

ACCOUNTING



Excellence in Action

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Kent State University's College of Business Administration offers a baccalaureate program called the Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) degree. Students with career interests in some area of accounting should pursue a B.B.A. degree with a major in accounting. Those who wish to sit for the CPA exam must complete 150 hours (only 121 hours are required for the B.B.A.). In addition to the undergraduate programs, students wanting to expand their knowledge even further and achieve the 150 credit hours needed for the CPA exam can pursue graduate business programs at Kent State, specifically the Master of Science in accounting. The College of Business offers additional graduate programs includes the Master of Business Administration (MBA), the Master of Arts in economics or the Ph.D. in business administration.

ACCREDITATION

Kent State's College of Business Administration is accredited by AACSB International — the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Kent State's College of Business Administration is one of only 5 percent of business schools in the world to be accredited by AACSB. Less than one-third of the business schools in the nation meet this organization's rigorous accreditation standards. Kent State's College of Business Administration is in an elite group, being one of only 178 universities worldwide to achieve dual accreditation in both business and accounting. To receive accounting accreditation, an institution must first earn or maintain AACSB business accreditation.

Accreditation is important to students because it suggests certain standards are met. Such standards include the credentials of faculty who teach business courses, the resources that are made available to business students (such as computers, software, study areas within the university's buildings, library holdings, etc.), the types of courses that students take for the B.B.A. degree and the accounting major and admission requirements to the College of Business Administration.

THE B.B.A. DEGREE PROGRAM

All qualified students (based on Kent State admission requirements) are admitted directly to a business major (i.e., accounting, business management, computer information systems, economics, entrepreneurship, finance, managerial marketing and marketing). Students who are undecided about a business major should choose "Business-undeclared." During the freshman year, students are introduced to the world of business with a course called Exploring Business.

During the freshman and sophomore years, all business majors take an introductory course in each of the basic areas of business (financial and managerial accounting, microeconomics and macroeconomics, computer applications, principles of management, legal and regulatory environment to business, principles of marketing and business statistics) along with the Kent Core (humanities, fine arts, social sciences, basic sciences). In the junior and senior years, students take additional core business courses (finance, operations management and business policies) and focus on their major. Business experiences as well as education abroad are all encouraged.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADVANCED BUSINESS PROGRAM

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

After completing 46 or more credit hours, students must have earned a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA in addition to earning a minimum

B- (2.7) in both Financial Accounting and Managerial Accounting and a minimum C in English, communications and mathematics in order to progress in the accounting major.

THE ACCOUNTING MAJOR

The accounting major prepares students for careers as professional accountants by providing instruction in financial accounting, cost or managerial accounting, auditing, tax and accounting systems. The accounting curriculum provides a foundation in both theory and practice, encompassing the body of concepts, conventions, principles and theories essential to the professional competency expected of accounting graduates. The accounting department places a great deal of emphasis not only on students' knowledge and understanding of the concepts and theories but also on the development of professional accounting research, computer applications, ethical decision making and interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills. A well-established internship program, with a solid and well-respected reputation, is available to qualified accounting students.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Accounting graduates find employment with public accounting firms, corporations and other business enterprises, government agencies (such as the IRS and the FBI) and not-for-profit institutions (such as charitable organizations, hospitals and retirement homes). This major prepares students with the knowledge base and skills for entry-level positions and the foundation for a career as a professional accountant. Graduates can continue their professional development either through specialized programs provided by employers or through graduate studies. Completion of the major prepares students to take the CMA, the CIA and other professional certification examinations. The undergraduate major is part of the educational preparation for the CPA examination, which requires 150 semester hours in the state of Ohio. Kent State provides the education to meet this requirement through the Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Science degrees in accounting. Numerous job opportunities usually await good accounting students, whether they pursue the four- or five-year program.

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RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

To build connections for eventual employment opportunities and to develop organizational and leadership skills, students are encouraged to join the Accounting Association, and for students who qualify, Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting honorary society. Both organizations promote extracurricular activities in the field of accounting and give students the chance to interact with faculty and accounting practitioners in informal settings. Another student organization that presents considerable appeal to any business major is Delta Sigma Pi, the professional business fraternity, which is open to all students. In addition, there are many other student organizations offering opportunities to develop accounting and general business skills.

RELATED ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Employers and educators recognize the importance of building a strong liberal arts background, especially for business students. Students are encouraged to consider minors offered by Kent State's other colleges and schools. For example, for the students who would like to work in an accounting position for some branch of city government, a major in accounting and a minor in political science might be very helpful in achieving this goal. Students interested in becoming certified public accountants with international applications should consider a foreign language minor. The College of Business Administration also encourages accounting majors to consider a minor program that the college offers. The minors offered include:

- Computer Information Systems
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship
- Finance
- Health Care Systems Management
- Human Resource Management
- International Business
- Management
- Marketing

LEARNING COMMUNITIES

First-year students have the opportunity to enhance their college experience by participating in the Business Learning Community developed around the student's academic interest in business. The Business Learning Community is located in Prentice Hall. Students living on campus reside in Prentice Hall (unless in honors housing) and commuters are welcome to join as well.

The Business Learning Community immerses the student in an environment that supports academic and professional success. The Business Learning Community provides a format that brings business student peers and faculty members into smaller groups creating academic and social support networks.

Learning Communities provide unique opportunities to:

- Connect students with their peers quickly and develop lifelong friendships.
- Develop leadership skills by taking a principles course introducing students to leadership basics and further develop their potential through practical experience.
- Learn about the business world by participating in special lectures, seminars, guest speakers, industry visits and professional networking opportunities.

CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

The College of Business Administration highly values the significance of out-of-classroom business experience. The College of Business Career Services Office can provide business experiences that will help students:

- Develop skills in the workplace before graduation.
- Interact in a professional setting to prepare students for the transition from an academic to a corporate environment.
- Understand the level of performance and professional behavior expected by employers.
- Develop a network of professional contacts that will become invaluable upon graduation.

The Career Services Office's goal is to continually expand partnerships and collaborations with firms locally, nationally and around the globe. Those alliances will provide the student with the opportunity for positive,

enriching practical business opportunities that can equal future career placement.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

To assist students in funding their education, the College of Business Administration offers financial and merit-based scholarships. Scholarships are available to incoming freshmen through graduating seniors and vary from tuition and book awards to stipends. College of Business Administration scholarship information is available online to incoming students and can be found posted in various locations throughout the college for sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Generally, to be considered for these scholarships, students need to apply early in the spring semester. An average GPA of 3.0 or higher is a typical academic qualifier for most scholarships, but students of all academic levels are encouraged to apply.

Other freshman scholarships are available through the Honors College at 330-672-2312 or the Student Financial Aid Office at 330-672-2972.

Undergraduate Programs Office

College of Business Administration
330-672-2872
www.kent.edu/business

Admissions Office

Kent State University
P.O. Box 5190
Kent, OH 44242-0001
330-672-2444
1-800-988-KENT
www.kent.edu/admissions

For information on all of Kent State's degrees and majors, go online to www.kent.edu/gps.