

# What Can I Do With a Major in...

# Accounting?

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The primary objective of the Accounting degree is to prepare you for a career in private industry, government, and local or national certified public accounting (CPA) firms. An additional objective is to provide a common body of knowledge in finance, law, management, marketing and computer science.

Accountants maintain the financial records and supervise the recording of transactions of businesses, corporations and not-for-profit organizations, as well as governmental units. They design and maintain systems to record changes in assets and liabilities; supervise accounting for expenses, payment, purchases, and inventories; and prepare periodic tax and financial reports.

### **Skills/Competencies Associated with Accounting Majors:**

Ability to work with computers  
Independence  
Skill with numbers  
Tendency toward analytical thinking  
Capacity for precision, detail, order, patience, integrity, thoroughness  
Proficiency in written and oral communication  
*Ability to:*  
Organize, analyze, or interpret numerical data  
Operate/use information derived from computers  
Explain complex financial data to others  
Lead, supervise, and direct others

### **Related Occupations:**

Actuary	Credit and Collection Specialist	Methods and Procedures Specialist
Assistant Controller	Entrepreneur	Payroll Manager
Auditor	Estate Planner	Personal Financial Planner
Bank Examiner	FBI Agent	Plant Accountant
Benefits Administrator	Financial Analyst	Professor
Budgetary Control Analyst	General Auditor	Public Accountant
Certified Public Accountant	Governmental Accountant	Securities Broker
Chief Cost Accountant	Industrial Buyer	Stockbroker
Chief Financial Officer	Internal Auditor	Systems Analyst
CIA Agent	International Trade Specialist	Tax Lawyer
Claims Adjuster	Inventory Control Specialist	Tax Specialist
Collection Agent	IRS Investigator	Treasurer
Commercial Banker	Loan Administrator	Treasury Management Specialist
Commodities Trader	Loan Officer	Trust Accountant
Consumer Credit Officer	Logistics Specialist	Underwriter
Controller	Managerial Accountant	
Corporate Accountant	Management Consultant	
Cost Accountant		

\*This is only a partial list and not meant to limit you. Come to Career Services to explore your options further.

## Strategies

- \* Actively participate in student organizations to develop leadership skills.
- \* Develop good computer skills.
- \* Join a professional organization.
- \* Strengthen communication skills.
- \* Gain work experience and information about careers through internships.
- \* Learn to work well within a team.
- \* Help others prepare taxes to get experience.
- \* Act as a treasurer of a student organization.

## Resources for Accounting Majors:

College Central Network  
[www.collegecentral.com/gmc](http://www.collegecentral.com/gmc)

Occupational Outlook Handbook  
[www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco)

Amer. Institute of Certified Public Accountants  
[www.aicpa.org/members/aicpafoundation.htm](http://www.aicpa.org/members/aicpafoundation.htm)

American Society of Women Accountants  
<http://www.aswa.org/>

National Association of Black Accountants  
<http://www.nabainc.org>

CPA Zone  
<http://www.picpa.org/content/home.aspx>

Accounting Jobs  
<http://www.accountingjobs.com>

Accounting  
[www.accounting.com](http://www.accounting.com)

O\*NET OnLine  
<http://online.onetcenter.org>

Career Bank  
<http://www.careerbank.com>

Information on Accounting Careers  
<http://www.beckerconviser.com>

CPA Directory & Job Postings  
<http://www.cpadirectory.com>

CPA Firms  
<http://www.cpafrms.com>

PICPA  
[www.picpa.org](http://www.picpa.org)

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**Gwynedd-Mercy College**  
**Career Services**  
215-646-7300, ext: 230  
[careerservices@gmc.edu](mailto:careerservices@gmc.edu)  
[www.gmc.edu/students/careerservices](http://www.gmc.edu/students/careerservices)