



Accounting Major - New Brunswick

The Field

Accounting is an integral part of every business. Accounting professionals help to ensure that firms are run efficiently, public records are kept accurately, and taxes are paid properly and on time. They analyze and communicate financial information for various entities such as companies, individual clients, and Federal, State, and local governments.

Beyond carrying out the fundamental tasks of the occupation—providing information to clients by preparing, analyzing, and verifying financial documents—many accountants also offer budget analysis, financial and investment planning, information technology consulting, and limited legal services. Most accountants and auditors need at least a bachelor’s degree in accounting or a related field. Many accountants and auditors choose to obtain certification to help advance their careers, such as becoming a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

Any accountant filing a report with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is required by law to be a CPA. This may include senior level accountants working for or on behalf of public companies that are registered with the SEC. CPAs are licensed by their State Board of Accountancy.

Career Paths

Public accountants perform a broad range of accounting, auditing, tax, and consulting activities for their clients, which may be corporations, governments, nonprofit organizations, or individuals. **Forensic accounting** investigate and interpret white-collar crimes such as securities fraud and embezzlement, bankruptcies and contract disputes, and other complex and possibly criminal financial transactions, including money laundering by organized criminals. **Management accountants**, also called cost, managerial, industrial, corporate, or private accountants record and analyze the financial information of the companies for which they work. **Government Accountants** may work as Internal Revenue Service agents or in financial management, financial institution examination, or budget analysis and administration. **Internal auditors** verify the effectiveness of their organization’s internal controls and check for mismanagement, waste, or fraud.

Compensation

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, 2019 Edition, Accountants and Auditors, graduates with bachelor’s degrees in accounting received offers with a median salary of \$71,550.

Key Facts:

- Top Undergraduate Business Schools in the US, *Poets & Quants*, 2020
- The “Big Four” Accounting firms recruit from RBS
- Students learn from world-class faculty in the Accounting & Information Systems department which was ranked #4 in research productivity among public universities in the United States, Accounting and Finance
- Many accounting majors choose to obtain certification to help advance their careers, such as becoming a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Approximately 20% of all accountants and auditors worked over 40 hours a week in 2010, but many worked longer hours

Path to Major

Students can obtain a BS degree in Accounting. Additionally, students preparing for a career in public accounting, who meet specified academic requirements, have the opportunity to enroll in an accounting program at the master's level at the Rutgers Business School.

Required Courses (21 credits)

COURSE#	TITLE	CREDITS
33:010:458	Accounting Information Systems	3
33:010:401	Advanced Accounting	3
33:010:415	Concepts of Auditing	3
33:010:451	Cost Accounting	3
33:010:421	Income Tax Accounting	3
33:010:325	Intermediate Accounting I	3
33:010:326	Intermediate Accounting II	3

Elective Courses (3 credits)

COURSE#	TITLE	CREDITS
33:010:416	Audit Analytics*	3
33:010:422	Topics in Income Taxation	3

* Students who enter RBS in Fall 2018 and thereafter will be required to take Audit Analytics 33:010:416 instead of a business elective

Management Information Systems may not be used as the business elective

Visit our website for more information

<https://myrbs.business.rutgers.edu/undergraduate-new-brunswick/accounting-major>

