
Taxation • Plante Moran • PwC • Scotts Miracle-Gro Company  
Sherwin Williams RSM US LLP • State of Ohio Auditor's Office  
Worthington Industries

# 12<sup>th</sup>

ranked overall  
accounting  
program

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# \$60,834

average starting  
salary

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# \$22

per hour  
average  
internship pay



THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

FISHER COLLEGE  
OF BUSINESS

# ACTION STEPS FOR STUDENTS EXPLORING SPECIALIZATIONS

## TALK TO PEOPLE

Informational interviewing is a method of career exploration and a way of discovering jobs not publicly advertised. It is not the same as a job interview. Informational interviews allow you to gain “inside information” regarding career paths, alternate careers that will use your skills, and people to contact who may be looking for an employee like you..

## PEER CAREER COACHES

Meet with a Peer Career Coach in the Office of Career Management and Peers Advisors in the Undergraduate Programs Office. They are students who are happy to talk with you and answer questions about their experience in selecting a specialization.

## GET INVOLVED

Student organizations are a great way to meet new people (alumni, employers, and peers) and to learn about specializations. There are over 30 student organizations in Fisher.  
[fisherosu.campuslabs.com/engage/](http://fisherosu.campuslabs.com/engage/)

## REVIEW JOB DESCRIPTIONS IN HANDSHAKE OR ON COMPANY WEBSITES

Job descriptions help you learn what skills and qualifications employers are seeking in candidates and the type of information you will be learning in a specialization.

## CAREER EXPLORATION BY ACADEMIC SPECIALIZATION POWERPOINTS

Each presentation covers career areas, sample job titles, career path, companies that hire this major, salary information, professional organizations and more.  
[fisher.osu.edu/offices/career-management/undergraduate-students/explore-careers](http://fisher.osu.edu/offices/career-management/undergraduate-students/explore-careers)

## CHECK OUT THE "FROM ORIENTATION TO GRADUATION" BLOG

The blog features student interns who post notes about their initial steps into the business world, the challenges they face, and how they are applying their classroom theories and extracurricular activities to practice. The blog also offers career related tips and advice throughout the year.  
[fisher.osu.edu/blogs/ug-career-mgmt](http://fisher.osu.edu/blogs/ug-career-mgmt)

## ENROLL IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION 2600 (offered in Spring semesters)

This is a speaker series course with a focus on business enrichment. This class is structured to benefit freshmen and sophomores who are exploring the many fields of business study. During the course a variety of business and community leaders share their personal and professional life stories with a focus on their own challenges and successes.

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**Learn more at:**  
**[go.osu.edu/FisherAcademics](http://go.osu.edu/FisherAcademics)**



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