

College of Business Administration

Accounting

Overview

Because of the importance of accounting information, there are many opportunities for accountants. Typically, accountants are employed in public accounting, private industry, management consulting or governmental accounting.

The accounting department at K-State was one of only 10 programs in the nation to receive a grant from the Accounting Education Change Commission, or AECC. The AECC's primary goal is to create accounting programs that equip graduates with the capabilities for successful careers in the accounting profession.

The \$249,500 grant K-State received was one of the largest grants awarded and was used to support a comprehensive revision of the accounting curriculum. The revision of our program reflects a change in how accounting is taught, and K-State's program has become a model for accounting education throughout the U.S.

The accounting department offers a concurrent Bachelor of Science in business administration-Master of Accountancy degree that can be completed in four and one-half years with careful planning. The concurrent program allows students to count nine hours of their graduate program to satisfy nine hours of unrestricted electives in the undergraduate program.

The concurrent program prepares students to become highly successful accounting professionals. Students who complete the concurrent program are well prepared to sit for either the CMA exam — relevant for students pursuing accounting careers in industry — or the CPA exam — relevant for students pursuing careers in public accounting.

Although it is possible to graduate with only an undergraduate degree in accounting, students without the graduate degree may need to take

Points of pride

Kansas State University's accounting program has an innovative four-and-a-half-year curriculum. Students completing the program earn their master's degree, providing them with increased career credibility and flexibility.

additional classes before sitting for the CMA or CPA exams. Furthermore, the concurrent program permits qualified students to also obtain a Master of Accountancy in a time efficient manner, thereby equipping them for a lifetime career in the business world.

Our innovative graduate program permits students to take highly relevant classes in one of several tracks. Students interested in industry accounting careers are encouraged to take one of the tracks that prepares them to sit for the CMA exam. Students interested in public accounting are encouraged to take either the tax or audit track to equip them for the CPA exam and a career in public accounting.

Professional options

Careers

Outstanding graduates in all areas of accounting are in high demand. Graduates who have a 3.3 GPA or above and strong interpersonal skills are generally highly sought after. Most of these students take jobs with large industrial or international CPA firms and draw starting salaries in the \$46,000 to \$52,000 range. Others go to smaller CPA firms, government and small industrial firms at salaries in the \$40,000 or above range. In the next five to 10 years, many of these positions are expected to require a master's degree.

Employers

One way to categorize accounting positions is by functional area. This includes financial accounting, managerial accounting, taxation, accounting systems and auditing. Another method is by the nature of the employer. This includes CPA firms, industrial firms, governmental agencies at all levels, educational institutions and other nonprofit organizations. Most of the functional areas of accounting are found in each of the categories of employment.

The undergraduate program will expose students to all of these areas. The Master of Accountancy degree will allow students to concentrate in the functional areas of taxation, financial accounting and auditing, managerial accounting and controllership, and information systems.

Job experience

College of Business Administration students are sought after by large firms to intern during the summer. These internships are most often paid. The department places about 60 to 70 interns each year for spring and summer. Firms in public accounting and private industry provide these paid opportunities for exceptional students.

More than 90 percent of students from the college find relevant jobs or choose to continue their education within three months of graduation.

Academics

Degree options

Bachelor's degree

K-State offers a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with a focus in accounting.

Master's degree

Students who continue in the program must be admitted to the Master of Accountancy program by the Graduate School. The current admission requirements are an undergraduate degree with a GPA of 3.0 or above for the junior and senior years and a satisfactory score on the Graduate Management Admissions Test. There is a special application process for students who have an interest in pursuing the integrated Bachelor Science in business administration-Master of Accountancy degree.

International applicants must have a score of 590 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language. Once accepted, students must maintain an overall and accounting GPA of 3.0. The master's degree is a 30 credit hours program that can be completed in one year.

Accreditation

The College of Business Administration is among an elite 10 percent of schools and colleges in the nation to hold accreditation by The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, or AACSB, for all business and accounting programs.

The undergraduate and graduate accounting programs received separate AACSB accounting accreditation in April 1988. Few schools receive this recognition.

Faculty

Our highly qualified faculty members are dedicated to providing an outstanding educational experience for students. Our faculty members have industry experience and are prolific researchers, bringing their deep knowledge of business to the classroom.

