

Master of Professional Accountancy

About the Degree

The Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) degree is designed to prepare students for professional careers in the field of accounting. With the assistance of an advisor, students will formulate a graduate program which will integrate their background, areas of interest and career path.

Candidates for the degree will build on the broad general and business education obtained at the undergraduate level to gain more advanced competencies in the practice and theory of financial accounting, auditing, taxation, law, and other business and professional areas. Students will also be introduced to research methods and resources used by accounting professionals.

Professional Faculty

Collectively, the COB's accounting faculty have published in numerous national and international academic and practitioner accounting journals, including:

- CPA Journal
- International Journal of Accounting Information Systems
- Journal of Accounting Education
- Journal of Applied Business Research
- Journal of Education for Business
- Journal of Forensic Accounting
- New Review of Expert Systems and Emerging Technologies
- Strategic Finance

Graduate Program Requirements

1. GPA: 3.0
2. GRE or GMAT: Contact department
3. TOEFL: 213/550

E-mail: busgrad@montana.edu
www.montana.edu/gradstudies/depts_col_bus.shtml



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY ♦ BOZEMAN

Marks of Excellence

- Accounting students at MSU's College of Business consistently have one of the highest CPA pass rates in the nation, according to the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). Nationally, the pass rate on the exam is 20 percent. MSU's College of Business students average nearly 60 percent, which makes the program **one of the top ranked programs in the United States**.
- The success of MSU accounting students has attracted recruiters' attention. Each of the top public accounting firms regularly recruit MSU accounting students in the fall, with multiple offices of some firms coming to interview.

MSU's MPAc students continue to place among the top 10 schools in the United States for passing all parts of the CPA exam in one sitting.

Services for Students

- MSU's accounting program continues to graduate a large number of successful accounting professionals. Typically 30-40 students are admitted each year to the Master of Professional Accountancy program, giving the College of Business one of the largest master's programs on the MSU campus.
- Teaching assistantships are available to fully admitted graduate students and are awarded on a competitive basis. To be awarded an assistantship, international students must have a minimum GRE verbal score of 480, a minimum TOEFL score of 580, and have successfully passed the TSE (Test of Spoken English) with a 50. Teaching assistants provide support to faculty in grading, proctoring exams and administering labs.
- The MPAc program faculty are developing new graduate courses in order to offer an increased choice of electives. Fraud Examination and a graduate level Accounting Information Systems course are two examples.



Michiko Takahashi, an accounting student from Japan, studies with friends.

College of Business

Montana State University
P.O. Box 173040
Bozeman, MT 59717-3040 USA
Telephone: (406) 994-4681
Fax: (406) 994-6206
E-mail: busgrad@montana.edu
www.montana.edu/gradstudies/depts_col_bus.shtml

The College of Business

Degrees Offered

- Bachelor of Science in Business
 - Accounting
 - Finance
 - Management
 - Marketing
- Master of Professional Accountancy

Minor Options

- Entrepreneurship & Small Business Management
- Management of Information Technology
- International Business
- Business Administration
- Accounting

Accreditation

Nationally accredited program. Only 10 percent of business programs in the United States, including MSU, are accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

Career Opportunities

Look forward to high placement rates as a graduate. In a very competitive job market, MSU business graduates are in demand.

- 90 percent of the graduates responding to our survey are working in their chosen field.
- Average starting salaries are very competitive.

Companies that have recently provided employment to MSU business graduates

- Coca-Cola Enterprises
- Pricewaterhousecoopers, LLP
- Nike, Inc.
- Paine-Webber Inc.
- Lucent Technologies
- DA Davidson & Co., Inc
- Conoco, Inc.
- Ernst & Young, LLP
- KPMG, LLP
- Deloit & Touche, LLP



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Profile of Achievement

Armen Mathevosyan from Georgia first attended MSU on a prestigious scholarship from the Open Society Institute. He enjoyed his undergraduate experience so fully that he is back in the intensive Master of Professional Accountancy program and holds the honor of being one of their top students.



"MSU professors make a difference. What makes them stand apart from many other schools' professors is their eagerness to make students feel that they are not alone in all school problems, from academic success to career searching. They really do help, which is of vital importance for any student."

—Armen Mathevosyan

Best of Both Worlds

MSU's College of Business really does offer the best of both worlds: a nationally recognized education in a small town atmosphere. Here you will find a program large enough for your highest aspirations, and personal enough to appreciate your individuality.

The College of Business focuses a great deal of energy and resources on undergraduate education. At the graduate level, the college offers a nationally recognized accounting program. Class sizes are held to an average of 30 students, with senior level courses often taught to only 15 or 20 students. Every class is taught by a faculty member—not a graduate student or teaching assistant.

Valuable Hands-On Experience

Freshman Seminar pairs up 15 first-year students, a faculty member and an upper-division student to explore the issues and challenges facing business professionals.

Students can compete for accounting, finance, management and marketing internships. Solving real world problems in the workplace is a great way to enhance a university education.

The **International Business Club** is an active group that seeks to create awareness and appreciation of today's dynamic global business environment. Members attend conferences, sponsor fundraisers and enjoy a variety of social activities together.

Finally, students have the opportunity to put skills to work assisting low income families with taxes through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program or to work with entrepreneurs in our **Center for Entrepreneurship for the New West**.

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338 Reid Hall
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717-3040 USA
Phone: (406) 994-4681
Fax: (406) 994-6206
E-mail: business@montana.edu
www.montana.edu/cob

Office of International Programs

400 Culbertson Hall
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717-2260 USA
Phone: (406) 994-4031
Fax: (406) 994-1619
E-mail: globalstudy@montana.edu
www.montana.edu/international