

# MAJOR TO CAREER GUIDE

## Accounting

Lee Business School

### Mission of the Lee Business School

To advance the knowledge and practice of business, develop business leaders, and foster intellectual and economic vitality through the creation and dissemination of knowledge and outreach.

Visit this site for more information:

<http://business.unlv.edu/>

### About the Accounting Career

The accounting discipline has undergone massive changes in the last few years, becoming both broader and more complex. Accountants are trusted, objective professionals who provide information for decision making and serve as business advisers. Many accountants end up in top executive positions because of their background, integrity, and skills developed through education and professional experience. UNLV offers both an undergraduate accounting major and a Masters Degree in accounting.

### Value of Accounting Major

Value of Major to the Career: A minimum BSBA majoring in Accounting is necessary to a successful progression in the Accounting career field. It is the essence of the first steps in either private or public sector accountancy.

### Organizations Hiring Accountants

- Public Accounting Firms
- Companies all sizes & industries
- Federal Agencies e.g. FBI, IRS, SEC, GAO, OMB
- Higher Education e.g. Universities, Colleges
- Non-Profits e.g. Hospitals, Public Schools.

### UNLV Academic Advising for Accounting Majors:

*Academic Advisors meet with students about their academic goals and assist in constructing a plan for graduation. Advisors can also help students understand how their experiences at UNLV can lead to a career in their desired field.*

Lee Business School Advising Center

Phone: 702-895-3363 Campus Location: BEH 100

<http://business.unlv.edu/LBS-Advising/>

### Accounting Career Options

- Auditing/ Assurance Services
- Tax
- Forensic/Investigative Accounting
- International Accounting
- Personal Financial Planning
- Corporate Accounting
  - Financial Reporting
  - Internal auditing
  - Cost Accounting
  - Tax Planning
- Government
  - Financial Reporting
  - Budget Analysis
- Education
- Non-Profit Agencies
  - Budgeting
  - Money Handling

### UNLV Student Organization: Beta Alpha Psi

Student Organization supporting the Accounting career:

“BETA ALPHA PSI is an honorary organization for Financial Information students and professionals. The primary objective of Beta Alpha Psi is to encourage and give recognition to scholastic and professional excellence in the business information field. This includes promoting the study and practice of accounting, finance and information systems; providing opportunities for self-development, service and association among members and practicing professionals, and encouraging a sense of ethical, social, and public responsibility.”

BETA ALPHA PSI Website: <http://beta.unlv.edu/>

### Graduate Program: Accounting

The Master of Science in Accounting program (MSA) is designed to provide professional preparation at the graduate level for students wishing to pursue careers and advancement in taxation, public accounting, managerial or corporate accounting, and government. Our graduate courses help students extend and integrate their accounting knowledge by building on the knowledge received in undergraduate programs. The MSA also provides the necessary course work for sitting for the CPA exam in Nevada and other 150-hour jurisdictions.

<http://www.unlv.edu/degree/ms-accounting>

# Helpful Career Information

## Employers rate candidate soft skills/qualities in order of importance

- 1 Ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization
- 2 Ability to work in a team structure
- 3 Ability to make decisions and solve problems
- 4 Ability to plan, organize and prioritize work
- 5 Ability to obtain and process information
- 6 Ability to analyze quantitative data
- 7 Technical knowledge related to the job
- 8 Proficiency with computer software programs
- 9 Ability to create and/or edit written reports
- 10 Ability to sell or influence others

Source: Job Outlook 2013

Courtesy of the National Association of Colleges and Employers

Visit the Occupational Outlook Handbook to learn more about a specific occupation:

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

The OOH covers hundreds of occupations and describes: What They Do, Work Environment, How to Become One, Pay, and more. Each profile also includes BLS employment projections for the 2010–20 decade.

### Lee Business School Career Services

Lee Business School Career Services provides opportunities for students to gain access to a range of employers, employment information, job search strategies, career planning and coaching.

Location: BEH 210 Phone: 702-895-1139

### Career Exploration/Planning

**FOCUS 2:** UNLV's computerized assessment that profiles your interests, abilities, and values and helps you find a career that's right for you.

<http://hire.unlv.edu/careerAssessment.html>

**Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI):** Assessment designed to identify how you are energized, how you take in information, how you make decisions, and how you approach life.

<http://hire.unlv.edu/careerAssessmentMBTI.html>

### UNLV Career Services

Career Services encourages ALL UNLV students to take advantage of their services, which include:

- Career planning and choosing a major
- Career counseling and guidance on building a RESUME
- Preparing for an interview, assistance with job searching and networking.

Phone: 702-895-3495

Campus Location: SSC-A 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

<http://hire.unlv.edu/>

### Internship Opportunities

**Accounting Internships:** The Department of Accounting seeks to prepare students with the knowledge and skills required for success in business and to promote interaction of faculty and students with the business and academic communities. To accomplish this goal, we arrange internships to provide professional training not available through normal classroom settings. These experiences aid in developing skills, gaining relevant work experience and becoming acquainted with business professionals. Internships may be in CPA firms, industry, government agencies and nonprofit organizations. See this site for more information:

<http://business.unlv.edu/accounting/Student-Guidelines>

## MEDIAN SALARIES BY DISCIPLINE 2010

Career	Salary Range	Median Salary
Accountants & Auditors	\$38,940-\$106,880	\$61,090
Budget Analysts	\$44,860-\$101,660	\$68,200
Personal Financial Advisor	\$32,660-166,400	\$64,750
Tax Examiner (Fed. Gov't.)	\$29,540-\$92,250	\$55,270
Bus. & Fin. Operations	N/A	\$60,670
All Occupations	N/A	\$33,840

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*, <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

**UNLV** | ACADEMIC ADVISING  
Collaborate to Graduate