Accounting Highlights

The School of Accounting enjoys a national reputation for excellence and is viewed as a prime target for recruiting by accounting employers throughout the mid-Atlantic region. The program at JMU not only prepares students for careers in accounting but also auditing, consulting, finance and information systems.

TWO DEGREE PROGRAMS

The School of Accounting offers both a Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) degree and a Master of Science in Accounting (M.S. in Accounting) degree. The 120 credit hour undergraduate degree consists of the four-year major in accounting, leading to the B.B.A. degree. During their third year, many students choose to discuss enrolling in the graduate program. It leads seamlessly to the award of the B.B.A. degree after four years, followed by the M.S. in Accounting degree at the end of five years and 150 hours of study.

- Our students consistently rank among the top 5% of schools nationwide for pass rate of first time takers of the Certified Public Accountants exam.
- Each fall, the Meet the Firms event offers ACTG, FIN and CIS majors a unique opportunity to network with firms in a career fair format.
- The annual Accounting Externship Fair provides an opportunity to connect with firms offering one or two-day visits to shadow an executive.
- Accounting students annually support the Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. They assisted over 500 low-income taxpayers in Spring 2023.
- All of the accounting faculty hold professional certifications, either as Certified Public Accountants or Certified Management Accountants.
- The College of Business is one of 2% of business schools with both business and accounting accreditation by AACSBI International (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business).

Career Possibilities

Audit Partner
Consultant
Controller
Cost Accountant
Cost Analyst
Fraud Examiner
Internal Auditor
Tax Adviser
Tax Partner

RECOMMENDED MINORS
Business Analytics (BSAN)
Computer Information Systems (CIS)

CO-CURRICULAR ORGANIZATIONS

Choose from more than 25 College of Business co-ed fraternities, clubs and honor societies to connect with peers and build leadership skills.
The professors in the accounting department are some of the most engaging, personable, and helpful professors I’ve had the pleasure of working with. They push students to accomplish very difficult tasks but are always there to help. Outside of school, the professors are extremely willing to aid students in their transition to the professional world. They truly care about the future successes of students.

M.S. IN ACCOUNTING DEGREE OPTION

JMU’s M.S. in Accounting program gives you what you need to compete in today’s complex business and regulatory environment. This full-time, on-campus program (which requires that you be admitted for graduate study) prepares you to succeed—whether your goal is as lofty as the corner office at a Fortune 500 company or as straightforward as passing the CPA exam. The coursework sharpens your technical skills while strengthening your grasp of the principles of professional responsibility.

COB ACCEPTANCE

After completing the lower-level B.B.A Core Courses and earning at least a 2.7 average GPA in those courses (excluding calculus and managerial accounting) students may apply for formal acceptance into the College of Business and become eligible for upper-level courses.

LOWEST B.B.A. CORE COURSES*

- COB 191 - Business Analytics I**
- COB 202 - Interpersonal Skills
- COB 204 - Computer Information Systems
- COB 241 - Financial Accounting
- COB 242 - Managerial Accounting
- COB 291 - Business Analytics II
- ECON 200 - Intro to Macroeconomics
- ECON 201 - Intro to Microeconomics
- MATH 205 or 235 - Calculus**

*official curriculum requirements are listed in the JMU Undergraduate Catalog
**or equivalent

Differential Tuition

As a student in the College of Business (CoB), you’ll pay “differential tuition,” an additional fee over JMU’s standard tuition. This enables us to add significant value to your overall academic experience, and is a practice common among top business schools. These funds help ensure that our students gain a competitive edge for internships and job openings by providing hands-on experiences such as career treks, professional networking opportunities and career-development activities.

Curriculum Highlights

Starting Compensation*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College of Business Major</th>
<th>Avg. Starting Compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounting, B.B.A.</td>
<td>$72,062</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avg. / Bus. Majors</td>
<td>$75,969</td>
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</tbody>
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*This report highlights the post-graduation pursuits for 89% of the CoB Spring Class of 2023 bachelor’s degree recipients.

— ALEX HALE (’21), ACCOUNTING

jmu.edu/cob/accounting