



Graduate Certificate in Accounting Foundations



PennState
World Campus

A world of possibilities.
Online.



About Penn State Smeal College of Business

For more than 60 years, the Smeal College of Business has prepared students for career success. Smeal graduates are leaders in finance, controllership, and accounting functions of major corporations as well as public accounting and consulting firms. Our reputation is based on the achievements of more than 75,000 graduates worldwide.



Convenient Online Format

The online format provided by Penn State World Campus gives you the flexibility to continue in your career while you complete your courses. Courses are offered in fall, spring, and summer semesters with fixed start and end dates. As a pioneer in online education, Penn State has developed a nationally recognized support system for students who are studying online. You will have access to an array of support services, including course scheduling assistance and technical support.

Graduate Certificate in Accounting Foundations

Take steps to enhance your professional knowledge and job opportunities with a Graduate Certificate in Accounting Foundations, delivered online through Penn State World Campus in partnership with Penn State Smeal College of Business. This online program is designed for working professionals who lack a formal education in accounting and wish to develop foundational accounting skills and for non-accountants who need to meet prerequisite requirements in order to pursue a master's degree in accounting.

This certificate covers the core topics of a baccalaureate accounting program at a pace and depth appropriate to graduate students. You can acquire the fundamental skills to develop and interpret accounting systems designed to collect data about business transactions and activities, measure performance, communicate business plans and outcomes, and support decision-making.

Upon completion of the program, your newly acquired skills can afford you greater flexibility and mobility in your career. With established proficiency in accounting foundations, you may confidently pursue new opportunities within your organization and beyond, including acquiring a master's degree in accounting.

To access the course schedule, click on the "Courses" page at: worldcampus.psu.edu/acf



Curriculum

The 12-credit graduate certificate program will explore how accounting information is generated, used within organizational contexts, and controlled, ultimately culminating in corporate and tax reports. You can complete the online program on a part-time basis while you continue to work. Courses include:

MBADM 811 Financial Accounting

Accounting rules, practices, and applications that characterize the accounting presentations that for-profit organizations provide to the public.

ACCTG 812 Taxation*

Introduction to U.S. federal income tax, covering the basics of taxation of individuals, corporations, flow-through entities, and property transactions.

ACCTG 813 Auditing*

Principles of the risk-based approach to the audit of financial statements, with special focus on financial information systems.

ACCTG 814 Managerial Accounting

Examination of the internal organizational accounting procedures that establish accountability within organizations.

**Requires successful completion of MBADM 811 prior to registration.*





Apply Today

To pursue the Graduate Certificate in Accounting Foundations, review the program's admissions requirements and complete the online application. Visit: worldcampus.psu.edu/acf

Program Benefits

A Strong Accounting Foundation

The four courses in the Graduate Certificate in Accounting Foundations program have been designed and sequenced to provide a broad understanding of critical principles and practices in areas including financial and managerial accounting, taxation, internal control, and auditing.

Rapid ROI

Online graduate certificate programs from Penn State are designed to provide fundamental knowledge rapidly and efficiently.

Leading Business School

Smeal, one of the largest business schools in the nation, is highly ranked for undergraduate and graduate education.

Online Education Experience

Penn State is a globally recognized leader in online education, offering more than 150 high-quality programs.

Contact Us

Program Questions

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Admissions Questions

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