Advising

All business students are assigned a professional academic advisor. Academic advisors provide individualized and comprehensive services to help students with all aspects of their academics and extracurricular activities. The academic advising team utilizes an integrated framework for successfully navigating the college experience from start to finish. Their main goals are to help students be successful in the program and be prepared for their future careers.

Professional development

Business students have the exclusive opportunity to participate in Career Development, the college's professional development program. Its three components — Professional Advantage certification, Executive Mentor and Career Coach — will provide you with training and support in developing nontechnical skills needed to identify a career path, pursue professional goals and find success in life and work.

Professional Advantage certification provides career-focused training sessions taught by industry professionals. In the Executive Mentor program, students are connected with successful K-State alumni and friends who will support you in achieving your professional goals. The Career Coach program provides a one-on-one coach to develop your career objectives and determine which opportunities will best prepare you for your dream job.

Financial assistance

The college awards scholarships to first-year, transfer and continuing education students. In addition, the college also offers business-specific scholarships to be used for study abroad programs.

The Department of Accounting has awarded \$160,000 in scholarships in the last two years. The scholarship application deadline is Feb. 1.

Suggested coursework

Students entering the College of Business Administration for the first time enroll in the Business Administration Pre-Professions Program, or BAPP. Students with previous academic work either at K-State or elsewhere requesting transfer to the College of Business Administration must have a 2.5 or higher GPA to enroll in the BAPP curriculum. Students remain in the BAPP until they meet the requirements for admission to their chosen business major and complete an application to degree plan. Students who do not meet the admission criteria for their chosen major by 60 credit hours — with at least 15 K-State graded hours — will be dismissed from the College of Business Administration.

Students will take at least one course in each of the core areas of business — accounting, finance, management and marketing — before pursuing the required courses in the accounting major. The required accounting courses, which are generally taken in the junior and senior years, cover all areas of accounting.

Applicants in accounting must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and have completed at least 45 credit hours — 12 of which must be K-State graded hours — to be considered for admission. Once admitted, students must maintain a 2.5 GPA in the accounting courses.

To encourage breadth and depth later in the student's career, all business students will be required to complete a nine credit hours thematic sequence in an area of professional and/or personal interest outside the college.

BAPP requirements

Hrs.	Courses	
3	ENGL 100	Expository Writing I
3	ENGL 200	Expository Writing II
2	COMM 105	Public Speaking IA
3	ENGL 417	Written Communication for the Workplace
3	MATH 100	College Algebra
3	MATH 205	General Calculus and Linear Algebra
3	STAT 350	Business and Economics Statistics I
3	STAT 351	Business and Economic Statistics II
3	ECON 110	Macroeconomics
3	ECON 120	Microeconomics
16	Nonbusiness courses. Students must complete at least one course in each of the following categories: aesthetic experience and interpretive understanding, global perspectives, human diversity in the U.S., natural and physical sciences with lab, and nonbusiness elective (chosen from any K-State 8 category).	
9	Thematic sequence	

Business core courses

Hrs.	Courses	
0	GENBA 101	Business Orientation
3	ACCTG 231	Accounting for Business Operations
3	ACCTG 241	Accounting for Investing and Financing
3	FINAN 450	Principles of Finance
3	GENBA 110	Business Foundations

0	GENBA 166	Business Information Technology Skills Proficiency
3	MANGT 366	Information Technology for Business
3	MANGT 420	Management Concepts
3	MANGT 421	Introduction to Operations Management
3	MANGT 595	Business Strategy
3	MANGT 596	Business Ethics and Corporate Citizenship
3	MKTG 400	Marketing

Major courses

Hrs.	Courses	
3	ACCTG 331	Accounting Processes and Controls
3	ACCTG 342	Taxation
3	ACCTG 413	Accounting Information System
3	ACCTG 432	Managerial Reporting
3	ACCTG 433	Financial Reporting
3	ACCTG 442	Auditing
3	ACCTG 641	Accounting Theory and History
3	ACCTG 642	Accounting Research and Communication
3	MANGT 390	Business Law

Economics electives

Hrs.	Courses	
6	Economics electives	

Unrestricted electives

Hrs.	Courses	
9	Unrestricted electives	

For more information about accounting, contact:

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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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Post-Graduation Statistics
k-state.edu/postgrad-stats
ksdegrestats.org