**What Can I Do With a Major in Accountancy?**

### Career Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Employers</th>
<th>Job Search Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Accounting</strong></td>
<td>Public accounting firms:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditing/Assurance Services</td>
<td>• Large, multinational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax</td>
<td>• Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Accounting</td>
<td>• Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forensic/Investigative Accounting</td>
<td>• Sole practitioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Accounting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Financial Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Public accounting firms hire candidates who meet the educational requirements to sit for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam: 225 quarter hours (150 semester hours) including 45 quarter hours of accounting. You meet the accounting requirement by completing the requirements for your degree, but you only need 192 quarter hours to graduate so you need to plan ahead to get additional hours – e.g. double major, minor, graduate program, courses at a community college or the CPA Review (cpareview.depaul.edu).

- State laws govern the practice of accountancy and specify the requirements to be eligible to sit for the CPA exam. In most states, the State Board of Accountancy has a website that outlines those requirements. Illinois Board of Examiners: [http://www.ilboa.org/](http://www.ilboa.org/).

### Corporate Accounting

- Financial Management
- Financial Reporting
- Internal Auditing
- Cost Accounting
- Tax Planning
- Budget Analysis

- Companies of all sizes, in all industries

- Many managers in corporate settings obtain an MBA or specialized master’s degree after several years of work experience.

### Government

- Auditing
- Financial Reporting
- Financial Management
- Budget Analysis
- Research

- Federal agencies and departments including:
  - Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - Internal Revenue Service
  - Department of the Treasury
  - General Accounting Office
  - Office of Management and Budget
  - Securities Exchange Commission
  - State and local agencies

- Become familiar with the government application process – it is lengthy and detail-oriented. When a position is posted, apply right away as application deadlines can pass quickly: [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

### Non-Profit

- Accounting
- Internal Audit
- Financial Planning
- Budgeting
- Money Handling
- Record Keeping

- Social service agencies and organizations
- Hospitals
- Public school systems
- Universities and colleges
- Religious organizations
- Libraries and museums
- Political parties
- Labor unions

- Volunteer at non-profit organizations and build a network of contacts in the non-profit sector. Connect with an ASK mentor to start building your network, as well as family, friends, and faculty.