

Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024

Switch careers or bolster your professional skills with short-term course in accounting. Learn more about the best accounting certificates online.

by Holland Webb, MA ✓ Edited by Lauren Mastbaum, MA
Updated March 22, 2024

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Are you ready to discover your college program?

I WANT MY Certificate / Diploma ▼ IN Business & Management ▼ FOCUSING ON Accounting ▼

SEARCH PROGRAMS

An accounting certificate can prepare you for an entry-level accounting job and certified public accountant (CPA) licensure.

Requiring one year or less, a certificate covers foundational concepts in accounting. You can pursue an undergraduate certificate, or if you already hold a bachelor's degree, you may qualify for a graduate certificate, which can lead to more advanced professional roles.

The [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) (BLS) projects that the business and financial sector will grow by a faster-than-average rate from 2022-2032. As of May 2022, these jobs paid a median annual salary of \$76,850, much higher than the national average.

Accounting roles are growing and changing. Today's accountants work across industries — compiling and analyzing financial data, helping solve financial crimes, or ensuring solvency among major employers.

Use this guide to discover more about this intriguing and respected career and how a short, affordable online accounting certificate can help you get started in the field.

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Popular Online Programs

Learn about start dates, transferring credits, availability of financial aid, and more by contacting the universities below.

Retail Supervisor
Penn Foster

If you want to be a leader and advance in your career, our online Retail Supervisor Career Diploma can help you learn the skills and knowledge to take the next steps toward becoming a retail supervisor. Through flexible, self-paced classes, you can get retail supervisory training on your schedule from home.

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Top Online Certificates in Accounting

We use datasets from sources like the National Center for Education Statistics to inform the data for these schools. [Sponsored results](#) from our partners appear among these rankings and are indicated as such. All data is current as of the date this article was published. Program-specific information may vary.

Get Started ADVERTISEMENT

#	Ranking	Program	Location	Length	Delivery	Accreditation	Average Undergrad Tuition	Average Graduate Tuition
#1	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	Southern New Hampshire University	Manchester, NH	4 years	Online + Campus	Programmatic Accreditation: Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs	In-state: \$15,000 Out-of-state: \$15,000	In-state: \$18,900 Out-of-state: \$18,900
#2	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	University of Arizona	Tucson, AZ	4 years	Online + Campus	Programmatic Accreditation: Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business	In-state: \$10,990 Out-of-state: \$33,735	In-state: \$12,106 Out-of-state: \$32,290
#3	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	Lone Star College System	The Woodlands, TX	4 years	Online + Campus	Cost per Credit: In-State: \$103...	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$4,800 Out-of-state: \$6,120	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: Not provided Out-of-state: Not provided
#4	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Birmingham, AL	4 years	Online + Campus	Programmatic Accreditation: Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$8,568 Out-of-state: \$20,400	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: \$8,100 Out-of-state: \$19,188
#5	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	University of Maryland Global Campus	Adelphi, MD	4 years	Online	Cost per Credit: In-State: \$318...	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$7,344 Out-of-state: \$11,976	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: \$9,072 Out-of-state: \$11,862
#6	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	Germanna Community College	Locust Grove, VA	2 years	Online + Campus	Cost per Credit: In-State: \$160...	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$4,650 Out-of-state: \$9,948	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: Not provided Out-of-state: Not provided
#7	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	Thomas Edison State University	Trenton, NJ	4 years	Online	Cost per Credit: In-State: \$419...	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$7,182 Out-of-state: \$9,342	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: \$12,024 Out-of-state: \$12,024
#8	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	San Jacinto Community College	Pasadena, TX	4 years	Online + Campus	Cost per Credit: In-State: \$83...	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$3,240 Out-of-state: \$5,040	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: Not provided Out-of-state: Not provided
#9	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	North Central Missouri College	Trenton, MO	2 years	Online + Campus	Cost per Credit: In-State: \$170...	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$4,590 Out-of-state: \$5,700	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: Not provided Out-of-state: Not provided
#10	Best Accounting Certificates Online 2024	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Fairbanks, AK	4 years	Online + Campus	Cost per Credit: In-State: \$234...	Average Undergrad Tuition In-state: \$7,296 Out-of-state: \$23,087	Average Graduate Tuition In-state: \$11,265 Out-of-state: \$23,095

How We Chose These Schools

Why Get an Undergraduate Certificate in Accounting?

✓ **Learn the Basics of Accounting:** An undergraduate certificate can be a quick way to learn bookkeeping, finance, and accounting principles. Most certificates take less than one year to complete. On average, an associate requires two years, and a bachelor's degree takes four years.

✓ **Qualify for Entry-Level Positions:** A certificate may help you qualify for a job as a bookkeeper, accounting clerk, or auditing clerk. According to the BLS, these jobs paid a median annual salary of \$45,860 in 2022. Other popular jobs at this level include tellers, financial clerks, and bill collectors.

✓ **Get a Headstart on Your Bachelor's Degree:** Undergraduate certificates typically require about 18 credits or the equivalent of one semester of study at the college level. Your certificate can provide a foundation for higher education by transferring your credits into a 60-credit associate or 120-credit bachelor's program.

Why Get a Graduate Accounting Certificate?

✓ **Earn CPA Certification:** All states require CPA candidates to hold 150 credits of college coursework but do not demand a master's degree. You may only need a graduate certificate to meet this obligation if you hold a bachelor's degree and some graduate credits. You must also take an exam and meet your state's experience requirements.

✓ **Advance in the Accounting Profession:** A graduate certificate can boost your career from an entry-level accounting or bookkeeping role to a senior account, auditor, or manager of financial accounting.

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