

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 Department of Accounting at Kansas State University 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 United States.

Training a person in the various aspects of business and the mechanics of accounting can be done in four years. However, to succeed in business and accounting, graduates need well-developed communication skills and the ability to work in teams. They must be able to solve abstract, unstructured problems and continue learning throughout their careers. Accounting professionals also need to understand the complex social, legal and economic environment in which businesses operate. For this reason, many professional accountants recommend that accounting programs require five years.

Points of pride

Kansas State University's College of Business Administration has been ranked the top business program in Kansas by Bloomberg Businessweek magazine.

An ever-increasing number of states are requiring 150 hours of college credit as a requirement to sit for the CPA exam. Kansas adopted the 150-hour requirement in 1997. Our new accounting program has been designed assuming that the majority of our qualified students will pursue our fifth-year master's degree program. We realize that many students might not want to stay for the master's program. Students completing only the undergraduate portion of the five-year program should be able to compete effectively with graduates of other four-year programs but might not have the same opportunities as graduates of a five-year (150-hour) program.

Professional options

Careers

There has always been high demand for outstanding graduates in all areas of accounting. 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 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 by three months after 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.

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-hour 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 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.

Advising

All business students are assigned to an academic advisor who will guide them through their college careers.

Executive mentors

A new program of the college pairs students with highly successful mentors. The professional relationship starts in the beginning of the student's career and is expected to last through graduation and beyond. Executive mentors help students make academic and professional decisions, and can introduce them to a wide professional network.

Financial assistance

Scholarships

The college awards scholarships to first-year, transfer and continuing 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 February 1.

Suggested course work

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 year, 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 9-credit hour thematic sequence in an area of professional and/or personal interest outside the college.

BAPP requirements

Hrs.	Courses
3	English 100 Expository Writing I
3	English 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 non-business elective (chosen from any K-State 8 category).
9	Thematic sequence

Business core courses

Hrs.	Courses
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 Government Society
3	MKTG 400 Marketing

Major courses

Hrs.	Courses
4	ACCTG 331 Accounting Processes and Controls
3	ACCTG 342 Taxation
3	ACCTG 432 Managerial Reporting
3	ACCTG 433 Financial Reporting
2	ACCTG 434 Accounting for Not-For-Profit Entities
3	ACCTG 442 Auditing
3	ACCTG 641 Accounting Theory and History
3	ACCTG 642 Accounting Research

Economics electives

Hrs.	Courses
6	Economics electives

Unrestricted electives

Hrs.	Courses
12	Unrestricted electives

For more information about accounting, contact:

Department of Accounting
Kansas State University
109 Calvin Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-0502
785-532-6184
Email: cbastusv@k-state.edu
www.cba.k-state.edu/future-students/majors-and-programs/accounting.html

For more information about Kansas State University, contact:

Office of Admissions
Kansas State University
119 Anderson Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506-0102
1-800-432-8270 (toll free) or
785-532-6250
Email: k-state@k-state.edu
www.k-state.edu/admissions

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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