ACCOUNTING

Program Objectives
The accounting major (22 credits) has a strong regional reputation for providing students with the quality accounting and business skills necessary for success in the accounting profession. Many of our students are employed in tax and accounting internships, obtaining valuable practical experience while completing their degree.

The accounting major offers students the coursework necessary to meet the rapidly changing business environment, in which accountants play a significant and critical role. Students learn accounting concepts and practical applications necessary to work in the profession. The program fosters the development of critical thinking and professional skills crucial for career success.

The major also prepares students for graduate studies in accounting and business such as our MBA with an accounting concentration. The undergraduate accounting major along with the MBA accounting concentration provides students with the depth and breadth of education needed to help pass the CPA exam and meet the 150 credit hour education required by Maine and most states for licensure as a CPA.

Degrees & Concentrations Offered
Graduation Planner: usm.maine.edu/advising/degreeplanning
Degree Offered: Bachelor of Science
Major Offered: Accounting
Minor Offered: Accounting
Certificate Program Offered: Accounting

School of Business
Portland Campus, 113 Luther Bonney, (207) 780-4151 x4020
usm.maine.edu/sb/bs-business-administration-accounting-major
Facebook: usmschoolofbiz Twitter: twitter.com/usmschoolofbiz
Blog: usmschoolofbusiness.wordpress.com

Career Possibilities*
Accountants
Auditors
Bill & Account Collectors
Billing, Cost & Rate Clerks
Billing & Posting Clerks
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks
Budget Analysts
Business Teachers, Postsecondary
Chief Executives
Credit Authorizers
Financial Managers
First-Line Supervisors (Non-Retail Sales)
First-Line Supervisors (Office & Administrative Support)
New Accounts Clerk
Office Clerks
Payroll & Timekeeping Clerk
Statement Clerk
Tax Examiners and Collectors

* Additional education, training or experience may be required.

Acquired Transferable Skills
Active Learning
Active Listening
Complex Problem Solving
Critical Thinking
Judgment and Decision Making
Mathematics
Reading Comprehension
Speaking
Time Management
Writing

For more information on transferable skills go to: usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/career-tools
### What can I do with this major?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>INFORMATION/STRATEGIES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Accounting</strong></td>
<td>Public accounting firms: Large, multinational                             • Public accounting firms hire candidates who meet the educational requirements for sitting for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam: 150 hours of education including 24 hours of accounting, i.e. the equivalent of an undergraduate degree in accounting.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Regional</td>
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<td>Local</td>
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<td>Sole practitioners</td>
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<td><strong>Corporate Accounting</strong></td>
<td>Companies of all sizes                                                     • Many managers in corporate settings obtain an MBA degree after several years of work experience.</td>
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<td><strong>Government</strong></td>
<td>Federal agencies and departments including:                                • Complete an internship in a government agency. Become familiar with the government application process.</td>
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<td>Federal Bureau of Investigation                                           • Become familiar with the government application process.</td>
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<td>Internal Revenue Service                                                   • Accounting is a “hot area” in government hiring and many opportunities exist in the public sector.</td>
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<td>Department of the Treasury</td>
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<td>General Accounting Office</td>
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<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>Universities and colleges                                                 • A Ph.D. in Accounting or a DBA, Doctorate in Business Administration, in accounting is generally required.</td>
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<td>• Maintain a high GPA and secure strong faculty recommendations for admittance into graduate school.</td>
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<td><strong>Non-Profit</strong></td>
<td>Social Service agencies                                                    • Volunteer at non-profit organizations and build a network of contacts in the non-profit sector.</td>
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<td>Hospitals</td>
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<td>Public school systems</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Universities and colleges</td>
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*To learn about these areas and much more visit: [whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major](http://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major) • © 2011 What Can I Do With This Major

### Enrichment Opportunities

#### Internships
USM's [School of Business Internship Program](https://usm.maine.edu/cecd) allows students the opportunity to apply classroom learning in area businesses for academic credit.

#### Study Abroad
For more information contact the USM Office of International Programs.

#### Clubs & Organizations
Accounting Club, Accounting & Finance Society, Management Achievement Program, Students in Free Enterprise For a complete list of student organizations:

#### USM Corporate Partners
The USM Corporate Partners are over 350 business people, from nearly 100 companies.

### Helpful Career Links

**USMCareerConnections:**
USM’s career network for job and internship searches. [usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/usmcareerconnections](http://usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/usmcareerconnections)

**O*NET OnLine:**
Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with O*NET. [onetonline.org](http://onetonline.org)

**Occupational Outlook Handbook:**
Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with OOH. [bls.gov/ooh](http://bls.gov/ooh)

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS** To name a few:
- American Institute of CPAs
- Institute of Management Accountants
- The Institute of Internal Auditors